

Minutes of the Regular Town Board Meeting on August 28, 2012

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:

Councilman Tyler
Councilman Paquette
Councilman Sherman
Councilman McCormick
Supervisor Connell

The Westport Fire District Board of Commissioners were also present for a meeting on the building projects and Chairperson Marlene Westover called their meeting to order as well with the following members present:

Commissioner John Crandall
Commissioner Dan Faber
Commissioner Bruce Misarski
Treasurer, Gordon Decker
Secretary, Robin Crandall
Chairman Marlene Westover

Others present:

Sheila Borden, Town Clerk
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
Katherine Clark, Valley News
Elizabeth Lee, Director Youth Commission
Wayne Napper, Nancy Page, Rick Hoffmann, Jean Kirejczyk, James Herrmann, Sue Frisbie, Betty Band, Margaret Sherman, Jim Rule, Gerald Goulet

Supervisor Connell briefly explained the reasons for the meeting with the Fire Commissioners. The first being that we are still in need of a new DPW building and a new fire house and that what ever we do it must be the most effective and inexpensive build for the taxpayers. The concept of a municipal center is gone.

The question was raised at the last joint meeting if the Fire District would be interested in locating a building where the current DPW building is located.

Gordon Decker spoke on behalf of the District stating they have discussed the issue regarding sharing the property and working up a footprint of a building they feel they would need. They had two preliminary designs that they shared with the Board.

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After discussion Councilman Sherman felt both groups should meet with Peter Gibbs. Councilman Sherman will come up with a couple dates and confirm with both Boards.

The Board of Fire Commissioners adjourned their meeting at 7:30 p.m. with a thank you from the Town Board.

RESOLUTION #169

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 accept the minutes as received of the regular meeting of August 14, 2012.

Councilman McCormick left the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – Director Lee reported that the soccer program that is being held at Camp Dudley has 36 youth enrolled and is being coached all by volunteers. The yearly tournament will be held at Dudley on September 15th. When the Commission met in July we did review the budget so they would understand the process more. The open gym program went fairly well with two to ten people using it and the free clinic was well attended with 17. The kayak clinic did not take place but we hope to reschedule it again for September. Vera Martin's report on the summer program is in your board packets.

TAX COMMITTEE – Supervisor Connell remarked that at the last Town Board meeting the Board had received the Committee's entire packet and we need to research and see what we are really allowed to do. Councilman Tyler recommended that the Board and the Committee sit down and discuss the tax exempt application together.

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RESOLUTION #170
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to hold a special board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on October 9, 2012 for the purpose of discussing the tax exempt parcels and application and the regular town board meeting will follow immediately thereafter.

OLD BUSINESS

WADHAMS WATER – Supervisor Connell has started the closing procedures on this project.

TOWN HALL – The interviews are currently being held with the architects.

HAMLET EXPANSION PROJECT – We are still waiting on Saratoga Associates.

CEMETERY ON OLD ARSENAL ROAD – Councilman Sherman reported that a 10’ right-of-way easement has been received from Cheryl Raywood. There was a consensus on the Board for Councilman Sherman, Sue Frisbie and the Town Attorney, Gary Wilson to have a joint meeting on this.

WESTPORT REVITALIZATION PROJECT – There is a scoping session conference call on September 10th at 12:00 noon.

WORMAN ROAD SEWER PUMP STATION – This has been placed out to bid again and the bids will be opened on September 11, 2012.

NEW BUSINESS

FOUNTAIN FORESTRY BID DOCUMENTS – We are in receipt of the paperwork from Fountain Forestry for our next timber sale on the south side of Harper Mountain.

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**RESOLUTION #171
TIMBER BID SALE**

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to advertise our lump sum timber sale bid with bids having to be received on October 9, 2012.

The Clerk was asked to read an email from Thomas Gilman, Area Forester of Fountains Forestry regarding the consideration of planting white pine seedlings in certain areas of the watershed. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Forester look into this.

HERITAGE HOUSE CONTRACT – Supervisor Connell requested authorization to renew the operating agreement for the Heritage House.

**RESOLUTION #172
HERITAGE HOUSE OPERATING AGREEMENT**

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the Operating Agreement on the Westport Heritage House.

EMPLOYEE REQUEST – The Clerk was asked to read a letter from John & Robin Crandall requesting a Town discount for a Town employee for a sewer hookup since John made the connection himself. No action was taken.

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BRUSH DUMP REQUEST – The Clerk read a letter from William LaHendro requesting opening the brush dump this Fall for burning.

**RESOLUTION #173
OPENING BRUSH DUMP**

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to open the brush dump for burning on October 27, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.

REQUEST FOR SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION – The Clerk read a letter from Ann Ryan regarding the speed trucks go down through Town and the way they ignore the speed limit signs that are there. The matter was discussed and no action taken.

**RESOLUTION #174
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 authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 8B for Vouchers 2012-474 through Vouchers 2012-484 in the amount of \$16,096.06.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – DENNIS WESTOVER

The sidewalk has been removed and is ready for it to be replaced hopefully next week. The water leak in the service line to the Westport Motel has been repaired. The #3 pickup that the DPW Superintendent drives needs a new motor-the heads are gone. Mr. Westover had several options he presented to the Board that were discussed.

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**RESOLUTION #175
PURCHASE JASPER ENGINE**

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to purchase a new motor for the #3 truck in the amount of \$2,930 from Jasper.

The Volvo truck has a radiator leaking and we should be able to get the screens we were looking for from another town. The steel order that was discussed at the last board meeting is confirmed at a 15% discount.

**RESOLUTION #176
PURCHASE STEEL FOR PLOWS**

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

4 Ayes Tyler, Paquette, Sherman, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to purchase an order of steel at a 15% discount from Chemung.

We have a manhole in front of the sewer plant that needs some repairs done to it. The consensus of the Board was to have Peter Gibbs take a look at it. Mr. Westover notified the Board that he would not be at the September 25th meeting as he would be out of town.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS – The litigation with Champlain National Bank on September 14th – do we want the Attorney for the Town to represent us at that meeting. The Board was in agreement that Mr. Wilson should be there on our behalf.

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COUNCILMEN'S COMMENTS

PUBLIC COMMENT

RESOLUTION #177
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Tyler with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted

Sheila A. Borden, Town Clerk