



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

Minutes of July 9, 2018

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present were Phil Dowling, Art Pichette, and Maureen Dempsey. Also present were David Blakesley, Steve Holt, Shirl Morrigan, Mary Powers, Wayne Parks, Bill Magrone, Carol Magrone, Julia Lennen, Louise Jasionkowski, Laurie Sanders, Pat Coffey. Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: FY18 \$23,901.11 & \$12,154.92; FY19 \$63,234.11  
Vendor: FY18 \$128,121.89; FY19 \$27,180.84

Minutes of June 11 and June 25, 2018 were approved. Amended minutes of May 30, 2018 were approved.

- Highway Department updates, David Blakesley reported:
  - had use of the shared mower in the spring. Montgomery purchased a new one this year which will be shared over the next five years. Eversource stated that at the end of the five year cycle they will no longer fund the shared program. Westhampton's mower will be 25 years old in five years. David explained that five towns are in a shared mower program. Each town is lead for five years. Eversource purchases a mower that is shared between the five towns, 1 month each, for five years. At the end of the five years the lead town keeps the mower for their sole use and the next town takes lead. Westhampton was first, Montgomery is last. David suggested a new mower may be needed when the program is done and recommended it be added to the capital planning.
  - during the heavy rain storm at the end of June the culverts overflowed on Tob Hill. The water washed out the roadside and some came into the Town Hall, under the accessibility door. Other culverts also over-flowed, there are a lot of wash-outs to fix.
  - locked in to the Hampshire Purchasing shared fuel bids at:

Gasoline:	<b>\$2.736/gallon</b>
Diesel:	<b>\$2.893/gallon</b>

David believes the road machinery fuel budget is sufficient.

-Hampshire Purchasing will hold bid openings on July 17 for rubber chips to be used for micro-surfacing projects.

-getting ready to replace the drainage on North Road near Hathaway Road.

-submitted a Project Request in the amount of \$32,306.80 for chip seal on Southampton Road and Lyman Road. On a motion and second, voted unanimously to approve the project request.

-seeking a request for a transfer between appropriations in the amount of \$3,251.75 from Highway Materials Account to Road Machinery Fuel Account.

Motion made by Art to approve a transfer between appropriations in the amount of \$3,251.75 from Highway Materials Account to Road Machinery Fuel Account, second by Phil. Motion passed all in favor.

-Board of Health is meeting Thursday, July 12 at 4p.m. to review the Montague/North Road proposed solar project and make comments for the Planning Board.

- The POLE HEARING was opened at 7:30 p.m.  
Tyler Nelson-Yarrows from Eversource presented the request for the pole installation. Estelle's of 11 Lyman Road made inquiries that were responded to by Mr. Nelson-Yarrows and the board. David Blakesley requested that the pole be set back 18 feet from the center of the road rather than the proposed 14 feet from the center of the road. Mr. Nelson-Yarrows made no objections. Discussion was opened to the floor. No comments.  
Art motioned to approve Eversource to install one (1) solely owned pole tagged 17/3S on the southwesterly side of Lyman Road beginning approximately 18 feet from the center line of Lyman Road. Phil second. Motion passed all in favor.  
The hearing closed and the open session resumed for regular business at 7:40 p.m.
- Town Clerk job description and ad:  
The job description and ad were reviewed and approved. The job will be posted to the town website, at the town hall, at the annex, and to the Massachusetts Municipal Association website job postings. Job will be posted until filled.
- Appointment of Library Trustee vacancy:  
Anne Marie O'Reilly submitted her name by email for the Library Trustee position formerly held by Maureen Dempsey. Two years remain of the three year position. The appointment may be made until the next election at which time it will appear on the ballot to be filled for the remainder of the term. On a motion and second voted to appoint Anne Marie O'Reilly as Library Trustee to fill the vacancy until the next election.
- Authorization for use of town hall for yoga class:  
Chery reported Brian Mulligan requested authorization to use the Town hall for Yoga classes once or twice weekly. He does not charge for the class and has formerly used the library. The policy for authorization to use the Town Hall is generally for one-time. In this circumstance the use is ongoing and will require Mr. Mulligan to keep a key to the main hall door; as does Bill Diggle for the self-defense class. Discussion ensued regarding the class and schedule. The board requested to have Mr. Mulligan meet with them to further discuss it.
- Special Town Meeting schedule:  
Steve Holt reported that the committee agreed to September 11 for a Special Town Meeting. Steve Holt inquired if Clark Rowell will be available to attend, the board agreed to request his presence. Discussion ensued regarding anticipated attendance and location. The board agreed to seek authorization to use the Elementary School. Cheryl will make initial contact with the school.
- Correspondence:  
-Baystate Roads Program recognizes David Blakesley as a Master Road Scholar for attending a minimum of twenty-two training seminars. The board agreed to acknowledge the achievement with a letter to David.

- Other business:
  - Council On Aging, Julia Lennen and Louise Jasionkowski were present to discuss the vacancies on the council. The item will be placed on the next agenda. Louise presented a Demand-Response Contract for FY2019 between Franklin Regional Transit Authority and Westhampton Council on Aging. On a motion and second voted to approve the contract.
  - Laurie Sanders was recognized to speak on the topic of ground mounted solar facilities. Ms. Sanders reported she's been researching what other towns have done regarding taxation of the facilities and learned of two methods of assessment. She made comparisons of solar facilities in other Western Mass towns and noted the project being proposed in Westhampton is substantially larger. Ms. Sanders requested more research be done by Westhampton Assessors and other officials. The board moved to place the topic on the next agenda and to contact the Board of Assessors to report their knowledge of the subject.
  - Mary Powers submitted a copy of email correspondence between herself and the Westhampton Animal Control Officer regarding dog kennels.
  - Shirl Morrigan asked who the Tree Warden is. Steve Holt, formerly Tree Warden, replied Tom Jenkins was elected. Patty Cotton, Town Clerk reported that Tom was notified he was elected and has not responded nor has been sworn. Steve offered to speak to Tom and have him follow through. Shirl requested the Planning Board notice of a Public Hearing be posted as news to the town website. So noted.
  - discussion was held regarding the junkyard operations at 0 Main Road.
- The Selectboard voted by roll call, 3 yeas, 0 opposed, to enter into Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.; review of executive session minutes of the Selectboard meetings of March 19, April 17 & 30, May 30, and June 11; potential approval of minutes.
- Closed executive session and returned to open session at 8:30 p.m.
- The next Selectboard meetings will be 7:00 p.m. July 23 & August 13.
- Documents submitted:
 

Request for permission to install one (1) solely owned pole tagged 17/3S, on the Southwesterly side of Lyman Road beginning approximately 14 feet from the center line of Lyman Road; for anchoring.
- Documents signed:
  - Request for a Transfer Between Appropriations in the amount of \$3,251.75 from Highway Materials Account to Road Machinery Fuel Account.
  - Project Request in the amount of \$32,306.80 for chip seal on Southampton Road and Lyman Road.
  - Order For Pole Location for Eversource to install one (1) solely owned pole tagged 17/3S on the southwesterly side of Lyman Road beginning approximately 18 feet from the center line of Lyman Road.
  - Demand-Response Contract for FY2019 between Franklin Regional Transit Authority and Westhampton Council on Aging.

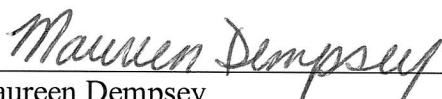
Adjourned meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_

Philip Dowling, Chair



Arthur Pichette



Maureen Dempsey