



**SELECTBOARD**  
**TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON**  
**TOWN HALL**  
**1 SOUTH ROAD**  
**WESTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01027**

April 19, 2016

The meeting convened at 7:00PM.

Present were Art Pichette, Jim Huston, and Phil Dowling. Also present were Cheryl Provost and David Blakesley.

Warrants were signed for:      Payroll: \$66,809.41  
   Vendor: \$276,411.21

Accepted minutes from March 21 (one abstained) & April 11, 2016.

- David Blakesley, Highway Superintendent, reported:
  - working on spring clean-up. Street sweeper coming soon, been getting ready for them.
  - hot mix is ready and will need some soon
  - attended Eversource Annual Municipal Informational Meeting on April 13. Descriptions of how they handle emergencies are discussed.
  - the speed sign request was sent to Mass. Highway.
  - North Road triangle research conducted by Barbara Pellesier was reviewed by Larry Holmburg. He will use the information to create a topographic map. David reviewed additional information that Barbara obtained from the Hampshire County commissioners office. He recognized some of the references and will spend more time reviewing it.
  - reviewed the meeting in Boston with Representative Kocot and Transportation Secretary Pollack regarding the Northwest Road culvert project. Secretary Pollack mentioned some potential options for funding, will follow up with Representative Kocot.
  - the accessibility bathroom repair is complete except for painting over the repair. David searched for leftover paint but did not find any, suggested that Phil may be able to provide some. When the pipe leaked it soaked some records in the basement that have been on wait to be shredded, now prone to develop mold. The records were authorized to be destroyed so cannot be disposed of at the transfer station. Discussed options for their disposal, Cheryl and David will look into community shredding options.
  - discussed the highway capital requests, referring to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee spreadsheet, going out twenty-five years (2031). David agreed to move the life-expectancy dates of the loader, grader, and brush chipper, and maybe the dump trucks. He noted that his department upkeeps regular maintenance and all the equipment is in good shape for their age, adding to the life expectancy.

- **Campground Inspection:**  
Valerie Bird, Health Agent, scheduled a joint inspection of the KOA campground for Friday, April 22 at 3:30 p.m. with the Electrical Inspector and an Assessor. She requested a Selectboard member also be present, Art will attend. Ginny Curtis and Woods were present and Ms. Curtis submitted a request for regulations on the campground license. Art replied that the Selectboard will need time to review the requests and compare them to the Code of Massachusetts Regulations and local Zoning Bylaws. They will discuss it at a future meeting. Ms. Curtis spoke of license issuance and was seeking the Selectboard to proceed with permitting of activities at the campground. Woods brought forth complaints of recent pre-season activities and trespassing on their property. Also brought forth were concerns of unregistered campers, quiet time, and designated season. In response, it was reported that the joint inspection was scheduled to determine if there are any violations. The officials present at the inspection will discuss what each department's jurisdiction is. Ms. Curtis was seeking a site plan approval for the campground as required in the Zoning Bylaws, adding that she will file a complaint to the Zoning Enforcement Officer if he determines a site plan approval is required in order to establish enforcement responsibilities.
- **Zip Code:**  
Ms. Curtis submitted information she researched regarding a separate zip code for Westhampton. She plans to continue researching the procedure for requesting a new zip code and will update the board.
- **FY17 budget:**  
Cheryl reported that the Finance Committee submitted their early recommendations on the FY17 budget. They recommended an override to fund the Town Hall painting. Discussed the procedures for an override and Cheryl noted that the Selectboard determines if an override is placed on the warrant and ballot. Considered an override as recommended by the Finance Committee. It was noted that the FY17 budget was in a lower deficit than other budgets have been at this point. Phil noted that the Finance Committee appears to be trying to move away from using Free Cash to balance the budget. However, Free Cash was used in FY16 for \$114,500 and in FY15 for \$126,000. If the Town Hall is placed into the budget and Free Cash is used to balance at this point it would be a total of approximately \$55,000, less than half of the previous two years. Discussion ensued using Free Cash to fund the project. Determined that using Free Cash to fund the Town Hall paint will help reduce the tax rate and an approved override will permanently increase the levy limit.  
Voted 3-0 to decline the recommendation of the Finance Committee to seek an override to fund the Town Hall paint and that the project remain in the budget. Furthermore, to seek approval to fund the project from Free Cash.
- **Fire Department Captain interviews:**  
Interviews will be held on Monday, May 16 at 6:00p.m. Chris Norris, Fire Chief, requested the presence of a Selectboard member. Art will attend, noting that it's also a regularly scheduled meeting night for the Selectboard, limiting his time to the interviews.

- Aniko Giordano submitted her resignation from Library Trustees. Brian Mulvehill submitted a request for appointment to Library Trustees.  
Voted 3-0 to accept the resignation of Aniko Giordano from Library Trustees.  
Voted 3-0 to appoint Brian Mulvehill to the Library Trustees.
- Capital Improvement Planning Committee schedule:  
Phil reported that the Capital Improvement Planning Committee worked on the requests and pushed some dates out to move them past years of current debt retirement. The toughest year at this point will be FY2018, with that being the final year for the highway garage and fire truck debt. The schedule is currently projected for twenty-five years (2031).  
-Discussions held with David Blakesley, Highway Superintendent, earlier this meeting determined that some of the Highway Dept. capital could be pushed a little; noting that the Highway Dept. has the most requests.  
-The next item of discussion was the elementary school boilers. Phil reported the Capital Improvement Planning Committee pushed that forward to 2020, after it was concluded that the current boilers could be maintained for a longer period. The replacement cost does not outweigh the long term savings at this point.  
-The Police Dept. pushed all of their requests past FY17. Phil noted that a new cruiser will likely be needed soon and the two smaller requests of a radar speed sign and digital dual band radios (\$12,000 each) could be worked into future budgets as line items.  
-Phil reported that Chris Norris, Fire Chief, requested a new ambulance at \$120,000. He then reported that it may be funded by ambulance receipts. For now the funding for the ambulance is removed from the schedule, with the ambulance remaining as a note. Phil suggested the Public Safety Complex Committee become active, the feasibility study was moved to FY19. The staff vehicle was pushed to FY19. Chris agreed to push the 1987 engine to 2025, reporting that he's comfortable with its condition.  
-Phil reported that's the summary of what the committee has accomplished. Art and Jim agreed on the job well done.
- Annual Town Meeting warrant  
Cheryl reported no changes to the warrant. The Dog Control Bylaw will be revised as voted last week and the Town Hall paint will be revised. A copy of the revised warrant will be emailed. The final copy will be prepared for signing on May 2.
- Westhampton Elementary School, roof replacement bond proceeds:  
Discussed how the excess funds of \$71,199.04 from the Mass. School Building Authority roof project could be used. The funds are available for appropriation to another capital project or acquisition. Discussion ensued regarding the elementary school boilers replacement, the Town Hall paint, and the tanker truck procurement. Determined that using the funds for the tanker truck will eliminate the need for long term borrowing. Voted 3-0 to seek approval at a Special Town Meeting to use the funds to pay a portion of the Town's share of the cost of the tanker truck.
- Administrative Assistant, Cheryl submitted work reports for March 22-April 11, April 12-April 19 and schedule for April 20-May 2.

Adjourned meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_  
Arthur Pichette, Chair

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James Huston, Clerk

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Philip Dowling