

Minutes of the Regular Town of Westport Board Meeting on March 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Connell at 7:00 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilperson Page
Councilperson Paquette
Councilperson Viens
Supervisor Connell

Excused: Councilperson McCormick

Others present:

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
Elizabeth Lee, Youth Commission Director
Chris Maron, Beautification Committee
Keven Severance, James Herrmann

RESOLUTION #52 MINUTES FEBRUARY 24, 2015

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, seconded by Councilperson Page, and approved on a roll call vote.

3	Ayes	Page, Paquette, Viens
0	Nays	
1	Abstain	Connell

RESOLVED to accept the Minutes of the February 24, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION –

RESOLUTION #53 SUMMER POSITION ADVERTISING

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

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4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the Town Clerk to advertise for open positions in the Youth Commission Summer Program.

The basketball tournament on February 28th was very successful. There will be one more trip for the ski program, with the possibility of an extra day at Gore Mountain. Camp Dudley has given permission for the baseball program, which starts in May, to use their fields. Twenty students are interested in joining a theater program, to be led by Scott Gibbs. Elizabeth recommends that he be paid \$15/hr from the Youth Commission budget. She has been working with Robin Crandall on insurance costs for the program.

RESOLUTION #54
SCOTT GIBBS CONTRACT

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

3 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens
1 Nay Connell

RESOLVED for Elizabeth Lee to set up a contract with Scott Gibbs to run a Youth Commission Theatre Program.

BUILDING COMMITTEES – There is a special meeting on March 12th at 10 a.m. for the Town Hall project. The DPW/Fire project is still waiting on a full ZBA board.

PLANNING BOARD – Yearly positions have been assigned, with Chris Maron as chairman. Bobby McGee's towing business has been given an extension for his special permit. The board will be mailing this along with a letter asking him to apply for a special permit for his second lot. The board is currently working on how to make the application process clearer in hopes of drawing in more applicants.

OLD BUSINESS

BICENTENNIAL – Bessboro Builders has donated 60 panels that will be painted and used to display photos during the celebration. On April 6th at 10 a.m. the Board of Supervisors will recognize the Bicentennial Committee. Pat French will give a short presentation and press will be in attendance.

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BEAUTIFICATION – Chris Maron submitted a letter asking for a town clean up day and a sample letter for property owners with junk cars. Council members will review the letter and make a decision at the next meeting. Beautification Committee members will make a list of owners that will receive letters. The concentration on junk cars (rather than other junk items) is due to its clear definition in Town Law.

ZBA/PLANNING BOARDS – ZBA has two openings and one applicant, while the Planning Board has one opening and no applicants.

RESOLUTION #55
APPOINTMENT TO ZBA

On a motion by Supervisor Connell, seconded by Councilperson Paquette, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to appoint Keven Severance to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

HERITAGE HOUSE CONTRACT – On hold until the Town’s attorney can speak with the church’s attorney.

WADHAMS WASTE WATER – Waiting on information from the engineer before complete paperwork can be submitted.

SCHOOL CONTRACT – There are no recommended changes from the insurance company. Councilperson Paquette would like to have the school be a backup shelter and keep the Town Hall as the primary emergency shelter. Council members agree that the school should be used for major disasters only, where severity of an event would be based on the supervisor’s discretion.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #56
ADIRONDACK LANDFILL SERVICES CONTRACT

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

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RESOLVED to enter into a contract with Adirondack Landfill Services, LLC, for post-closure monitoring services at the Transfer Station.

RESOLUTION #57
COUNTY YOUTH CONTRACT

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Veins, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the contract with Essex County Community Resources for the amount of \$900.

The Supervisor is in receipt of the Town Clerk's February report.

RESOLUTION #58
APPROVAL OF BILLS

On a motion by Councilperson Page, seconded by Councilperson Viens, and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bill on Abstract 3A in the amount of \$40,794.29 for Vouchers 2015-139 through 2015-166.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – Two trucks are in need of repair. Dennie has gotten a quote, but should be able to get them fixed by the county for half the cost (approximately \$1,500 for one truck and \$600 for the other). Water meter readings are finished. There is still an issue with meter batteries. Two loads of firewood have been chopped and stored. Dennie will get an extra load to have for next year.

SUPERVISOR COMMENTS – In response to the Letter to the Editor, Supervisor Connell stated that it isn't legal for the Town to plow or sand private driveways. He mentioned building issues caused by frost. The door to the judge's chambers had to be adjusted in order to close and there is a new crack in the wall heading into the records room. The town received thank you letters from the Chamber of Commerce and the Wadhams Library. Checks were received from Mountain Lake Services, for their housing, and from the state for snow and ice removal.

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COUNCILPERSON COMMENTS – Councilperson Page was asked if people will be charged for trickling water. The Town has not advised homeowners to leave their water running to prevent frozen pipes and will not be offering a discount, as there is no way to monitor that usage.

RESOLUTION #59
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk