

## **Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on March 22, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Tyler at 3:00 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilperson Page  
Councilperson Paquette  
Councilperson Viens  
Councilperson Morrison  
Supervisor Tyler

Others present:

George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer  
Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk  
Dennie Westover, DPW Superintendent  
Tom Gillman, Fountain Forestry  
James Herrmann, Keven Severance, Patricia French, Heidi Sweet, Steven Engelhart, Chris Maron

### **RESOLUTION #80 MINUTES MARCH 8, 2016**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

**TOM GILLMAN, FOUNTAIN FORESTRY** – Tom was unable to find a contract between the Town and Fountain Forestry. A 15-year forest management plan was written in 2006 and approved by the board. Approximately 60 acres are scheduled for this year and Tom proposed that we go ahead with the timber sale.

Supervisor Tyler made the suggestion to go to RFP to see what the options are.

Councilperson Page asked about regeneration and whether that is monitored.

Tom responded that regeneration is part of the management plan. There are some issues with deer eating the new growth. Many previous cuts were thinning cuts while heavier cuts have been done in recent years, allowing more sunlight to hit the forest floor and promote growth.

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Supervisor Tyler asked the board whether they want to start a contract with Fountain Forestry or wait and go to RFP.

Councilperson Page said that it's wise to survey the whole situation – what kind of harvesting is sustainable over time. The town should look at areas that have been harvested and their effect on the spring.

**RESOLUTION #81**  
**FORESTER RFP**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to go to RFP for a forestry contract.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**YOUTH COMMISSION** – Ed Mason was unable to attend the meeting.

**TOWN HALL PROJECT** – The contract came back from the state and the architects are still working on the final design.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**STATE AND NATIONAL REGISTERS OF HISTORIC PLACES** - Steve Engelhart spoke about the program. He said that there is a completed nomination to incorporate the old village into the register and it would be helpful for the town to be behind the nomination before it's submitted to the state. If approved, this would give municipalities and non-profits a chance for state grants and access to a tax credit program. Project stipulations are only in place where state or government funds are involved, or where the community itself has set regulations.

Councilperson Page stated that there would be a public hearing and every homeowner would receive an informational letter beforehand.

**RESOLUTION #82**  
**NYRWA ATTENDANCE**

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

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5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize John Crandall and Dawn St. Louis to attend New York Rural Water Association's training from May 17-19, 2016 and payment of their actual and necessary expenses.

**BRUSH DUMP** – A brush dump will be open at the transfer station on April 30 and May 7 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 p.m.

**LEE PARK BEACH WEDDING** – A couple is interested in having their wedding ceremony at Lee Park this summer. Supervisor Tyler contacted our insurance company and there shouldn't be any issues; the couple would file a usage form and be covered by their homeowners insurance.

**BOARD OF ASSESSMENT REVIEW** – The board currently has three members and find that it can be difficult to get all three together. The board would like to add two members; state law allows three to five members.

**RESOLUTION #83**  
**BAR ADVERTISEMENT**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to advertise for up to two positions on the Board of Assessment Review.

**RESOLUTION #84**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER WATER/SEWER BILLING REPORT**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to approve the quarterly billing report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter Water & Sewer bills.

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**RESOLUTION #85**  
**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 3B in the amount of \$45,813.77 for Vouchers 2016-166 through 2016-211.

**DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT** – There have been problems at the Church St. pump station in Wadhams. With the quote Dennie got, the replacement parts would cost around \$1,500 and would use the current bearings, which are no longer being made. He got a second quote for \$4,400 for a new pump. The current pump has been in place for 25 years and has been rebuilt twice, with recurring issues with the cutters. The board agreed with Dennie's suggestion to send letters to Wadhams sewer users about what items can or cannot be flushed. Councilperson Morrison mentioned the possibility of installing a screen or basket to catch non-disposable items. Dennie said he will look into this with either purchase decision.

**RESOLUTION #86**  
**SEWER PUMP PURCHASE**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the purchase of a Hydromatic HPGH300M2-2 pump from Emmons Pump & Control, Inc.

A major water leak was found in the cellar of the vacant house next to Paul Viens. To find the leak, Rural Water brought a listening device that can be either hooked to a hydrant or set on the ground above the water line. Dennie recommended that the town buy one for use in both districts.

**RESOLUTION #87**  
**LEAK HUNTER PURCHASE**

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Morrison, Tyler  
0 Nays

**RESOLVED** to authorize the purchase of a Utilitronics Leak Hunter Full Survey Kit from Utilitronics, Corp. for \$1995.00.

All DPW employees will be attending mandatory training on the 31<sup>st</sup> in Keene. Roads have been chosen for paving and Dennie will have the expenditure paperwork for the next meeting. They are also working to replace the basketball hoops at the park in Wadhams.

**SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS** – Supervisor Tyler said that it seems like we’re paying a lot for the annual fire extinguisher contract and will look into different options. A meeting was set up to discuss solar power, but the guy didn’t show, so the supervisor will try another company. The Bicentennial Committee mentioned that they have t-shirts left and they may be sold in local businesses. Board members were given a copy of the response letter addressing the DEC violations.

**COUNCILPERSON’S COMMENTS** – Councilperson Paquette said that the town should be careful with fire extinguisher contracts. He mentioned a company that was known for just changing the tags and not actually providing an inspection.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Heidi Sweet tried to contact Willy Grant about the “Welcome to Westport” signs. He is out of town, so she will try other places. She suggested that the sign south of the Dudley Road be taken down. Dennie believes the Chamber owns the sign and will check with them before taking any action. Chris Maron said that the Planning Board approved the McGee’s special permit that is needed before they can get a state license for certain repair work.

**RESOLUTION #88**

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Councilperson Page, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk