

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY
AUGUST 10, 2015**

Members Present: Craig J. Dutra, Chairman
R. Michael Sullivan, Vice Chairman
Richard M. Spirlet
Antone C. Vieira Jr.
Steve Ouellette, Clerk

Also Present: Timothy J. King, Town Administrator

Chairman Dutra called the Board of Selectmen meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. in the Westport Town Hall, 816 Main Road, Westport, MA with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance by all present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman's Announcement - Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(e) – Meeting being recorded.

Public and Board Member Comment - None.

Acknowledgments & Recognitions - None.

Town Administrator Report

School Feasibility Study – Mr. King stated the MA School Building Authority has approved Westport to undertake the school feasibility study. The letter received was provided to the Board.

Knubble Beach Sand Dune Project Update – Mr. King stated the Board is being provided with a monthly update from Buzzards Bay Coalition and they will be present tonight to give a visual presentation.

Landfill Solar Project RFP – Mr. King stated the proposals for the Landfill Solar Project are due on August 28th; there was a pre-bid conference held today, at least five interested parties were in attendance.

Time & Attendance Software – Mr. King stated the time clock has been installed at the COA and at the Fire Station; it has been connected, configured and is online. The staff are working on establishing the appropriate policies and protocols for the affected departments.

Town Hall – Mr. King reported the voice mail system in the Town Hall was down a couple of days this week (Monday and Tuesday) and there were some problems with the elevator, which is now fixed. The new Town Hall clock mechanism and wiring will be installed this week.

Route 88 Repaving Project – Mr. King reported the bid for the Rte. 88 repaving project has been awarded to PJ Keating; work will begin in September. There will be a pre-construction conference on August 18, 2015 at 10AM at District 5, Taunton, MA. The project will be from Old County Road to Route 6. Mr. King was asked to make sure Police, Fire, School and Conservation Commission are made aware of the conference so they can attend.

Preliminary Tax Bills – Mr. King stated the Board of Assessors have requested permission from the Division of Local Services-Bureau of Accounts to send out the Preliminary Tax Bills for FY 2016.

Community Television Report for July, 2015 – Mr. King stated the Board is being provided with a copy of John Rezendes' monthly report.

Shellfish Seeding – Mr. King stated the Board is being provided with the Shellfish Constables' report on the seeding areas for quahogs in Westport waters. These areas will be off limits for harvesting shellfish for several months and should be reopened for next year.

Electric Vehicle – Mr. King reported there are now two magnetic signs on the Town's electric vehicle; a copy of the design was provided to the Board. Mr. Spirlet asked why magnetic signs, why not just paint the car. Mr. King stated because the vehicle is being leased.

Home Modification Loan Program – Mr. King stated he was providing the Board with information regarding the Home Modification Loan Program which is being offered through the Westport Affordable Housing Trust. Mr. King then reviewed the highlights of the program. Mr. Vieira asked if this information was being put out to the general public; there may be people who would want to take advantage of the low interest rates. Mr. King stated that Housing Assistance is getting the word out there, which included a press release. Mr. Dutra stated that if anyone is interested they should contact Leonardi Aray, Housing Specialist, he is in the office on Wednesdays from 10AM to 4PM.

FY 2015 Actual Local Receipts – Mr. King provided the Board with a report from the Town Accountant showing the actual local receipts through the end of the most recent fiscal year. Mr. Dutra asked what the impact on Free Cash would be; we did close our books late last year and now we seem to be getting information early this year. Mr. King stated this is only a preliminary and not the final report, which maybe coming in November. Mr. King stated this is significantly higher than anticipated. Mr. Dutra requested for the next meeting, a report from the Town Accountant for the closing date of the books.

Beverly Bisch, COA Director – RE: Request to change the staffing at the COA.

COA Director Bisch was present to explain her request to the BOS. Ms. Bisch stated because of the federal funding guidelines being strict on the hourly wage (\$9.00) and low income criteria, she has not been able to fill two vacant positions (20hrs/wk) for almost a year. Ms. Bisch stated she would like to switch this over to CFC after speaking with their Director. Ms. Bisch stated she would like to utilize these funds for an additional social day program aide position; with this change in position, she is confident that she will be able to fill that position at the permitted rate of pay and low income guidelines. Ms. Bisch stated she still needs a transportation clerk, which will be funded with the Formula and ARAW grant funds. Mr. Dutra stated both positions will not be funded with Town appropriated money. **Motion** made by Mr. Sullivan to approve the request. Second by Mr. Vieira. Discussion: Mr. Sullivan asked that if the grant that can't be used for two people at \$9.00/hr., we are going to hire one person at \$9.00/hr. Ms. Bisch stated no, one person at 90% of \$11.79/hr. Mr. Sullivan asked what would happen to the rest of the money for the two positions at \$9.00/hr. Ms. Bisch stated it would go back to CFC. Ms. Bisch stated presently they have two positions which are funded by CFC grant money. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Discussion – RE: Water Resources Management Committee guidance.

