



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

April 18, 2017

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Phil Dowling, Jim Huston, and Art Pichette. Also present were Dave White, Steve Holt, Ginny Curtis, Wayne Parks, Chris Norris and additional members of the Fire Department, Karl Norris, Peter Cleary, Mary Cleary, Peter Montague, and Brad Morse. Cheryl Provost took the minutes.

Three quotes for the surplus tanker truck were received and read aloud.

1. Lisa & Larry LaCroix, Southampton, MA **\$2760.00**
2. Peter Montague, Westhampton, MA **\$1500.00**
3. Palmer Paving, Palmer, MA **\$6,700.00**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the offer of \$6,700.00 from Palmer Paving for the Westhampton Fire Department surplus tanker truck; so voted.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: \$75,371.10
 Vendor: \$161,633.22

Minutes from April 3 were approved with one abstention. Minutes of April 6, 2017 were approved with one abstention.

- Highway Superintendent, David Blakesley was unavailable. Cheryl reported that Westhampton's FY18 Chapter 90 appropriation is \$186,936.00. The snow removal deficit is \$40,202.23, will confirm that all invoices are paid.
- Peter Montague, fire department spending:
Mr. Montague had questions regarding some invoices paid from the fire department expense and EMS accounts. One of the invoices was for maintenance on the fire apparatus. The highway department has been providing that service at no extra charge to the town so he was curious what changed, and asked if it's necessary to spend that. He noted that the new tanker truck had failed its initial inspection. Other invoices prompting questions were reimbursements for travel and he asked how that was a benefit to the town. Mr. Montague also inquired about the new ambulance, how it's staffed, and if it's viable to the town.
Phil thanked Mr. Montague for bringing his concerns forward and allowed Chris Norris, Fire Chief, to respond.
Chris explained the changes regarding vehicle service and provided reports supporting his decision. Discussion ensued regarding the company's location, certifications, and recommendations. Chris stated that he will have only Emergency Vehicle Technicians service the fire apparatus. There was discussion in regards to having member(s) of the highway

department trained to become certified so they may continue to provide the support. That option will be researched.

Chris continued, and explained that the trips were for professional development as a representative of Westhampton in the capacity of Fire Chief and a member of the Board of Directors on the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

The tanker truck had an air leak in the brake, it was sent to Freightliner, repaired under warranty, and passed inspection.

Chris described the primary staffing of the ambulance and the contract with Pioneer Valley Ambulance to provide coverage during off hours at no charge. He explained the history of ambulance service in Westhampton and compared costs. He believes that having an ambulance provides leverage for negotiations with ambulance services. It has also given the EMS the opportunity to stay with a patient on the ambulance, increasing their experience.

Members of the Fire Department and citizens spoke on behalf of Chris; documents were provided. Chris made a closing statement noting that there are different styles of running departments and hopes that if anyone has questions they feel they can go to the department heads. He will continue to advocate for the town and volunteers as he feels is best and to provide the safest equipment to them.

Chris is holding a Fire Department/EMS informational meeting on May 1 and May 9 at the Town Hall.

Phil closed the discussion with appreciation to Chris for all his efforts on behalf of the town and noted that putting everything on the table is good, whether agreed or not.

- Outlook Farm pouring licensing:

Brad Morse submitted an application for a farmer pouring license and requested a decision on May 1. Discussion ensued regarding time restrictions, outdoor boundaries and premise, and procedures for licensing under state laws. The application, questions, and disputed items will be sent to counsel for review. The board is scheduled to meet on May 1 and hope to have a response prior to that. It is their hope to have this completed in a timely manner but are taking the steps necessary to do it correctly.

- Campground updates:

Art has a copy of the Assessors map of the campground and will begin working with John Kelsey on the sketch showing the individual camp sites. The annual inspection of the campground is being organized by the Board of Health and Health Agent and will be completed in April. Discussion ensued regarding the seasonal hours and operations as activity was notice on the property over the weekend. There was also discussion regarding inspection of the septic system. The Board of Health will be notified of the concerns so they can be handled during the inspection.

- Unregistered vehicle violations:

Chuck Miller, Zoning Enforcement Officer, has ticketed 70 Main Street for running a junkyard in violation of town zoning bylaws. Ken Sacharczyk, through his attorney, submitted a schedule for removal of vehicles from 0 Main Road to begin on May 1. The Selectboard reviewed the plan and voted to schedule an inspection of 0 Main Road on, or around, May 1 with the Board of Health, Zoning Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector, Police Department, and Fire Department to get a count of cars and debris at the site to determine if progress is being made as outlined in the schedule. Furthermore, the Selectboard will send notice to Mr. Sacharczyk that the cleanup will include debris. Ms. Curtis suggested "flagging" the deed to alert the future

owner of the activity.

Ms. Curtis inquired if action has been taken on 67 Main Road; unregistered vehicles remain there. There has been no action to date; will proceed.

An inquiry was made as to the status of vehicles on John Zimmerman's property. He will be asked to attend the next meeting to provide an update.

- Zip code article to be presented at Annual Town Meeting.
- Correspondence:
 - Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is holding a meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 20 at the Hadley Farms Meeting House in Hadley. A buffet meal will be available at 4:45 p.m. Art will attend the meeting.
 - Hampshire Regional School District updates (previously submitted by email; no discussion)
- Administrative Assistant updates:
 - will email full report for March 21 through April 4 and April 5 through April 18 as well as the schedule for April 19 through May 1.
 - Attended the Annual Mass. Commission against Discrimination training, Responding to Accommodation Requests, in Boston Tuesday, April 11 through Thursday, April 13 and received a certificate. The next training is May 17-May 18.
 - Three applications for Building Inspector have been submitted, interviews will be scheduled. If available.

The Selectboard voted by roll call, 3-0 to enter into Executive Session at 9:00p.m., as the Chair declared that discussion in a public meeting may have detrimental effect on the towns' litigating position with respect to:

Hampshire Superior Court in the matter of Cotton Tree Service, Inc. and Dodge Maple Grove Farm, LLC v. Planning Board of the Town of Westhampton and Town Clerk of the Town of Westhampton, Civil Action C.A. No. 1580-CV-00112

Adjourned Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 9:05 p.m.

- Selectboard meetings are 7:00 p.m. May 1 and 15. Annual Town meeting is Saturday, May 13.
- Documents signed:
 - Fire Marshall Designation application
- Documents submitted:
 - petitions for articles
 - copies of payment requests for reimbursement of travel
 - invoices for vehicle maintenance
 - credentials of Chris Norris as downloaded from fire department website
 - fire department April 18 meeting records
 - “About the EFO” as downloaded from the International Fire Chiefs Association website

- Certificate of Appointment issued to Christopher W. Norris from the National Fire Protection Association
- Fire-Rescue documents supporting use of certified technicians
- National Institution Of Safety/Health; recommendations for fire apparatus

Adjourned meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Approve: _____


Philip Dowling, Chair


James Huston


Arthur Pichette