



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

Minutes of November 27, 2017

The meeting convened at 6:30 p.m.

Present were Phil Dowling and Art Pichette. Also present were David Blakesley, Dave White, Chris Norris, Tom Quinlan, Valerie Bird, Steve Holt, Shirl Morrigan, Ginny Curtis, and Matthew Hathaway. Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

Phil Dowling was acting Chair.

- The Selectboard voted by roll call, 2-0 to enter into Executive Session at 6:35 p.m., as the Chair declared that discussion in a public meeting may have detrimental effect on the town's litigating position with respect to:

Pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s.21, exemption 3:
Enforcement action for property at 0 Main Road-Westhampton Auto/JAWS

Open session will continue following executive session.

Adjourned Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 7:05 p.m.

Present were Jim Huston, Phil Dowling and Art Pichette. Also present were David Blakesley, Steve Holt, Shirl Morrigan, Ginny Curtis, Bill Jablonski, and Matthew Hathaway

- Highway Department updates; David Blakesley reported:
 - received salt delivery, price was \$10.75 per ton less than last year (\$57.25 compared to \$68.00)
 - the new truck was ordered
 - An engineering study of the "skinny" bridge on Kings Highway over the North Branch of the Manhan River will be conducted by Stantec on December 12, 13, 14. That section of the road will be closed off to traffic those days from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. In reference to MassDOT No. 608631

Minutes of November 13 were approved.

Adjourned meeting to Special Town Meeting at 7:15. Open session will continue following close of Special Town Meeting.

Selectboard meeting called to order at 7:30.

Present were Jim Huston, Phil Dowling and Art Pichette. Also present Steve Holt, Bill Jablonski, Shirl Morrigan, Ginny Curtis, and Matthew Hathaway. Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

Warrants were signed for: Payroll: \$72,454.99
Vendor: \$246,847.34

- 109 Northwest Road:
The board agreed to respond to Amber Kellogg's reports in writing. A draft letter was reviewed and approved and signed by all board members. Shirl Morrigan was given a copy for the Zoning Board of Appeals file.
- Zoning Bylaw Review Committee:
A legal notice will be published in the Daily Hampshire Gazette on November 29 and December 7 for the hearing scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 14 at the Westhampton Elementary School on the reformatting of Westhampton's Zoning Bylaws. It's also been posted to the Town Website and published in the Bell Tower.
- Public Safety Complex, Steve Holt reported:
The Committee is meeting on December 4 at the Public Safety Complex.
- Community Compact contract:
The contract for the agreement between the City of Northampton and Town of Westhampton for shared services of Laserfische Data Management, previously approved on November 13, was submitted for a signature. Voted to authorize James Huston, Chair, to sign the contract.
- Hampshire Regional School District, Superintendent search committee:
The committee is comprised of the chairman of each school committee. There are openings available to town representatives. Meetings begin this week and the final committee needs to be determined by November 30. Time constraints prevented any Selectboard members from volunteering. No other nominees came forward.
- Town flag:
The presentation of the flag for the Town of Westhampton is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. at the State House in Boston. A tour of the State House will follow. Parking is available on site for one vehicle. Cheryl will transport the flag. Phil will attend. Mary Montague expressed interest. A press release will be written up following the ceremony and a quote from a town representative was requested. Comments will be taken at the ceremony.
- School Choice week will be recognized January 21-22, 2018. Government leaders were asked to issue a proclamation in support. No action was taken.
- The tax classification hearing needs to be scheduled to determine the tax rate to be used for the various classes of property for Fiscal Year 2018. There is currently one class in Westhampton.

The district has openings on the Superintendent search review committee available to town representatives. On a motion and second, voted to schedule the tax classification hearing for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 4.

- **Campground:**
Report from the Board of Health given on November 13 stands. No progress on Electrical and Plumbing Inspectors additions to the site plan.
- **Unregistered vehicle violations:**
John Zimmerman requested a total figure for the fines charged to him. He filed an application for a Special Permit and discovered a building permit is all that's required. However, it will be denied for outstanding fines or taxes. Jim provided a figure of \$2440.00 that he received from Police Chief Dave White. Cheryl and Dave spoke earlier and agreed to discuss it Tuesday and be sure their figures agree. Mr. Zimmerman will follow up with Cheryl.
- **Correspondence was reviewed:**
 - The approval and recommendation by the Attorney General of general bylaw article 23 of the Annual Town Meeting held May 13 was received. A chapter of the Mass. General Laws was improperly cited. An article at the next Annual Town Meeting would address the matter and seek approval to cite the proper chapter. Voted to agree to present an article to the voters at the next Annual Town Meeting.
 - Free Cash certification was revised to \$331,369.00. The transfer of \$50,000.00 from Free Cash to balance the budget voted on at Annual Town Meeting was not included in the original submittal. The revised figure represents that adjustment.
- **Administrative Assistant updates:**
 - Report for November 14-November 27 and schedule for November 28-December 11 were submitted.
 - attended Zoning Seminar November 15
 - attending Mass Certified Public Procurement Officer course December 14-16
- **Other issues:**
Shirl Morigan requested revisions to the minutes of November 13 under the topic of 109 Northwest Road as follows: Correct meeting dates of the Zoning Board of Appeals from October 11 to October 10 and from October 17 to October 24; first sentence change "they" determined to "the Chair" determined and strike out "(meeting was legally posted Oct 4 and on website Oct 7)"; fourth to last sentence change "did not get super majority" to did not "pass". On a motion and second voted to approve revisions to the dates; change "they" to "Chair"; and strike out "(meeting was legally posted Oct 4 and on website Oct 7)".
- The next Selectboard meeting will be 6:30 p.m. Monday, December 4 for the tax classification hearing and at 7:00 p.m. Monday, December 11 for regular business.
- **Documents submitted:**
 - Stantec notice of engineering study with locust map
 - contract for the agreement between the City of Northampton and Town of Westhampton for shared services of Laserfische Data Management

-Response to Amber Kellogg
-Free Cash certification

- Documents signed:
 - contract for the agreement between the City of Northampton and Town of Westhampton for shared services of Laserfische Data Management
 - Response to Amber Kellogg

Adjourned meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Approve: _____


James Huston, Chair


Philip Dowling


Arthur Pichette