

Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 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
James Herrmann, Heidi Sweet, Laura Benedict, David Reckahn

RESOLUTION #100 MINUTES APRIL 12, 2016

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 accept the minutes of the April 12, 2016 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – no update.

TOWN HALL – Councilperson Page said that the architects are working with Historic Preservation and are in agreement with the town as to what should happen. They are comparing building needs to what must be preserved.

OLD BUSINESS

EXXON PROPERTY – Supervisor Tyler brought the paperwork to the fire commissioners. There is concern over ground sediment and it is up to the Fire Department whether they want to move forward or not. The Supervisor said that there

Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 2016
Page 2

would need to be a contract agreement between Exxon and the Fire Company stating which party would be responsible if sediment is found.

RED CROSS – Supervisor Tyler and Councilperson Page attended a meeting with the Red Cross and Don Jaquish, Essex County Emergency Services Director, to discuss the emergency shelter plan. The school is the current emergency shelter and a contract needs to be written up. Councilperson Page mentioned the possibility of a secondary backup location. In the case of an emergency, the Red Cross may not be able to get here for up to three days, so they would like to train local volunteers.

NEW BUSINESS

FORESTRY BIDS – The town received the following two bids:

Fountains – General Forestry Services: \$60/hour
Clerical Services: #37/hour
Foresters: \$60/hour
Area Foresters: \$72/hour
Mileage: \$0.57/mile
Forest Management Plan: \$60/hour, or by acre, or by fixed quote
Timber Appraisal: \$60/hour, or by acre, or by fixed quote
Timber Sale Administration: \$60/hour, or 12% Commission
Timer Marking: \$60/hour or \$45/acre

Soil & Water – Management Plan: \$0
Timber Sale Administration: \$40/hour
Timber Marking: \$40/hour
Timber Appraisal: \$40/hour
Education and Outreach: \$0
Forest Management: \$40/hour

Copies of the bids will be made for Council members and discussion will occur at the next board meeting.

WEB PAGE – Supervisor Tyler had one meeting and another is set up. He said he should have a good understanding of their services to make a decision during the next meeting.

LABORER – Supervisor Tyler would like to hire a part-time laborer from May to September. They will work with the DPW (but not operate heavy machinery) and may also fill in at the transfer station. Salary would come from the General Fund, and there would not be a union issue.

Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 2016
Page 3

RESOLUTION #101
DPW PART TIME LABORER

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 hire a part-time DPW Laborer for the summer for 30 hours per week at \$10/hour.

TOWN/SCHOOL CLEAN UP – The school has scheduled a clean up day for May 20th. The DPW crew will assist them.

RESOLUTION #102
APPROVAL OF BILLS

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, seconded by Councilperson Page, 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 4B in the amount of \$9,501.44 for Voucher 2016-243 and Abstract 4C in the amount of \$115,786.64 for Vouchers 2016-244 through 2016-265.

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS – Supervisor Tyler spoke with the assessor about tax exemptions. Council members were given a list of current exempt properties; they total just over \$31 million. Councilperson Page said that there was a tax committee that had assembled a list of allowed exemptions, but it needs to be updated. Some exempt organizations give a yearly donation to the town and it may be possible to encourage others to do the same.

The Supervisor is in receipt of the Town Court’s March report.

A check was sent to Real Property for their portion of a payment received from NYS for Cyclical Aid Certification Reimbursement.

A check was received from Charter for franchise fees, and two checks were received from the County for Snow & Ice and sales tax.

A homeowner on Eagle Street has noticed dirt in their water. Two council members who live on the same street haven’t noticed any issues, so it may just be at the one home.

Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 2016
Page 4

RESOLUTION #102
PERMA CONFERENCE

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 authorize Michael Tyler to attend the PERMA Conference from May 26-27, 2016 and payment of his actual and necessary expenses.

RESOLUTION #103
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk