



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

Minutes of February 10, 2020

The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

Present from Selectboard were Phil Dowling, Maureen Dempsey, and Teri Anderson. Others present were Patty Cotton (Treasurer), Robbie Armenti & Tom Martin (Board of Health). Minutes were taken by Cheryl Provost.

- Discussion was opened to Treasurer Patty Cotton. She explained that Cory B. is the only household member that will communicate with town officials. He has an attorney and is seeking a loan, he wants to pay of the amount owed. Patty recommended to accept the payoff, approximately \$35,000.00 and start over. Taxes are also due for the first three quarters of FY20. Robbie reported the Board of Health discussed the property at their last meeting and there's a lot of history with the property. Patty noted that no other complaints have been filed since two years ago. Patty explained that the process is they pay it off and the town releases the deed to the property. She also explained that Cory B. is who had been making payments. The lot is approximately 1.39 acres and predates current zoning regulations. Tom further explained that the Board of Health had housing issues in the past with this property. Last time the Board of Health was there the housing issues were addressed quickly. Patty added that there is no guarantee he'll come up with the money. Teri would like to provide them with social assistance and asked Patty how to communicate with them. Patty replied the only conversations have been verbal and with Corey, Loretta does not respond; legal advice from the attorney is they (Corey and Loretta) should be talking with them, they have an attorney. Tom asked if the Selectboard would put a timeframe on a payoff. Patty replied that the attorney would work out details. Phil agreed and motioned to move as such. Teri suggested the town should decide a timeframe. Patty replied the attorney will work with Corey to find a reasonable period. Discussion was held regarding unregistered vehicles on the property. That will be handled separately. Phil motioned to authorize Berenson & Bloom to negotiate terms of payoff of taxes, interests, and fees for 225 Northwest Road and to bring back the proposal to the Selectboard for approval to proceed. Second by Maureen. So voted 3-yay, 0-nay.
- Other issues:
  - Phil reported he met with the Building Commissioner Tom Quinlan, Chairman of Southampton Select Board John Martin, and Town Administrator of Southampton Ed Gibson on February 6 at the Westhampton Public Library. Tom Q has been looking at commissioner jobs in other towns. Southampton is in the opinion of potential to keep him if they join with Westhampton in a shared position. They're meeting again February 12 to discuss more details. It's informal at this point and Phil is putting prices together. He had suggested to John and Ed a split of 20/80. Potentially, the position would be full-time for both towns and he could go where and when he's needed. An email from the Franklin Council of Governments in response to an inquiry from Teri of their inspector services was reviewed. In summary, they explained their process for entering into a service agreement and they're opinion was it's advantageous to enter into an agreement between surrounding towns, if possible. Phil thinks to offer a salary of \$85,000.00 is close to where it

needs to be as he heard the salary from another town that Tom is interested in is \$85,000.00. Currently, between Southampton and Westhampton is \$80,000.00. The other cost would be the e-permitting software. Patty replied the e-permitting software is great. The proposal for the software previously submitted by Tom was reviewed.

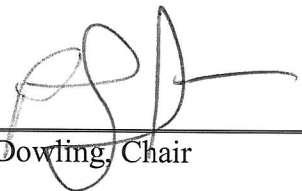
-Tom Martin reported he and David Blakesley currently serve as Westhampton Representatives of the Hilltown Resource Management Coop. He has not been attending meetings, David has and Bill Jablonski has been going with him. Tom will resign from his seat if Bill is interested in filling it. Bill submitted his interest of appointment to the Hilltown Resource Management Coop. So moved by Phil. Second by Teri. So voted 3-yay, 0-nay.

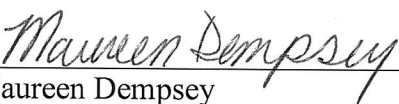
-The Hilltown Resource Management Coop. Materials Recovery Facility Contract is due no later than February 28. The contract for dual stream recycling will be prepared for approval and signature by the Selectboard on their meeting of February 18.


- Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. February 18, 2020.
- Documents submitted:  
Bill Jablonski interest of appointment to the Hilltown Resource Management Coop

Meeting adjourned at 6:37p.m.

Approve:

  
Philip Dowling, Chair

  
Maureen Dempsey

  
Teri Anderson