WRMC members Bill Harkins and Maury May were present. Mr. Dutra stated from last meeting, this is not a report but a discussion of what the BOS would like to see from the committee; what the priorities are, the focus of the Committee and what issues will be tackled. Mr. Sullivan stated we are looking for a way to be more connected to the WRMC; we are looking for maybe the top (five) problems in Westport; a sort of priority list, for which some of those problems are on a solution path or not, a sort of assessment from the WRMC. Mr. Sullivan asked if the request made any sense; Mr. Harkins stated yes. Mr. Dutra stated the biggest challenge was consolidating the work of a number of committees, that were working on sort of parallel projects. Mr. Dutra stated his feeling was, now after working together for three years, how do you consolidate those competing or non-competing ideas and complimentary interests and come forward with a strategic plan for the Town. The WRMC is advisory to this board and we have to know how to advise other boards in Town and we need to be in a position to communicate with the State that makes sense on these things and without that input, it will be hard for us to have that point of view when dealing with our appointments to other boards or our contacts with the State. Mr. Sullivan stated from that list, we can come up with solution paths and goals and

objectives for the next three, five or ten years. Mr. Ouellette stated water and sewer in the north end needs to be addressed especially in area C; this would give people some jobs and increase our tax base. Mr. Dutra asked Mr. Harkins and Mr. May when an appropriate time would be to come back to the Board, maybe in a month; Mr. Harkins stated WRMC has a meeting on the 19th where they could address these issues and come up with a plan for the Board, we will show what we have done in the past and what we are looking at for this year. Mr. Harkins stated that several months ago, the BOS unanimously voted that all water related issues were to go before the WRMC first, then WRMC would address them to the Board; he stated he sees cracks in that system and would like to see if those issues could be addressed, so in going forward, WRMC would like to know what is going to happen; there have been a couple of entities come before this Board with grants and he assumed they were to go the WRMC first. Mr. Dutra stated his recollection was it ultimately goes through the BOS and the WRMC is used as an advisory board; he used the analogy that the WRMC is like the Energy Committee, it is a creature of the BOS to create recommendations and advise. Mr. Dutra stated he was not prepared to vote absolute authority on water issues until a strategic plan/direction is put forward. Mr. Sullivan stated the WRMC works with the BOS and he would like to see the things go to the WRMC at least for informational purposes to be able to put all the pieces of the puzzle together; the WRMC may want to dovetail any grants in the works even though it is not in the WRMC purview to approve or disapprove. Mr. Harkins stated the various boards and committees need to work as a cohesive unit. Mr. Dutra stated that does not mean it won't be coming here but we can ask the Town Administrator to contact those entities and have them touch base with you. Mr. Dutra stated he would not be comfortable saying they have to go through the WRMC. Mr. Spirlet stated he looked at this group like the Energy Committee; the WRMC takes the issues, looks at them, vets them and then makes recommendations to the BOS; the WRMC is diverse group of nine people; they never had the autonomy to vote up or down on issues; it is brought to the BOS with recommendations. Mr. Spirlet stated that all water related issues should go to the WRMC, that is why that Board was put into place. Mr. Harkins stated there could be two or three different entities working on projects and we could very well be bumping heads; we may be working on one area and another on another area and we could all be vying for the same Town resources. Mr. May stated the BOS are the Water Commissioners of the Town, it would be helpful to make things go through the WRMC first and then let us make the recommendations; also, Mr. May stated he felt the WRMC should be updating the BOS more often and that has not happened in the past. A small discussion ensued regarding the 319 Grant as an example. Mr. Dutra stated in staying with the agenda, tonight is an attempt by the BOS to create an agenda that we can all work together on in the interest of all the water projects in Town.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan to request the WRMC to report back, at a time to be determined, with a list of the top five water related problems in Town and a status for a strategy on the solutions and investigations for those problems. Second by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ben Booth – RE: Update on Dharma Voyage activities & request for change of permit hours for parking permits at Hix Bridge Landing.

Ben Booth was present to update the BOS on the recent activities of the community rowing program which is up to 30 members (from early teens to late 70's); this shows an impact is being made in the community. Mr. Booth stated they have started their first after-school program with six students from the High School, two days a week. He is working with the School Superintendent to get student involvement on such projects as building a 32 ft. traditional pulling boat. Mr. Booth stated the Superintendent is getting rave reviews from the parents on this program. Mr. Booth stated he looking to create a space for Towns people where they can enjoy the water and learn at the same time. Mr. Booth stated he is requesting an extra hour on Mondays and Thursday but no change for Wednesday; currently the times are 7:30 AM to 9:30 AM, he would like 7:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Mr. Booth also

