

Minutes of the Regular Westport Town Board Meeting on March 12, 2013

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:

Councilman Tyler – excused.
Councilman Paquette
Councilman Sherman
Councilman McCormick
Supervisor Connell

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Elizabeth Lee, Youth Commission Director
Gordon Decker, Treasurer Westport Fire District
Bruce Misarski, Westport Fire Commissioner
James Herrmann

RESOLUTION #55 MINUTES FEBRUARY 26, 2013

On a motion by Councilman Paquette seconded by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote.

3 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of February 26, 2013 as presented.

Councilman McCormick entered meeting.

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RESOLUTION #56
MINUTES MARCH 8, 2013

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 8, 2013 as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Elizabeth Lee asked if it were possible to recycle other plastics at the landfill than those presently allowed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – Director Lee reported that the programs are going along well. They had 60 participating in the basketball and teams played in Saturday games against other towns as well as a tournament in AuSable. They would also be participating in the Tannenberger Tournament. The dance program was going to continue through May. They had good participation in the ski program and the last day would be March 17th. Camp Dudley will let us use their fields for baseball and the school will let us use the buses. Applications are currently coming in for counselors for a six-week program this year. We have been looking in to a hot lunch program but so far have not worked out all the details. The soccer camp is on again for this summer and there will be a rock climbing day on March 23rd.

OLD BUSINESS

HIGHWAY GARAGE UPDATE – On behalf of the Fire District, Commissioner Bruce Misarski, presented the Clerk with a letter from the Board of Fire Commissions stating that the Fire District is still committed to pursuing a joint building project. (The entire letter will be copied in its entirety)

WESTPORT FIRE DISTRICT
BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS
P.O. BOX 134
WESTPORT, NY 12993

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Dan Connell, Supervisor
Town of Westport
22 Champlain Avenue
Westport, NY 12993

Re: Town/Fire District Joint Building Project

Dear Dan:

As you know, the Westport Fire District needs to replace the inadequate fire station that houses the Westport Hose Company and Emergency Squad. As we stated at the November 27th Town Board meeting, the Fire District Board of Commissioners still believe that a joint building project is the most cost effective approach to meeting the needs of both the town and the fire district. This letter, as was requested by the Town Board, is the Fire District's commitment to pursuing a joint building project that would create a suitable structure that would house the Town DPW and the Westport Hose Company/Emergency Squad.

The Board of Fire Commissioners wishes it to be clear from the outset what is to be expected from each party during this joint building process. The following are issues that the Town Board should address in its reply to the Fire District:

- 1) The Town will need to assume the role of "lead agency" for this project. They own the land and the Fire District cannot build and finance construction on land not owned by the District.
- 2) The Town and District should meet and discuss, and document, what they both feel the lead agency role will encompass in a project like this, and what the subordinate role of the District will be.
- 3) The District needs to be informed and participate in all aspects of any proposed; location of parking, fuel depot development, placement of the joint building on the proposed property, design of the structure, layout of floor space, proposed use of floor space, and modifications/revisions of all aspects of this proposal.
- 4) Any proposed structure will need to meet all code and regulatory requirements of both the Town DPW and the Fire District.
- 5) The Town must agree that it will not commit the District to any financial obligation without the District's concurrence with any proposed obligation to the District.
- 6) The Town will need to develop a joint use agreement that will be reasonable with the allocation of costs assessed to the Fire District for their share of the proposed structure.
- 7) The Fire District thinks time is of the essence and needs to be assured the Town plans to move forward as expeditiously as possible.

The Fire District hopes that the Town Board fully supports this proposed joint arrangement through board resolution and looks forward to the Town's reply.

Sincerely,

Bruce Misarski, Commissioner
Westport Board of Fire Commission

TOWN HALL BUILDING UPDATE – There is a meeting Thursday with the staff to review the suggested floor plan and get their input.

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HAMLET EXPANSION PROJECT – Still nothing from Saratoga Associates.

CEMETERY ON OLD ARSENAL ROAD – The Letters of Intent were sent to the landowners.

WESTPORT REVITALIZATION PROJECT – The project is moving along. There is a meeting next Wednesday at 3:30p.m.

WORMAN ROAD PUMP STATION – The pumps have now been ordered.

CHAMPLAIN NATIONAL BANK LITIGATION – The bank has asked for an extension.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – The notice has been sent in to the paper for volunteers to work on a committee.

ASSESSING ALTERNATIVES – Supervisor Connell reviewed the current situation the Town was in when hiring an assessor and an alternative that was offered to them by the Real Property Tax Office. This matter will be looked into further.

REQUEST – GLORIA LUCIANO

The Clerk read a letter from Ms. Luciano requesting a forbearance of her water bill due to a problem with the meter and the unusually high bill.

RESOLUTION #57
WATER BILL – LUCIANO

On a motion by Councilman McCormick seconded by Councilman Paquette and approved on a roll call vote.

3	Ayes	Paquette, McCormick, Connell
0	Nays	
1	Abstain	Sherman

RESOLVED to send a letter to Ms. Luciano giving her three months to pay the bill by July 1st without penalty.

NEW BUSINESS

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RESOLUTION #58
ADIRONDACK LANDFILL SERVICES CONTRACT

On a motion by Councilman Paquette seconded by Councilman McCormick and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the 2013 contract for post-closure monitoring services.

TIMBER SALE

The Clerk read a letter from Thomas Gilman, Area Forester of Fountains Forestry, regarding the Town's interest in a timber sale. Supervisor Connell will ask him to come to our next meeting.

AUDIT COMMITTEE – Supervisor Connell and Councilman Paquette will do the audit on the Justice Department.

RESOLUTION #59
ATTENDANCE RURAL WATER TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

On a motion by Councilman McCormick seconded by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Dawn St. Louis and John Crandall to attend the Rural Water Technical Conference on May 20th in Lake Placid.

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RESOLUTION #60
APPROVAL OF BILLS

On a motion by Councilman Paquette seconded by Councilman Sherman and approved on a roll call vote.

4 Ayes Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 3A for Vouchers 2013-138 through Vouchers 2013-170 in the amount of \$37,562.50.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DENNIS WESTOVER

The electric motor at the sewer plant is gone and has to be replaced at a cost of \$637. The guys have started getting ready for spring work. They have done a great job cutting brush and bring wood back for our supply. We have enough firewood stored for a year. Mr. Westover is continuing to look into the options of purchasing wollostonite versus having stone ground into gravel.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS – A financial report was put in each of the Councilman’s packets.

COUNCILMEN’S COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

RESOLUTION #61
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Paquette with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Sheila Borden, Town Clerk