



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

May 31, 2017

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

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

Warrants were signed for:     Payroll: \$71,621.01  
  Vendor: \$131,834.65

Minutes from May 15 were approved.

- A letter of Commendation to Andrea Belanger, honored as a Super Librarian, was approved.
- Reviewed the June 26 Special Town Meeting articles. They include funding for the snow removal deficit; establishment of a revolving fund for the school resource officer; and funding of the Tax Taking Expenses for FY18. Articles were unanimously approved by the Finance Committee. On a motion and by a roll vote of 3-0, approved the articles as written. The warrant will be presented for signatures on June 12.  
The police department expenses appropriation was held at annual town meeting for further review. Reviewed hourly rates of 6 police departments in the area showing an average of \$18.53/hour for officers and \$25.00/hour for sergeants (2 towns). A spreadsheet was provided showing rate increases up to 7.5%. The FY18 allows for the proposed amount for Sergeant at \$20.36/hour (2.5%); officers at \$17.20 (approximately 3.5%). The police chief recommends 15-20% between rates. Voted to not change the proposed police department expenses budget at the annual reconvene. Pay rates are determined by the Selectboard within appropriations set at town meeting prior to the first payroll of the new fiscal year.
- Hampshire Power, rate approval:  
Reviewed a current Fixed-Rate Electricity Supply Pricing Summary and a Fixed Price-Combined Billing Customer contract. All contracts begin on July 1, 2017 and offered as:  
6 months- \$0.09308 per Kwh  
12 months-\$0.10023 per Kwh  
18 months-\$0.09954 per Kwh  
24 months-\$0.10218 per Kwh  
36 months-\$0.10049 per Kwh

On a motion and by a roll vote of 3-0, accepted the Fixed-Rate Electricity Supply Price of \$0.10023 per Kwh for a term of 12 months.

- Voted to approve a tag sale permit for Judy Trzcienski, 33 Loudville Road.
- Pioneer Valley Planning Commission-Green Communities Assistance:  
Reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding for municipal energy coordination activities: Green Communities Technical Assistance.  
Discussion was held regarding what entering into the MOU will do and if it's a commitment to becoming a green community. Art explained it is to enable the town to receive assistance with research, meetings, and preparation to present at town meeting.  
There are five criteria to become a certified Green Community. Criteria five requires the Stretch Code to be adopted at town meeting. Criteria four mandates fuel efficient municipal vehicles, with specific exemptions for police cruisers and heavy duty vehicles. Assistance is available for criteria 1-4 and submittal of application. Desired assistance must be checked off upon submittal. Discussion was held regarding if the criteria may cause undue hardship to the town.  
On a motion and by a roll vote of 2-yes, 1-no, approved entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission; Green Communities Technical Assistance and to seek assistance with criteria 1, 2, 3 and to consolidate documents in preparation for submitting designation application.
- Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer interviews:  
-7:00 p.m.-interviewed Thomas Quinlan for the position of Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer. Mr. Quinlan spoke of his experience as a Building Inspector and former contractor; including holding the required state certificates. The Selectboard asked standard questions.  
-B.J. Church previously declined her interview opportunity in an email to the board.  
-7:45 p.m.-interviewed Andre Bliss for the position of Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer. Mr. Bliss spoke of his experience as a Building Inspector and former engineer; he is working toward attaining the required state certificates. The Selectboard asked standard questions.  
Reviewed the qualifications and interviews of the two candidates. On a motion and second, by a roll vote of 3-0, voted to offer the position of Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer to Thomas Quinlan.
- Response to Peter Montague:  
The board received a draft response to Peter Montague's request for written responses to his questions at the April 18 meeting. The board will review the draft and make final revisions prior to the next meeting, when it will be approved.
- Outlook Farm pouring licensing:  
A Public Hearing under Chapter 138, section 15A for applications of farmer series pouring permits with publication in local newspaper is required prior to issuance of license. The applicant is responsible for meeting all requirements; Brad Morse was notified by email. The board voted to hold a public hearing at 6:30 on June 26 to satisfy the requirements of the applicant.
- Campground updates:  
Art and Phil are going to the campground June 7 to take measurements of the grounds and sites;

Mr. Kelsey has been notified. The Building Inspector, Electrical Inspector, and Plumbing Inspector will be asked to complete a list of current structures, appliances, and fixtures within their jurisdiction to create a base record for file.

