

Minutes of the Regular Scheduled Town Board Meeting on June 26, 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
Councilman McCormick
Supervisor Connell

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Nancy Page, Rick Hoffman, James Herrmann, John McWilliam,
Katherine Clark-Valley News

RESOLUTION #132 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2012 Regular Meeting as received.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was none at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION - Councilman Sherman reported that there had not been a meeting since our last board meeting.

TAX COMMITTEE – The Tax Committee comprised of Ulrich Hoffman, Nancy Page, Gay Gutierrez and Tim Sherman was introduced by Supervisor Connell who acknowledged that they have spent a considerable amount of time and effort studying the non profit or exempt parcels in the Town of Westport. They were present to present a report on

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some of their findings regarding these parcels and the affects on the tax rate. There was considerable discussion on non-exempt parcels and proper filing of necessary paperwork. Handouts were given to the Board of three examples with tax exempt status and the tax affect so that as expressed the Board would gain a better understanding of what they were presenting. A letter presented to the Board contained a comment stating "Everyone seeks equity. Equity in assessment is a common request. However, there is another equity that all must consider and that is the equity between those who pay everything.... But, pay nothing..."

OLD BUSINESS

WOOD BOILER – no action to take at this time

WADHAMS WATER –

HIGHWAY GARAGE

OIL/WATER SEPARATOR – The bids will be in and opened on July 10th, 2012.

TOWN HALL RFP'S – Opened and turned over to the Committee for their review.

- \$ 3,900.00 SEI Designs
- \$ 8,333.60 AES Northeast
- \$ 9,360.00 Nelson Associates
- \$ 12,500.00 Fred Keil, Architect
- \$ 12,690.00 Vermont Int. Architecture
- \$ 14,700.00 SD Atelier
- \$ 17,800.00 Dave Sadowski
- \$ 18,000.00 Stracher Roth Gilmore Arch
- \$ 18,650.00 Janet Mellor
- \$ 24,818.00 Saratoga Associates
- \$ 34,686.00 C. T. Male Assoc
- \$ 36,400.00 Griffith Dardanelli Architects
- \$ 42,800.00 Argus Architecture

HAMLET REVITALIZATION CONTRACT

Supervisor Connell has been talking with Carol Calabrese and working on the contract.

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CEMETERY OLD ARSENAL ROAD

Sue Frisbie will be having a meeting with the Kennedy's and the Van Duyne's.

LIFEGUARDS FOR SUMMER – We are still in need of a lifeguard eighteen years of age or older for the beach for the summer.

NORTH COUNTRY HEALTHY HEART CONTRACT

Mr. Westover met with Chris Maron and Josh Wilson regarding purchasing signs and placing crosswalks on NYS Routes 9N and 22 in Westport.

RESOLUTION #133

TABLE HEALTHY HEART CONTRACT

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to table the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement on the Healthy Heart Contract.

NEW BUSINESS

SIDEWALKS – There is 280' of sidewalk down by the Lakeside Motel that needs to be replaced. It has been put off for several years.

RESOLUTION #134

SIDEWALK BID

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize going out to bid on sidewalk replacement for 280' and bids must be received by 4:00 p.m. by the Town Clerk on July 24, 2012.

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CEMETERY ARTICLE – Supervisor Connell presented the Board with an article on cemeteries that were now running out of money and if they do it is the Town’s responsibility to care for them. The article stated that the law has been changed so that the Town can offer the cemetery associations some assistance by way of lending them equipment when they need it, thus helping them to save on costs.

RESOLUTION #135
DPW SECTION 284 ADDITION

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the expenditure of \$5,000 for 400’ of top mix, binder and gravel on the Arsenal Road.

RESOLUTION #136
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 6B in the amount of \$86,598.80 for Vouchers 2012-357 through Vouchers 2012-390.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – DENNIS WESTOVER

On October 9th Cornell will be holding a “Basic Good Roads Class” that I’d like to send 2 or 3 of the men to at \$40 per person.

RESOLUTION #137
APPROVAL TO ATTEND CLASS

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman McCormick and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

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RESOLVED to authorize 2 or 3 of the highway crew to attend the class on October 9th at \$40. each.

On November 7th there is a Basic Laboratory Skills Course for \$75 that John and Robin would like to take plus Robin would like to rejoin the AWWA at this time. John already belongs therefore his cost would be \$75 and hers \$156.

RESOLUTION #138
APPROVAL TO ATTEND CLASS

On a motion by Councilman Sherman seconded by Councilman McCormick and approved on a roll call vote.

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize John Crandall and Dawn St. Louis to attend the Basic Laboratory Skills on November 7th.

The last time Bruce took oversized tires to Lewis he found that they were charging considerable more to us than what we were charging for our taking them in. We were losing money. Sheila called Lewis and they are charging us \$100.00 for the off road tires where we have been only charging \$25.00-we are losing money on these.

RESOLUTION #139
STOP ACCEPTING OFF ROAD TIRES

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to make it a policy to no longer accept off road tires (i.e.) skidder tires) at the landfill.

We having some serious issues with the pump station on Church Street in Wadhams. Our roadside mowing has started. We now have all the parts together to begin the sewer line at the Huggins property.

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COUNCILMAN'S COMMENTS

Councilman McCormick thought the mowing had been kept up nicely at the boat launch. Councilman Sherman asked about the status of the end of the road being fixed that goes up to the water tower-stating it was in poor condition.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS

Supervisor Connell reported that National Grid had disconnected the power to the pedestal on the library lawn and the wiring had been removed. Now the pedestal was left for the DPW to remove.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

John McWilliam commended Mr. Westover and his crew for the way the shrubbery looks outside the Depot and the new driveway.

RESOLUTION #140 EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to go in to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular employee at 9:08 p.m.

RESOLUTION #141 CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nay

RESOLVED to close Executive Session and return to Open Session at 9:20 p.m.

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RESOLUTION #142
RE-ENTER INTO CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS WITH UNION

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

5 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, McCormick, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to re-enter in contract negotiations with the union since the County has notified us that Taylor Atwell cannot be MEO since he does not have one full year of experience. We are willing to make him an MEO in Training at \$13.15 an hour but we will need union approval.

RESOLUTION #143
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted
Sheila A. Borden, Secretary