

Minutes of the Regular Westport Town Board Meeting on April 24, 2012

Supervisor Connell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members present on a roll call were:

Councilman Tyler
Councilman Paquette
Councilman Sherman
Supervisor Connell

Absent: Councilman McCormick

Others Present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
Dennis Westover, Highway & DPW Superintendent
Dan Stec, Candidate for NYS Assembly
Dr. John Gallagher, Superintendent Westport School
Dwayne Stevens, Westport School Board Member
Richard Kohler, Westport School Board Member
Julie Martin, Director Boquet River Association
Gary Chilson, Boquet River Association
Marlene Westover, Chairman Westport Fire District
Chuck Manon, Fire Commissioner
Gordon Decker, Treasurer Westport Fire District
George Stec, James Herrmann, Gerald Goulet, John McWilliam,
Jana Atwell, Nancy Page

RESOLUTION #99 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

RESOLVED to approve the minutes as received of the Regular Town Board Meeting of April 10, 2012.

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PRESENTATION OF THE 2012-13 SCHOOL BUDGET – DR. JOHN GALLAGHER

Supervisor Connell welcomed Dr. Gallagher and extended time to him to present the 2012-13 proposed school budget to the Town Board. Dr. Gallagher provided the Board with three handouts the first, which reviewed the revenues and expenditures, the second the tax rate calculations based on 2011 tax rolls and the third a descriptive on the proposed capital project. He also stated that the taxpayers would be asked to vote on the purchase of two vehicles this year - a van and a 30-38-passenger bus at a cost not to exceed \$60,000.

The Board expressed their thanks for Dr. Gallagher taking the time to come and provide them with this budget information.

PRESENTATION BOQUET RIVER ASSOCIATION – JULIE MARTIN

Julie Martin, Director of the Association also known as “BRASS” gave an overview to the Board of why they do Watershed Management Planning and why now they are in the initial process of updating the original one. They need to have a vision for the future-a plan to get there and most funding agencies require that Plan to be in place for funding to help achieve those goals.

INTRODUCTION OF REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE FOR NY STATE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Dan Stec introduced himself to the Town Board stating that even though he was the only candidate running for the State Assembly, he felt it was still important for everyone to be familiar with whom they would probably be working with. He grew up in Queensbury and this is his ninth year as a supervisor so he can appreciate what our town councilmen have to deal with.

PUBLIC COMMENT – none at this time

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION

Councilman Sherman stated that the Youth Commission has made a request to use the northeast room in the back of the upper floor for an office. Estimates would need to be received for replacement doors.

TAX COMMITTEE

They went over some handouts from other towns that they had prepared on PILOTS.

OLD BUSINESS

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WOOD BOILER

We received two bids-one was on the NYS DEC approved list and one was not but the bidder was told that it does meet the specifications. Supervisor Connell is going to call the Attorney for the Town to get a legal opinion to see how long we can hold the bids.

LAWN MOWER

DPW Superintendent Westover reported that the three RFP's were for the same Cub Cadet Mower and it was awarded to Broughton's Farm Supply.

WADHAMS WATER

The project is still not closed out. We still have a problem with the bankrupt company and the chlorine flow meter.

SEMO/FEMA

The blue folders on Hurricane Irene are coming in but the money hasn't as yet.

HIGHWAY GARAGE

Oil Water Separator – It was discussed and we decided to go with one just for the size of present size of the current garage that could be moved if necessary.

Update on Building – Councilman Sherman presented a proposal to hire a firm to do a feasibility study on the highway garage.

Town Hall Building Update – Councilman Tyler spoke about a building in Keeseville that was remodeled with inkind work for approximately \$75.00 a square foot. He also mentioned that Bill Johnston is currently working on a proposal for the Town Hall renovations.

On behalf of the Westport Fire District, Gordon Decker, Treasurer, expressed their concerns over not being included in these discussions. They felt it would be a huge disservice if we don't move forwards together.

It was the consensus of all to schedule a special meeting and start some dialog.

BRUSH DUMP – Will be open May 19th from 9:00 – 1:00.

HAMLET EXPANSION UPDATE – The final report from Saratoga Associates has been received and George has put a link on our website so anyone can go there and access the information.

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NEW BUSINESS

ASSESSMENT AID – We will not be receiving any this year although we had planned for it in the budget.

RESOLUTION #100
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the payment of Vouchers 2012-255 through Vouchers 2012-275 in the amount of \$32,500.77 on Abstract 4B.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DENNIS WESTOVER

The men have been working this week on removing the one “hazardous” driveway into the Depot Theatre where they will replace the blacktop with dirt and plant grass. The work should be completed on Thursday at the pump station at Schwoebel’s to get it back up to code. We have an issue with the grader that may be quite costly to repair but we can’t possibly maintain the dirt roads without it. We have a truck that needs brakes but we will deal with the grader first. I would like to hire Wayne Napper back this year for three days a week.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS

Supervisor Connell informed the Board that the Highway Garage was dropped off the demand meter by National Grid and therefore we will now be saving money on that monthly bill.

COUNCILMEN’S COMMENTS

Councilman Sherman asked how much had been spent on updating the fuel station at the Highway Garage and he was informed approximately \$60,000.00 but that only enough was done to meet codes and pass inspections.

Councilman Tyler mentioned the streetlights that were continually out in Town and if there was a formal protest perhaps that could be made about them to National Grid.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Dwayne Stevens commented that a grader would definitely be needed on his road-Angier Hill- with all the large trucks that would be hauling materials up and down it this year.

Nancy Page asked if the agenda's of the meetings could be posted on the website.

RESOLUTION #101
ADJOURNMENT

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

Minutes respectfully submitted
Sheila A. Borden, Town Clerk