- Unregistered vehicle violations:
  - Art and Cheryl will conduct a follow-up inspection of 0 Main Road next week. The Board of Health will approve a formal letter at their meeting June 8 to address the solid waste on the site; Selectboard will receive a copy. Ginny Curtis inquired of the status of her request to have the Zoning Enforcement Officer add book and page to the order to cease and desist for filing at the registry of deeds. The board requested the Zoning Officer be asked to add the information to the order and sign it.
  - Discussed the two unregistered vehicles at 67 Main Road; one is in violation. Art reported that Ms. Gorman and Mr. Menke attended the Zoning Bylaw Review Committee meeting Tuesday, May 16. There is no determination as to whether the vehicles can be classified as seasonal recreational or business, exempting them from the bylaw. Further review is required.
  - John Zimmerman was unable to attend for discussion but submitted an update. He remains non-compliant after given ample time to comply.

On a motion, voted to send notice to John Zimmerman stating fines will begin effective June 5 and to direct the police department to issue violation notices.
- Phil Dowling submitted a Disclosure of Interest G.L. c. 268A, § 20(d). On a motion and second, and by roll vote 2-yes, 1-abstention, approved the exemption under § 20(d) regarding the financial interest identified by Phil Dowling.
- Correspondence:
  - Ed Zawacki resigned from the Finance Committee, effective July 31, 2017.
  - A letter received by email May 31 from Ryumon H. Baldoquin and Catherine Hondorp was reviewed. They reported submitting an appeal to the Zoning Enforcement Officer on May 19 regarding a violation of a shed. They requested the Selectboard's favorable vote on the extension. Discussion ensued regarding the request and history of the violation. It was determined that the Selectboard has no jurisdiction over zoning violations and requested a status of the violations at 263 Main Road from the Zoning Enforcement Officer.
  - Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Hampshire County Superior Court Docket 1580CV00112 Cotton Tree Service, Inc. and Dodge Maple Farm, LLC v. Planning Board of the Town of Westhampton and Town Clerk of the Town of Westhampton:  
Judgement on Agreement of the parties entered by the court pursuant to agreement for entry of judgment; special permit decision
- Administrative Assistant updates:
  - submitted report for May 16 through May 31 and the schedule for June 1 through June 12.
  - attended the Annual Mass. Commission Against Discrimination training, Conducting Internal Discrimination Complaint Investigations, in Boston Wednesday, May 17 through Thursday, May 18 and received certificate.
  - the Insurance Services Office, Inc. proposed meeting in June with Fire Chief, Chris Norris and HRHS maintenance to survey public fire protection properties requires no action from the board.
  - the complaint submitted by John C. Kakobek, Jr., Attorney at Law, for Laurie Wilga was reviewed with Highway Superintendent, David Blakesley. A response was mailed to John C.

Kakobek, Jr.

-the Hampshire Regional District towns received a Community Compact Cabinet IT Grant Award in the amount of \$60,250.00 for implementing secure and accessible electronic document management system; with the assistance of Kim Florek, IT Director, Hampshire Regional High School. A meeting will be held in Williamsburg on June 7 for plan development; Cheryl will attend and provide updates at next Selectboard meeting.

- The next Selectboard meeting will be 6:30 p.m. June 26; Outlook Farm Public Hearing at 6:30; Special Town Meeting at 7:15 p.m. and Reconvene of Annual Town Meeting 7:30. Annual Town Election is June 3.
- Documents signed:
  - Letter of Commendation to Andrea Belanger
  - Fixed Price-Combined Billing Customer contract
  - Green Communities PVPC
  - Tag sale permit for Judy Trzcienski, 33 Loudville Road
- Documents submitted:
  - Fixed-Rate Electricity Supply Pricing Summary
  - Fixed Price-Combined Billing Customer contract
  - Special Town Meeting warrant articles
  - Disclosure of Interest
  - June 26 Special Town Meeting articles
  - Police department pay spreadsheet

Adjourned meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_  
Philip Dowling, Chair

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James Huston

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Arthur Pichette