

Minutes of the Town of Westport Regular Board Meeting on November 24, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Connell 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
Supervisor Connell
Excused: Councilperson McCormick

Others present:

George Hainer, Zoning & Codes Officer
Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk
Dan Stec, Assemblyman for 114th District
Dennis Westover, DPW Superintendent
James Herrmann, Patricia French, Heidi Sweet, Alan Hipps, Ike Tyler

RESOLUTION #188 MINUTES NOVEMBER 10, 2015

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2015 Regular Town Board Meeting as received.

ASSEMBLYMAN DAN STEC thanked Supervisor Connell for his leadership and mentoring over the last few years and congratulated him on his career. He mentioned that he tries to move around the district as much as possible to touch base with individual towns. He spoke briefly about the upcoming debate over minimum wage.

Supervisor Connell stated that we are fortunate to have representation in Albany. He also officially recognized the supervisor-elect and congratulated newly elected officials.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

YOUTH COMMISSION – Council members were given a copy of the minutes of their last few meetings.

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BUILDING – Bill Johnston submitted a letter for Supervisor Connell to sign. If approved, the letter will be sent to Sunshine Jenkins and will commit the board to hiring VIA to take on the final phase of the project.

RESOLUTION #189
LETTER TO SUNSHINE JENKINS

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 authorize Supervisor Connell to sign the letter to Sunshine Jenkins.

The building contract is with the town attorney, who has two major concerns. One concern is over the covenant, which would become effective immediately and give the state control of the building for 35 years, and the other is that the state can opt out at any time. The town cannot opt out unless the state is in agreement. The attorney is negotiating with the state and will come to a later meeting with his recommendations.

Alan Higgs spoke about the contract concerns. He stated that it may be possible to negotiate that the covenant be held until the first drawdown, but doubts that the opt-out clause can be changed.

Supervisor Connell is concerned that contract will be cancelled during the three-month period where the state doesn't pay out any grant money.

OLD BUSINESS

TRAINING – A webinar will be held on December 10 for newly elected officials and training courses are available in early January.

NEW BUSINESS

SIDEWALK MACHINE BIDS –

| | |
|---|-------------|
| <u>Abele Tractor & Equipment Co, Inc.</u> | |
| One New Tractor – Sidewalk Machine | \$21,512.22 |
| Option #1 | \$3,440.07 |
| Option #1A | \$331.13 |
| Option #2 | \$2,265.65 |
| Option #3 | \$3,698.50 |
| Delivery Time | 25 days |

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Champlain Valley Equipment

(Submitted Bid #1, a Ventral 3400Y, and Bid #2, a Ventral 4500Y. Though the item specifications differ, the bid amounts are the same.)

| | |
|---|-------------|
| One New Tractor – Sidewalk Machine (Ventral #1) | \$30,978.98 |
| Ventral #2 | \$41,462.48 |
| Delivery Time | 30 days |

RESOLUTION #190
SIDEWALK MACHINE BID

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

| | | |
|---|------|--------------------------------|
| 4 | Ayes | Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell |
| 0 | Nays | |

RESOLVED for the DPW Committee to review the bids, certify that the specs meet the requirements, and, in the case where the low bidder is chosen, award the bid.

If the high bidder is chosen, the board will act at the next meeting.

POST OFFICE – There is an ongoing issue with the post office. Over 50 election notices were returned to the Board of Elections and assessment notices were returned, causing property owners to miss grievance day. Most recently, mail for the court has been sent to the phone company. Supervisor Connell stated that people need to be made aware of the problem and need to know to be careful if they have a P.O. Box.

EDDY FOUNDATION DONATION – The Eddy Foundation donated a \$1,000 check with the suggestion that it be given to the school. The check was deposited into the general fund as policy states that any amount larger than \$250 must be deposited daily.

RESOLUTION #191
BUDGET TRANSFERS

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 | |

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RESOLVED to authorize the following budget transfers:

- \$3,645 from 1990.4 Contingency to 1670.2 Photostat Machine
- \$800 from 1990.4 Contingency to 7110.1 Parks
- \$3000 from 51101.3 General Repairs to 5112.2 Permanent Improvement
- \$200 from 81202.2 Equipment to 8130.4 Treatment/Disposal
- \$150 from 8130.1 Treatment to 8130.4 Treatment/Disposal

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING – Will be held on January 5, 2016 at 3 p.m.

LEDGE HILL BRIDGE – A culvert on Ledge Hill needs to be replaced by a bridge. The town does not own bridges, so any future issues would be the county's responsibility. This is a Class B project and will be reviewed by the APA. The Planning Board submitted their report to the APA today. The project won't move forward until spring and will first require approval at a public hearing.

RESOLUTION #192
APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize the payment of bills on Abstract 11B in the amount of \$39,646.30 for Vouchers 2015-610 through 2015-628.

DPW SUPERINTENDENT REPORT – The committee will meet at 1 p.m. on Monday to review the bids. Cleanup day went well, with as many participants as the spring cleanup. The ramp at the transfer station has needed multiple repairs due to tractor-trailers backing into it. Dennie called Geoff May to see if he might have a solution. A few of the trucks are set for the winter. The sewer plant has taken six or seven more loads of waste from the county.

RESOLUTION #193
PARKING BAN

On a motion by Councilperson Viens, 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 issue the winter parking ban that is in effect from November 1 through April 15, 2014 between the hours of 11:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. This includes all highways, roads, streets and parking lots that are maintained by the Town of Westport DPW. Vehicles may be removed and towed at owner's expense.

RESOLUTION #194
TIRE ORDER

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

4 Ayes Page, Paquette, Viens, Connell
0 Nays

RESOLVED to authorize Dennis Westover to order truck tires in an amount not exceeding \$1,200.

SUPERVISOR'S COMMENTS – The County voted to close the barns at the fair grounds. They will only be open for special events. The racetrack is still available for use.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Ike asked if there is any plan to repair the pier at the beach. Dennie stated that there wasn't the time or place to work on it last winter and it needs new decking. The highway crew will make this a priority project.

RESOLUTION #195
ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilperson Paquette, with a unanimous second, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Julie Schreiber, Town Clerk