



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

Selectboard minutes of August 7, 2017

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Jim Huston and Art Pichette. Also present were David Blakesley, Steve Holt, Ginny Curtis, Mary Powers and Wayne Parks, Amber Kellogg, additional residents. Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: \$68,205.86
 Vendor: \$315,622.99

Minutes of July 24 were approved.

- Smith Vocational late enrollment request:
Jennifer Tenczar approached the board requesting her son Garrett be accepted into Smith Vocational. Enrollment closed and the board has the only authority to approve late enrollments. Discussion ensued regarding the nature of the late request. On a motion and second, voted to authorize enrollment of Garrett Tenczar into Smith Vocational for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Highway Superintendent, David Blakesley, reported:
 - submitted a Chapter 90 payment request.
 - On a motion and second, the board voted 2-0 to approve a Chapter 90 Payment Request in the amount of \$4,824.18 for stone for various roads.
 - roads are scheduled for oil & stone application tomorrow (Aug 8)
 - crack sealing South Road; brief discussion was held regarding weed control in cracks
 - new hire, Alex Antosz, started today and fits in well
 - Perry Hill drainage work is complete
- Eversource pole hearing petition:
Reviewed the petition for a pole hearing received from Eversource for pole to be placed on Mine Road to serve a new customer. On a motion and second, voted to hold the hearing at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, August 21.
- Selectboard voted to meet on Tuesday, September 5 due to Labor Day being Monday, September 4.
- The response to Ashleigh Norris' reports of speeding on South Road was approved and will be sent to her Tuesday.
- Prism Energy:
An Energy Efficiency Presentation for Westhampton was dropped off by Tom Crowley. He also

emailed a sample energy audit to the board. Prism Energy works with Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the Mass. Dept. of Energy on the green communities applications and procedures.

- The Annual Luncheon “What’s New in Municipal Law”, held by the Division of Local Services, Dept. of Revenue is on Thursday, October 5 at the Log Cabin. Cheryl will attend.
- MIIA FY18 Grant Program:
Fire Chief Chris Norris submitted a written request seeking authorization to apply for the Mass. Interlocal Insurance Associations FY18 Grant Program in the amount of \$9,999.00 (total amount of eligibility) for installation of a fire alarm system in the Annex and/or the Town Hall. The total cost is approximately \$15,000.00; if awarded the town would be required to appropriate funds (approximately \$5,000.00) towards the installation or modify the project to not exceed the funding. On a motion and second, voted to authorize Chief Norris to apply for the MIIA grant in the amount of \$9,999.00 for installation of a fire alarm system in the Annex and/or the Town Hall.
- Steve Holt requested authorization to have the highway department assist with perc and soil testing at the safety complex; voted to approve request.
- Outlook Farm pouring permit:
No update
- Campground updates:
Art reported he conducted another site visit and took additional measurements. He received estimates for copies-to-scale. The plan should be ready for the inspectors next week.
- 0 Main Road junkyard:
There has been no contact from Mr. Sacharczyk. A records request of documents from the former junk yard was recently completed for Attorney Melnik. He also requested an application for a Class license. No official notice has been given to the town as to any actions or applications. Ms. Curtis asked if the order to cease and desist sent from the former Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer was sent by certified mail, answer unknown. She then suggested that a follow-up notice be sent to the same parties to notify them of the change of officer and contact info. It was agreed that was a good idea. There was also discussion regarding a lease mentioned in the letter from Attorney Murray which may clarify ownership.
- Unregistered vehicle violations:
-John Zimmerman was present and submitted a written update, claiming to have sold another vehicle and in a payment plan with a buyer for another. The board wants the cars gone. Discussion ensued regarding the value of the vehicles vs the fines. Mr. Zimmerman will continue provide updates.
- 109 Northwest Road update:
Wayne Parks provided an update to the actions of the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the building permit issued for 109 Northwest Road. The hearing held on July 19 to determine if the permit was properly issued, following a complaint that it was a non-conforming lot/use was continued on August 8. The ZBA determined the building permit was issued in error. They will

follow up on how to proceed at their next meeting on August 8.

- Ms. Curtis inquired of the towns involvement in the Cotton sawmill appeal. The town plays a passive role in defense and will have counsel respond only as needed.
- Correspondence:
 - Bill McCloud submitted a written request that a no engine brake sign be placed on Northwest Road in vicinity of 269-271. Discussed the need for air brakes with David Blakesley and Steve Holt. The board determined as a matter of public safety the engine brakes are needed to control the heavy trucks. A letter will be drafted to respond to the request.
 - KPLaw filed a Notice of Appearance in the Superior Court C.A. No. 1780CV00105 case; Timothy R. Fondakowski v. Planning Board of the Town of Westhampton, Cotton Tree Service, and Hampshire Superior Court (in response to an appeal to the courts for the sawmill special permit issued to Cotton Tree Services); on file.
- Administrative Assistant updates:
 - submitted report for July 25 through August 7 and the schedule for August 8 through August 21; will be attending school next week at no cost to town; will hold office hours Monday, 9-1. Requested change in hours from Thursday, August 24 to Monday, August 21; approved.
 - Requested two vacation days-Wednesday, August 23 and Thursday, August 24; approved.
- The next Selectboard meetings will be 7:00 p.m. August 21, with a pole hearing at 7:30 and 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 5.
- Documents submitted:
 - Expense Report
 - Chapter 90 Payment Request
 - Eversource petition for Pole and Wire Location and Order For Pole Locations
 - petition to accept late enrollment of vocational student
 - request for no engine brakes on Northwest Road
- Documents signed:
 - Chapter 90 Payment Request in the amount of \$4,824.18 for stone for various roads
 - response to Ashleigh Norris

Adjourned meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Approve: _____


James Huston, Chair

Philip Dowling


Arthur Pichette