



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

Minutes of July 8, 2019

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present from Selectboard were Phil Dowling, Maureen Dempsey, and Teri Anderson.

Others present were David Blakesley, Steve Holt, John Zimmerman, Barbara Cook, Joe Levine, Scott Tirrell, Shirl Morrigan, Ginny Curtis, Chris Brooks, Marilyn Witherell.

Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

Minutes of June 24 were reviewed. Teri motioned to amend the minutes to add to page 1 under public hearing "5. R Dragon will conduct a walk by test with a dog and report back to Selectboard." Second by Phil. So moved.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: FY19-\$13,105.15 (Phil abstained) & FY20-\$61,811.01  
Vendor: FY19-\$199,807.31 (Maureen abstained) & FY20-\$230,607.12

- Highway Department, Superintendent David Blakelsey reported:
  - MassDOT held a public hearing at the Town Hall on June 27 for the King's Highway Bridge Replacement Project. Two of three abutters attended and a couple residents attended. No major objections to the project were made. Some concerns were heard regarding the road closure. Working with Katie Klein on Right of Ways.
  - the elementary school purchased a shed, the highway department will assist with installation.
  - Chapter 90 chip seal project request from June 24 was approved by MassDOT. Work will proceed on Kings Highway, Reservoir Road, and Chesterfield Road.
  - keeping brush mower going.
  - supports agenda item to schedule an extra meeting to sign warrants for final FY19 invoices.

Teri asked if the town has a flashing speed sign that shows vehicle speed. Discussion ensued regarding problem areas for speeding. The police department has a sign that they move to different locations of known speed spots. Areas of speeding concerns should be reported to the police department with a request for the sign to be set up.

- Pine Island Lake dry hydrant:

Barbara Cook and Joel Levine, Pine Island Lake Association, visited to seek support for installation of a dry hydrant at the lake to work in collaboration with the town. A plan to establish water supply was completed by the dam manager which was approved by Chris Norris, Fire Chief. The association and town will have access to the water supply in case of a fire. The department will supply the hydrant, approximately \$300.00, and the association must complete the installation. Steve Holt reported maintenance of the hydrant will follow department

recommendations, including occasional clean out of silt and debris as well as repair/replacement of PVC when damaged. Costs are expected to be minimal. Phil motioned to accept the hydrant proposal as presented and upon recommendation of the Westhampton Fire Department within their Fiscal Year 2020 budget. Second by Maureen. So voted 3-0.

- Ambulance:

Steve Holt provided an update on the ambulance service. Currently have service in town and additional service from Pioneer Ambulance. Pioneer provides paramedic level service 24/7. Westhampton ambulance is in service daily from 4p.m.-8p.m. If Westhampton's ambulance is unable to respond the call goes to Pioneer. There are currently 7 local EMT's, down from 13, and they're typically the first at the scene. EMT's contact Pioneer for transport. Approximately 50% of calls are paramedic level; breathing, heart, serious injury. An Ambulance always responds to those calls. The town pays no retainer for the service by Pioneer because of ownership of own ambulance. When the Westhampton Ambulance or Rescue Truck respond staff is allowed to administer an Epipen, Narcan, or aspirin. Discussion ensued regarding cost of ambulance service. Teri requested a cost comparison of the various service options including the cost to own an ambulance. The fire department has a study that will be updated. Phil closed discussion until a future meeting.

- Scheduled a meeting for 7:00 p.m. on July 15.

- Public Safety Complex Review Committee updates:

Steve Holt reported the committee met tonight and are reviewing the four submittals for Owners Project Manager. Interviews will be held July 10 at 7:05 p.m.

- Appointments:

Chris Brooks was present and requested appointment to the new building committee. Phil motioned to appoint Chris Brooks to the Town Property & Energy Assessment Committee. Second by Maureen. So voted 3-0.

Jessica Lerman submitted by email an interest of appointment to the Conservation Commission. Phil motioned to appoint Jessica Lerman to the Conservation Commission. Second by Maureen. So voted 3-0.

- Shirl Morrigan inquired about discussion of changing legal agenda posting location. Discussion to be held at meeting of August 12.

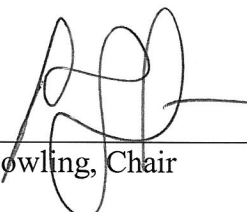
- Health insurance negotiations (old business):

Maureen reported that negotiations were held June 26. She pushed hard with counter of 25% for one year, same as the Hampshire Regional High School negotiated. They came back with the teachers at the high school make more than the elementary school teachers, then countered for 25% for the first year and 50% for two consecutive years. Maureen countered with 50% for one year and they eventually accepted. Details on disbursements are being worked out with the Accountant, Joe Boudreau and Treasurer, Patty Cotton. J Boudreau has expressed a preference

to seek town meeting approval to transfer funds into a special account for the disbursements.

- Ginny Curtis sought guidance on how “abutters” (of campground) should deal with fire truck horn and reported recent activity and announcements on the campgrounds website. Marilyn Woodrow, also an abutter, disagreed with the severity of the claims. Discussion ensued regarding notices sent from the Selectboard to the campground owners in past years and it was agreed a similar letter can be sent. A copy will be reviewed at the next meeting.
- 0 Main Road (old business):  
The enforcement letter from the Zoning Enforcement Officer was reviewed and revised by counsel. The board will review and approve it at the next meeting.
- Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. July 15 & 22, 2019.
- Documents submitted:  
Pine Island Lake dry hydrant proposal
- Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Approve:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Philip Dowling, Chair  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Maureen Dempsey  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Teri Anderson