



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

Minutes of July 19, 2021  
Meeting held via ZOOM

The meeting convened at 7:00 p.m.

Present from Selectboard were Phil Dowling (Chair), Maureen Dempsey, and Teri Anderson. Others present were Roberta Armenti (Board of Health), Patty Cotton (Tax Collector/Asst. Treasurer), Susan Bronstein (Covid Coordinator & Planning Board), Shelby Macri (Country Journal). Cheryl Provost took minutes.

- Public Safety Complex Committee, Phil reported
  - project is moving forward, beginning layout of concrete foundation
  - installing tanks (water hazard, floor drains, septic)
  - pre-engineered building needs to be engineered and process is moving forward

Board of Health, Robby Armenti reported:

- board plans to meet beginning of August
- Foothills Health District hired a public health nurse, Jennifer Brown
- Excellence Grant made first payment
- Working on personnel bylaws (Foothills Health District)

- Appointments:  
Phil motioned to appoint Kach Bachelder to Board of Health effective immediately through June 30, 2023. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call vote:  
Maureen-yes  
Teri-yes  
Phil-yes

Phil motioned to appoint Lorraine Galica to the Council On Aging effective immediately through June 30, 2024. Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote:  
Maureen-yes  
Teri-yes  
Phil-yes

Phil motioned to appoint Sylvia Montague as representative to Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative effective immediately through June 30, 2022. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call vote:  
Maureen-yes  
Teri-yes  
Phil-yes

- Phil motioned to accept the Agreement Between Town of Westhampton and the Highway Superintendent Fiscal Year 2022. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call vote:  
Teri-yes  
Maureen-yes  
Phil-yes
- Reviewed revisions to the job description of the Town Clerk. Revisions reflect funding approved for additional hours and other clarifications of duties as recommended by the Town Clerk. Phil motioned to approve the revised job description for Town Clerk, effective July 1, 2021. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call vote:  
Teri-yes  
Maureen-yes  
Phil-yes
- Transfer Station Assistant-Reviewed two applicants for the position. Discussed interview process. Phil motioned to approve hiring Edward Challet as transfer station assistant if recommended by Bill Jablonski following an interview. Second by Maureen. So moved by roll call vote.  
Teri-yes  
Maureen-yes  
Phil-yes
- Reviewed a petition from Eversource for a pole placement. A pole hearing under provisions of Chapter 166 of Mass. General Laws as petitioned by NSTAR Electric Company DBA Eversource and Verizon New England, Inc. was scheduled for 7:00p.m. August 2, 2021.
- Phil acknowledged Patty Cotton and reported with resignation of Ira Brezinsky Patty offered to step in as interim and relieve Ira of duties if needed. Discussed interviewing an applicant from the prior search. Phil spoke of the experience Patty has as Treasurer and working history with Accountant Joe Boudreau. He made recommendation Patty take duties of Treasurer until a replacement is appointed. Discussed timeline and duties. Patty reported she is meeting with Ira (Treasurer) tomorrow and will get updates of where he's at with catching up. Phil motioned to appoint Patty Cotton as interim Town Treasurer until a temporary or permanent Treasurer is appointed. Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote.  
Teri-yes  
Maureen-yes  
Phil-yes  
An interview is to be scheduled with applicant.
- Mass Cultural Council Fiscal Year 2021 grant contract was reviewed. Discussed status of Fiscal Year 2022 grant. Phil motioned to accept the Mass Cultural Council Fiscal Year 2021 grant contract and authorize Maureen as a contract signatory. Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote:  
Maureen-yes

Teri-yes  
Phil-yes

- American Recovery Act, Susan Bronstein reported she continues to attend webinars. She does not see funding availabilities for Westhampton. Phil continues to look at portions of the public safety complex project for potential qualifications as well as public safety and public health needs.
- Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Cheryl reported she redistributed the plan to departments. She has not received comment back from them.
- Correspondence review:
  - Intent to retain land held under Chapter 61b, 182 Main Road, Ernest Gugenberger purchaser. Reviewed location of property. Noted does not initiate Right of First Refusal.
  - Dept. of Revenue Cherry Sheet joint committee updates
  - Approval of mosquito spray opt-out. Discussed opt-out planning for next year.

Reviewed minutes of:

June 7, 2021 as revised by Teri. Maureen motioned to accept minutes of June 7, 2021 as amended.

Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote:

Maureen-yes

Teri-yes

Phil-abstain

June 21, 2021. Phil moved to approve as amended by Teri. Second by Teri. So moved by roll call vote:

Maureen-yes

Teri-yes

Phil-yes

Warrants were reviewed and approved by roll call vote:

Maureen-yes

Teri-yes

Phil-yes

Payroll: \$80,603.80

Vendor: \$241,229.98 & FY21-28 \$74,372.80

Administrative Assistant Search update, Cheryl reported to date three phone inquiries, one email inquiry, no applicants. Discussed advertising locations. Expand search to CDC, Gazette, other municipal organization list-serves.

Next meeting: 7:00 p.m., August 2, 2021

Adjourned meeting at 7:53p.m.

Approved by vote of the Selectboard at virtual meeting held August 2, 2021.

Phil Dowling  
Maureen Dempsey  
Teri Anderson