

REGULAR WESTPORT TOWN BOARD MEETING OCTOBER 8, 2013

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
George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
James Herrmann, Gordon Decker, Nancy Page

RESOLUTION #203 MINUTES SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

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 accept the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 24, 2013 as received.

RESOLUTION #204 MINUTES OCTOBER 3, 2013

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

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

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the Special Budget Meeting of October 3, 2013 after including comments Supervisor Connell asked to be included that were omitted as follows:

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Ref: Fish & Game Club request-The Supervisor had talked with the attorney from the State Comptroller's office, a legal assistant from the State Comptroller's office, an attorney from the Association of Towns and the Town's Attorney who is also a member of the Fish & Game Club and they were all of the same opinion that without a contract of service we could fund such an organization with taxpayers dollars. They question if we could not legally sign a contract of service for a fishing derby when the town already has a youth commission program. In the Clubs letter they also talked about building repairs, we cannot or we have no authority to fund a private organization.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS - Supervisor Connell reviewed the contents of the agreement between the Town of Westport and the Westport Fire District being that the Town of Westport is the "lead agency" and the Town Supervisor is the lead agency contact and contract person. It is the understanding that the only person to distribute any paperwork relating to this project will be the Town Supervisor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

COMMITTEES

BUILDING RENOVATION COMMITTEE – On October 15th at 2:00 p.m. there will be a Special Town Board meeting at the Town Hall at which NYSERDA will be meeting with the Building Renovation Committee.

YOUTH COMMISSION – They had a meeting on October 7th. The dance class will start on October 21st at the Heritage House. The soccer program is winding down and basketball will start on December 3rd. Applications for scholarships for the youth ski program need to be turned in by November 25th and the participation applications need to be in by December 16th along with the appropriate fee.

OLD BUSINESS

SOLAR POWER UPDATE – Councilman Sherman reported he had spoken with Supervisor Monroe and they did not have to go out to bid. Supervisor Connell will ask Johnson Controls to come to a meeting and discuss an energy audit.

TIMBER SALE – The landowner's attorney called and is not totally satisfied with all the information received.

HAMLET EXPANSION PROJECT – We are still waiting.

CEMETERY ON OLD ARSENAL ROAD – Still on hold.

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WESTPORT REVITALIZATION PROJECT – Meeting tomorrow anchored around Heritage House.

BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – The next meeting will be October 16 at 8:30 a.m.

HIGHWAY GARAGE UPDATE – The Fire District meets next week to pass the resolution agreeing to sign a contract with Vermont Integrated Architecture. (VIA)

ASSESSOR UPDATE – This was approved and Supervisor Connell and Robin have a meeting on Thursday morning to go over paperwork.

NATIONAL GRID-WADHAMS NET METERING – Not going as planned.

NEW BUSINESS

RAGNAR RELAY ADIRONDACKS – Expressed their thanks for allowing them to run through Westport.

TOWN CLERK'S AUGUST REPORT – The Supervisor is in receipt of the Town Clerk's August report and supporting documents.

LETTER FROM ANDY MALLOY & DEBBIE GASTLER – The Clerk was asked to read the letter from Andy Malloy and Debbie Gastler regarding their water bill and water leak and the report on the same situation by Dawn St. Louis. The matter was discussed and Supervisor Connell would try to set up a meeting with them as soon as possible.

REGIONAL COMPUTER RECYCLING & RECOVERY – The Clerk read a notice from the Regional Recycling Services stating that CRT TVs and CRT Monitors will no longer be recycled free of charge.

RESOLUTION #205

CHARGE FOR RECYCLING CRT TVs & CRT MONITORS

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 charge effective November 1, 2013 for CRT TV's and CRT Monitors at the rate of under 19" \$10.00 and 19" and over \$25.00.

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RESOLUTION #206
APPROVAL TO PAY BILLS

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 payment of bills on Abstract 10A for Vouchers 2013-590 through 2013-620 in the amount of \$18,345.85.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT AND REQUEST – DENNIS WESTOVER

The salt shed is almost done and the men need to be commended for an excellent job. The sand bids have been put in the paper and the truck was re-advertised.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gordon Decker asked the question about the decrease in the assessment base in the Fire District- why such a large decrease-what are the drivers that affect this?

RESOLUTION #207
EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

RESOLVED to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a particular person at 8:22 p.m.

RESOLUTION #208
CLOSE EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Councilman Tyler seconded by Councilman McCormick with a unanimous vote to close Executive Session at 8:34p.m.and return to Regular Session.

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The DPW Superintendent requested that the Board consider putting in the preliminary budget funds to cover the position of a MEO.

RESOLUTION #209
MEO POSITION

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

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

RESOLVED to put in the Preliminary Highway Budget together with the other figures discussed the position of MEO.

RESOLUTION #210
EMPLOYMENT RICHARD NICHOLAS FULL TIME

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 hire Richard Nicholas full time as a MEO per the union contract with the first day as of November 4, 2013.

SPECIAL MEETING

The Special Meeting on October 22nd at 9:00a.m. will be open session on insurance and the union representative will be invited.

At 9:30 a.m. there will be a Special Budget Work Session that will be also an open session.

The Clerk will advertise both of these.

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RESOLUTION #211
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilman Paquette with a unanimous second the meeting was adjourned at 9:50p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted

Sheila A. Borden, Town Clerk