



**The Selectboard**  
TOWN OF WESTHAMPTON  
TOWN HALL  
1 SOUTH ROAD  
WESTHAMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01027

**Minutes of the Meeting - Westhampton Selectboard**

Monday, May 23, 2022, at 7:00 PM

The Westhampton Selectboard scheduled a regular meeting on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 7:00 PM.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM

PRESENT IN PERSON: Phil Dowling, Bill Jablonski, Steve Holt, Marilyn Witherell, Sam Ostroff; Doug Finn.

PRESENT BY REMOTE: Teri Anderson, Susan Bronstein

**Discussion / Decision Items**

Request from Westhampton Library – “Owl” Meeting Camera (ARPA?)

A request to use ARPA funds to purchase a ‘meeting owl’ teleconferencing device was considered. However, the board agreed to transfer the second “owl” camera to the library for their permanent regular use. Mr. Finn will notify and deliver the equipment.

**Department and Committee Updates**

Highway (Bill Jablonski)

Mr. Jablonski gave notes on recent activity: snow equipment had been maintained and put away for the year; a sluiceway on Rt. 66 had been cleaned out; significant cleanup and grading of dirt roads; setup for town meeting; a formal training by Bay State Roads (through UMass) in grader use and techniques; additional training this past week on road grading and etc.

The contract with Republic Services for Solid Waste hauling was presented for review and signature. Mr. Finn will send the endorsed contract first thing in the morning.

Health (Robby Armenti)

Ms. Armenti was absent. Mr. Dowling noted that case numbers continue to climb, and encouraged members and the public to be vigilant.

Public Safety Building (Phil Dowling)

Mr. Dowling noted several meetings with the general contractor, at which the pace of the work was discussed as a concern; as a result, it appears that the crew size has increased; work on the project continues apace.

MVP (Teri Anderson)

Ms. Anderson noted that the DEI training (daytime sessions) had been completed; evening training was ongoing; DEI training for the public is being discussed, and the format will very likely be virtual (via “Zoom”). A hybrid meeting might be considered, but will likely be a greater challenge for the trainers.



## Old Business

### Tob Hill / Spruce Hill Road – Concerns about After-Dark Activity (see letter from Ostroff)

Sam Ostroff reported that there were few disturbances; Mr. Jablonski noted no issues had been reported. Mr. Finn noted that Chief White had responded to at least one call; one driver had been warned away, and the Chief believes that “the word is getting out” about the issue. He noted that he would be able to issue a verbal “no trespass” order in case of any future issues. He stated that he would be relying on citizens to keep an eye on the area, and to telephone in reports of issues.

Mr. Jablonski noted that no outstanding issues on Tob Hill have been reported.

There was some discussion related to cleanup of the town property. Bill and the Chief will continue to monitor as best as possible.

## New Business

A draft letter to Senator Adam Hines, asking for support for S.4331 (an amendment to MGL Ch. 40A Sec 3 “The Dover Amendment”, to allow for greater local control over siting utility-scale solar energy facilities) was reviewed.

It was MOVED by Dowling, SECONDED by Anderson

*To endorse the letter and send.*

VOTED: 2, 0, 0 (7:19 PM)

## Correspondence / Discussion

### 2022-0519 – LETTER – from Sanders – re Harris ROFR

### 2022-0519 – LETTER – from Morrison – re Harris ROFR

Two letters of recommendation were received from two town boards, in regard to a Right of First Refusal (“ROFR”) on a 125-acre property on Reservoir Road Extension.

There was discussion regarding the matter; both town boards recommend getting more information from the seller and (if possible) the buyer about the intent of the use of the property.

After some discussion, it was agreed that Ms. Anderson, Ms. Bronstein and Ms. Sanders will work as a subcommittee to approach the seller to get more information.

### 2022-0519 – LETTER – from Taylor – Req for Apt to LCC

A letter was received from Sam Taylor, 35 Perry Hill Road Extension, requesting to be appointed to the Westhampton Cultural Council.

It was MOVED by Dowling, SECONDED by Anderson

*To appoint Sam Taylor to the Westhampton Cultural Council.*

VOTED: 2, 0, 0. (7:28 PM)

### Other correspondence:

- 2022-0428 – LETTER - from MIIA – Contract Renewal Update
- 2022-0511 – LETTER – From Comcast – Lineup Changes
- 2022-0513 – LETTER – from KP Law – Change in Rates
- 2022-0516 – LETTER – from Dep Sec of Treasury – SLFRF expenditures
- 2022-0518 - LETTER – from KP Law – re Town “Flag” policy

No action taken.

**Review / Approve Minutes**

Minutes from April 25, 2022, May 9, May 17

Minutes were reviewed. It was MOVED by Dowling, SECONDED by Anderson

*To approve the minutes as presented and amended.*

VOTED 2, 0, 0 (7:30 PM)

Review of Minutes from May 9 and May 17 were deferred to a later meeting.

**Review of Payroll and A/P Warrants**

After review, it was MOVED by Dowling, SECONDED by Anderson

*To approve the Payroll and A/P Warrants as presented.*

VOTED: 2, 0, 0. (7:34 PM)

**Other items not reasonably anticipated at time of posting**

Ms. Marilyn Witherell asked about the decision-making process for purchasing the truck for the police department; there was brief discussion. No action taken.

**Set date for next meeting: Monday, June 6, 2022**

The next meeting was scheduled for June 6, 2022. Ms. Anderson noted that this was her last meeting. Mr. Dowling thanked her for her service to the town, and encouraged her to continue to be involved.

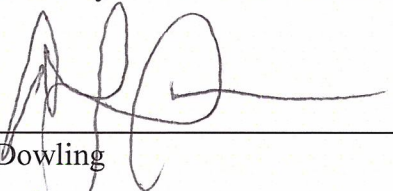
**Adjourn**

It was MOVED by Dowling, SECONDED by Anderson **to adjourn.** WITHOUT OBJECTION. Adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Douglas C. Finn.

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**Approved** by a vote of the Selectboard at a regular meeting, held on June 6, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phil Dowling

  
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Maureen Dempsey