

Minutes of the Regular Town of Westport Board Meeting on June 9, 2015

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
Supervisor Connell
Councilperson McCormick via telephone

Others present:

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
Rod Boula, Elizabethtown Community Hospital CEO
James Herrmann, Alan Hipps, Bill Johnston, Simone Stephens, Heidi Sweet,
Chris Maron, Schelling McKinley

RESOLUTION #105 MINUTES MAY 26, 2015

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 accept the minutes of the May 26, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

ROD BOULA gave an annual update of the Elizabethtown Community Hospital. They are currently expanding the Acute Care floor and plan to add 8,200 sq. ft. in a project expected to start this fall. More physicians are being recruited and a clinic opened in AuSable Forks last month. MRIs are now being scheduled two days a week, instead of just one. ECH received awards including a Guardian Award (for patient satisfaction) and a Pinnacle Award (for helping patients transition to outside care after their stay).

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – They have received four applications for the director position. An interview committee will meet with applicants on Monday and a recommendation should be submitted to the board in time for the next meeting.

BUILDING COMMITTEE – Bill Johnston provided an update. The application for a wood pellet heating system has been approved and additional material has been submitted for the archaeological waiver. He revised the budget by shifting funds from Development to Pre-Development and volunteered to be the day-to-day contact person with OPRHP.

RESOLUTION #106
CONTACT DESIGNATION

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

3	Ayes	Page, Viens, Connell
1	Nay	Paquette

RESOLVED to name Bill Johnston as the contact person for the Westport Community Center Renovation project, EPF-Contract #149320.

Supervisor Connell voiced his concern on the projected design plan and the moving of offices to the upper floor. He believes that this design is impractical, offices would be too small, cubicles don't allow for privacy, and having offices beyond the meeting room could be disruptive.

Councilperson Page stated that the project plan focuses on building stability (foundation work, insulation, rewiring) rather than interior design.

In regard to the budgeted revision, Bill commented that the State doesn't want a line by line budget, allowing for more flexibility.

RESOLUTION #107
TOWN HALL PROJECT

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

3	Ayes	Page, Viens, Connell
1	Nay	Paquette

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RESOLVED that the Westport Community Center Renovation Project (EPF-Contract #149320) move forward.

OLD BUSINESS

BICENTENNIAL – Heidi Sweet gave a brief update, stating that the historical boards are coming together and more volunteers are still needed. One of the banners has been hung at Everybody’s Market and will be moved to another location approximately ten days before the celebration.

BEAUTIFICATION – Chris Maron submitted a letter asking the board to request that the County Board of Supervisors participate in a countywide cleanup by drafting a press release of salvage companies.

RESOLUTION #108
BEAUTIFICATION REQUEST

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

3	Ayes	Page, Viens, Connell
1	Nay	Paquette

RESOLVED for Supervisor Connell to bring the request for a County Board of Supervisors press release to the county attorney.

HERITAGE HOUSE CONTRACT – still with attorney.

RECYCLING – Though Lewis changed their tire disposal fees, the board decided to keep ours the same. There was also a change of vendors for metal recycling.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION #109
LIFEGUARD APPOINTMENTS

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

4	Ayes	Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0	Nays	

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RESOLVED to appoint Hailey Chapuk and Alexa Mitchell as lifeguards for the summer season.

JUSTICE RESIGNATION – Michael Tyler turned in his resignation, effective June 29, 2015. Supervisor Connell spoke with the Board of Elections on options for the position and is also seeking Bill LaHendro’s opinion.

TOWN CLERK’S REPORT – The Supervisor is in receipt of the Town Clerk’s May report.

RESOLUTION #110
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 6A in the amount of \$22,830.93 for Vouchers 2015-312 through 2015-339.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – The marina pump will be fixed in the morning and a spare pump will arrive soon. The DPW will aid in a community cleanup organized by the school. One or two kids from One Work Source will assist the DPW starting July 6th. As per new state laws, new chains will be ordered for the playgrounds. Dennie would like to put a trash can at the Wadhams Pavilion and a few more at the Westport beach. Adam Cross will take a driving test next week (a new law states that drivers taking the test with an automatic truck will only be licensed to drive automatics).

SUPERVISOR’S COMMENTS – There is little chance for grant money for the garage project since the town has a bad reputation for previously killing the project.

PUBLIC COMMENT – James Herrmann brought in a clipping from the Valley News of an ad placed by Bill Kuntz, in which he sought engineers to repurpose the Town Hall building.

RESOLUTION #111
EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to enter into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m.

RESOLUTION #112
CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to close Executive Session and return to Regular Session at 8:35 p.m.

RESOLUTION #113
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk