



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

May 15, 2017

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Phil Dowling, Jim Huston, and Art Pichette. Also present were Ginny Curtis, Tom Hathaway, and Wayne Parks. Cheryl Provost took the minutes.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: \$71,202.37
 Vendor: \$259,042.08

Minutes from May 1, May 10, and revised February 27 were approved.

- Todd Ford, Hampshire Council of Governments provided updates on:
 - Human Resources shared services
 - Heating Fuel bids
 - IT services
 - procurement contracts/bids

Ellen Batchelder from Hampshire Purchasing reviewed bids for highway material, EMS supplies, and office supplies.

- Hampshire Power, Zach Holt:
Mr. Holt submitted a Fixed-Rate Electricity Supply Pricing Summary and a Fixed Price-Combined Billing Customer contract. The rates are good for two days and require Selectboard approval and contract agreement. Revised rates can be submitted at a later date if no action is taken.
- Tom Hathaway-blasting notification:
Mr. Hathaway reported that he met with Fire Chief, Chris Norris regarding notifications to neighbors of blasting dates. They agreed 24 hours' notice was reasonable, since any more notice could become confusing in the event it's cancelled due to complications, such as bad weather. Mr. Hathaway will notify specific neighbors by telephone and mail. Chief Norris will post a notice on the website. A geologist will be hired to place 6 or 7 seismographs in the area to record activity levels.
On a motion, voted to approve the procedure proposed by Tom Hathaway subject to recording by the seismographs.

- **Post-closure landfill Monitoring recommendation:**
The Board of Health received three quotes from the following engineers: Stantec, \$6,500.00; Tighe & Bond, \$6,675.00; and Mark W. Popham, R.S, \$6,485.00. They reviewed them on May 4 and recommend the Selectboard award the lowest quote from Mark W. Popham.
A motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendations of the Board of Health and award the post-closure landfill monitoring to Mark W. Popham, R.S in the amount of \$6,485.00; approved by roll vote 3-0.
- **Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer interview schedule:**
Three applicants are prepared for an interview and all are available May 30. One is unavailable June 12, the next scheduled meeting. Art is unavailable May 30, Jim is unavailable May 31.
Discussion ensued regarding the desire to complete interviews as soon as possible and agreed to schedule them for either May 30 or May 31, according to the availability of the applicants. The agenda will be posted with names of the candidates once the date is confirmed.
- **Transfer Request:**
The Counsel Fees account requires funds to pay for the outstanding balance of \$2,755.87 for the current invoice, in addition to three anticipated invoices of uncertain amounts.
On a motion, voted to approve a transfer between appropriations in accordance with Chapter 44:33b of the Mass. General Laws in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Unemployment (balance \$19,000.00 with no current claims) to Counsel Fees. Finance Committee will vote on transfer on May 23.
- **Response to Peter Montague:**
Peter Montague submitted a written request for written responses to his questions at the April 18 meeting. Confirmation of some information is required from Fire Chief, Chris Norris to finalize the response and will be completed next week.
- **Outlook Farm pouring licensing:**
The details of the Outlook Farm application were reported to the ABCC and in turn requirements for submitting applications were provided on their website. A link to that section was sent to Brad Morse on May 11. There was question regarding if the town and Morse's fulfilled all necessary requirements. Town counsel is reviewing the procedures and requirements. Updates will be provided when available.
- **Campground updates:**
The Board of Health completed the annual inspection of the campground on Saturday, May 6; Art attended. The board ordered an inspection of the septic system. Art requested that the Building, Electrical, and Plumbing Inspector be contacted to schedule to meet him on a Saturday to hold another inspection for a baseline of existing structures to be submitted with the site plan.
- **Unregistered vehicle violations:**
-An inspection of 0 Main Road is due to check on the progress of the removal of cars. Art will schedule a visit within the week. The Board of Health is sending a formal letter to address the solid waste on the site; Selectboard will be copied. Fire Chief, Chris Norris, has not submitted his report yet.
-Winnie Gorman and Joshua Menke, 67 Main Road visited to discuss the notice of bylaw

violation dated May 1. Mr. Menke explained that he has two race cars that he is unable to register because of their race condition. He requested they be considered recreational vehicles and fall under the exemption stating “shall not apply to motor vehicles which are designed and used for farming or to motor vehicles which are used on a seasonal basis for business or recreational purposes”. He displayed photos on his laptop of the location of the cars; they have car covers over them. Ms. Gorman and Mr. Menke are developing plans to build a fence that will complement their neighbor’s fence so the cars are out of site. They have no intentions of adding additional vehicles. Discussion ensued regarding the definition of vehicle and recreational vehicle, per Westhampton bylaws. Art will review it closer and bring the topic to the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee meeting Tuesday, May 16. Ms. Gorman and Mr. Menke were asked to provide an update in the next 6-8 weeks.

-John Zimmerman was not present for discussion and remains non-compliant.

On a motion, voted to send notice to John Zimmerman stating fines will begin effective June 1 and ordering a schedule for removal of unregistered vehicles to be submitted to the board. Mr. Zimmerman appeared shortly thereafter and was updated on the board’s actions. He was asked to appear before them at their next meeting and provide an update.

- Zip code:
Ginny Curtis reported that she has petitions that were signed at Town Meeting and has others out at the Town Hall, Clerk’s office, Library and Outlook Farm. She’ll circulate them until after the ballot vote on June 3.
- Correspondence:
 - Janet Laprade submitted a complaint against 263 Main Road, a home business, to the Zoning Board of Appeals and copied the Selectboard and Building Inspector. She requested the business use and premises be reviewed for compliance with licensing, zoning, and building. Discussion ensued regarding the business and responses from the Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Chuck Miller were reviewed. The material will be reviewed further and returned to a future meeting for further discussion.
 - Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Chuck Miller copied the Selectboard in correspondence to Janet Laprade and Cathryn Hondorp to address complaints, disputes, and zoning violations. Ms. Hondorp is on the agenda but was unable to attend the meeting due to a scheduling conflict. The issues are to be taken up by Ms. Hondorp with the Zoning Enforcement Officer and the Zoning Board of Appeals.
 - Insurance Services Office, Inc. proposed to arrange meetings in June with Fire Chief, Chris Norris and HRHS maintenance to survey public fire protection properties. They were also sent copies of the letter. The information will be reviewed with Chief Norris and an update provided at a future meeting.
 - John C. Jakobek, Jr., Attorney at Law submitted a request on behalf of Laurie Wilga to not expand the size of the turnaround on her property on Southampton Road, near the Westhampton/Southampton town line. The request will be reviewed with Highway Superintendent, David Blakesley and a response prepared.
 - Comcast Financial Balance Sheet is on file for review.
- Administrative Assistant updates:
 - submitted report for May 2 through May 15 and the schedule for May 16 through May 29.
 - Attending the Annual Mass. Commission Against Discrimination training, Conducting Internal

Discrimination Complaint Investigations, in Boston Wednesday, May 17 through Thursday, May 18.

-requested adjusted office hours for Tuesday, May 23, 1:00p.m - 5:00p.m.; approved.

- The next Selectboard meeting will be 7:00 p.m. May 30 or 31, to be determined by availability of Building Inspector applicants. Memorial Day ceremonies are 10:45 a.m., Monday, May 29 at the town center.
- Documents signed:
 - post-closure landfill monitoring contract for Mark W. Popham, R.S in the amount of \$6,485.00
 - request for transfer between appropriations in the amount of \$10,000.00 from Unemployment to Counsel Fees
- Documents submitted:
 - Fixed-Rate Electricity Supply Pricing Summary
 - Fixed Price-Combined Billing Customer contract
 - Hampshire Council of Governments purchasing information

Adjourned meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Approve: _____
Philip Dowling, Chair

James Huston

Arthur Pichette