

Minutes of the Regular Westport Town Board Meeting on April 22, 2014

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
Councilperson McCormick (entered 7:55 p.m.)
Supervisor Connell

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
Elizabeth Lee, Director Youth Commission
Brian Larose, Paula Dennis, Gordon Decker, Shami McCormick, James Herrmann

RESOLUTION #96 MINUTES APRIL 8, 2014

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 8, 2014 as received.

PAULA DENNIS – PRESERVE NY GRANT

Councilperson Page introduced the grant program and Paula Dennis whom is a Field Consult in Architectural History and Historic Preservation. She is willing to work with the Town and apply for funding to complete a National Register District. The Clerk was asked to read a proposed resolution.

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RESOLUTION #97
2014 PRESERVE NEW YORK GRANT APPLICATION

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

The following resolution was resolved:

Whereas, the Heritage House Building Committee seeks Capital Funds and enhanced recognition of Heritage House as a cultural resource and destination within the Town of Westport, and

Whereas, said property, as a community resource, is eligible for grant funding opportunities in support of its historic preservation, interpretation, and sustainability, and

Whereas, Heritage House is deemed eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing resource within a Town of Westport Historic District nomination

Whereas, said draft nomination, according to the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (OPRHP), is incomplete and in need of updating (resources 50 years and older) to determine the number of eligible contributing resources within a proposed district, and

Whereas, the Heritage House Building Committee approached Paula Dennis of In The Field Consulting, Essex, New York to provide a proposal to the Town of Westport in Support of Heritage House and completion of a National Register of Historic Places nomination, and

Whereas, the Town of Westport, as the municipality, is eligible for grant funding to support this work through the 2014 Preserve New York Grant Program administered by the Preservation League of New York State, and

Now therefore be it resolved, that the Town of Westport will serve as the applicant to the 2014 Preserve New York Program to fund In the Field Consulting to complete a Town of Westport Historic District nomination.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Vaiciulis and his son Peter introduced themselves. They were in attendance to observe the town board meeting process as young Peter was working on his Boy Scout citizenship badge.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – Councilperson Page stated that there had been no meeting.

BUILDING RENOVATION COMMITTEE – Councilperson Viens reported the committee met today and they would like to request a meeting with the Fire District, DPW Committee and the Town Board.

RESOLUTION #98
SPECIAL BUILDING MEETING

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to hold a Special Meeting on the Building Renovation with the Fire District, DPW and the Town Board on Tuesday May 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the Regular Town Board meeting to follow immediately thereafter.

TOWN HALL RENOVATIONS – Councilperson Page has spoken to the Regional Economic Council to get a better understanding on how it works.

The Clerk was asked to read a draft letter put together by Councilperson McCormick that could be used to keep the public informed of the needs regarding the infrastructure and what is happening with proposed projects.

Supervisor Connell thanked him for his time and efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

WESTPORT REVITALIZATION – Mr. Connell will be meeting with some of the County people on this.

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BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – There is a meeting Thursday at 3:30 p.m. People are being generous with their donations and we welcome more.

TOWN BEAUTIFICATION – The Town Clean Up Day is May 23rd.

DON TAYLOR’S 103RD BIRTHDAY – There is a change in plans. There will be NO party on the 27th at the Town Hall.

ELECTRIC PROVIDERS – George Hainer has reviewed several different providers for electricity and after discussion with Supervisor Connell they feel it is best to leave things as they are for now.

DPW LABORER REQUEST – Supervisor Connell reviewed the cost and felt there were not enough funds at this time to warrant opening up a position.

NEW BUSINESS

Supervisor Connell explained to the Board the amounts of Unassigned Fund Balance in various accounts that they would be putting into Certificates of Deposits in order to earn additional interest.

(Councilperson McCormick entered at 7:55 p.m.)

Supervisor Connell is in receipt of the Town Clerk’s March report and supporting documents.

RESOLUTION #99
APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 4B in the amount of \$121,327.98 for Vouchers 2014-267 through 2014-290.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DENNIS WESTOVER

The sweeping is underway with a quarter of the streets done. The water & sewer truck is just about finished and so far it has cost us \$1,910.00. We have a few roads measured for blacktopping.

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Gary Rancour has found some records in the County on the Munson Pit that we can use to fill out the requested DEC application.

We have a letter from Susan Kennedy on a Regional Tap Water Taste Contest that Dawn would like to enter this year.

RESOLUTION #100
AUTHORIZATION TO PARTICIPATE IN TAP WATER CONTEST

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Dawn St. Louis to participate in the Tap Water Contest on behalf of The Town of Westport.

The Board is also in receipt of copies of the Comprehensive Compliance Inspection Reports for the Sewer Districts

I would like to place an order for culverts that would be between \$1,000 and \$2,000.

RESOLUTION #101
APPROVAL TO PURCHASE CULVERTS

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

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Mr. Westover to spend up to \$2,000 on culvert pipe.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Connell asked about the brush being cleaned up along the Decker Road and he was informed they are waiting to get the inmates assistance.

Included in the Board's packets is some information on the tax cap for your review.

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Councilperson Paquette asked what the cost was for repairing the Water & Sewer Truck. So far it was \$1,910. They have the ball joints to put in and the only cost then will be the labor. Dennie said he had quoted them \$3,000 so they will be under his estimate.

Councilperson Paquette was also concerned about the back door in the basement that had fallen in on the generator and not been fixed and the condition of the generator.

RESOLUTION #102
EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette with a second by Councilperson Viens and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing two personnel issues at 8:30 p.m. Mr. Westover was asked to stay.

RESOLUTION # 103
CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette with a second by Councilperson Viens and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to close Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 8:40 p.m.

RESOLUTION #104
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilperson McCormick with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Sheila A. Borden, Town Clerk