requested an extension of the current use period of April 1st to November 30th be extended from April 1st to December 31st. Mr. Vieira asked of the 30 members, how many are Westport residents; Mr. Booth stated 98% and the three parking permits is sufficient for the out-of-towners because we have a couple of folks from Dartmouth. Mr. Sullivan asked if on Monday and Thursday mornings, has the parking lot ever been full. Mr. Booth stated there has been no issues with parking in the lot, at those times, it is not full and the rowers do not have trailers taking up space, they can pack into corners and double up. Mr. Spirlet noted the three permits were for out-of-towners, the rest is residents who have their passes. Mr. Ouellette asked if there was a problem with parking tickets? Mr. Booth stated there was a couple of incidents but it was on us because I did not get the renewal in on time. Mr. Ouellette stated he thought there was discussion of using shuttles to the parking lot; Mr. Booth stated he does not see enough of a problem yet to utilize a shuttle due to the number of folks at one time. Mr. Vieira stated there was a problem about 2-3 weeks ago, where a resident complained about out-of-town cars; but that is the only complaint Mr. Vieira has heard so far and from listening tonight, it sounds like Mr. Booth is on top of it. Mr. Ouellette stated he had a couple of complaints, especially from people who rent here and can't get a permit and that is why he is against the extension; Mr. Ouellette stated that everywhere he goes to kayak, he is shuttled and not allowed to park in certain areas. Mr. Booth again stated he only has three permits, the rest of the rowers are residents with passes; we have a six-person boat and we encourage carpooling but generally, five of the rowers are residents. Mr. Sullivan questioned rowing during the colder months, what precautions are taken; Mr. Booth stated in the colder months, rowers stay close to shore and those not rowing are on-call in case of emergencies because they know our schedule and route and then we check in with them once we are done. Mr. Tom Hancock stated not knowing how far into the season this program goes and with the opening of Scallop Season in Mid-October, how would this effect the landing for parking because the landing becomes very popular if there is a good crop of scallops. Mr. Dutra stated the rowing program has been extended through December 31st. Mr. Spirlet stated that is a good point by Mr. Hancock but those people down there have permits; Mr. Booth stated he does not allow residents to use the (3) permits, they must get their own.

Motion made by Mr. Sullivan to approve the request for extension of hours and months; also it is requested that the permitted rowers, seeing as they have not trailer, could double up in the parking spaces. Second by Mr. Vieira. The Board voted 4 in favor, 1-opposed (Ouellette).

Knubble Beach Restoration Plan Presentation – Sara Quintal, Buzzards Bay Coalition.

Sara Quintal and Marc Rasmussen (Buzzards Bay Coalition) and Jeff Oakes (CLE Engineering) were present. A presentation was given to the BOS consisting of three alternatives for the Knubble Dune Restoration & Public Access Project. Mr. Rasmussen gave a brief background of how this project has come along; tonight, there are three alternatives being presented, which all three Alternatives address: Dune Restoration, Public Access and a proposed 48 ft. Turn-around (with the Police & Fire agreeing to it's size). Mr. Rasmussen stated they received a \$120,000.00 state grant for the dune restoration and the BBC will look to fund-raising from private sources or CPA funds to cover the remaining costs. Ms. Quintal gave a presentation of each alternative. Alternative #1 (Dune Restoration with Timber Access Road and Walkway) – occasional vehicle access for authorized handicap with beach sticker, public safety & a pedestrian walkway; dune restoration using vegetation on the eastern third of Beach Avenue (approximately 1,000 ft that extends from the stonewall, east to the Knubble & Charlton Estate; 3,000 cubic ft. of sand would be used to make a 4 ft. elevation to match the height of the dunes along that roadway; there would be a timber-slat runway; there would be an 8ft. width for occasional handicap access & public safety and a 4ft. wide pedestrian access; a bump-out feature located about mid-way down helps eliminate a two-lane roadway; we are suggesting an automated gate for authorized users similar to what Baker's Beach has (this system has worked for the past ten years and requires very little or no maintenance); a magnetic card or key fob system could be used. Alternative #2 (Dune

Restoration with Travel Lane and Timber Walkway) – is very similar to Alternative #1, the only difference from Alternative #1 is a suggested two-gravel tire path (3ft. Width) because there is no need for 4wd and this is separate from the pedestrian pathway. Alternative #3 (Dune Restoration with Mobi-Mat Walkway) – the intent of this Alternative is pedestrian access using Mobi Mats; it does not provide a vehicular access piece. Mr. Oakes explained storm impacts which helped designed the Alternatives being presented tonight. Mr. Oakes stated there will be no impact from the 10-year storm impacts but you will see erosion from 20-years storms, most severe near the eastern end. Mr. Oakes stated that with storms, there is sand accumulations which will need maintenance. Mr. Oakes stated with Alternative #1 – it is a larger more complex system; the use of anchors are to hold down and resist uplift force; there will be impacts from 20-year storms and it may not survive those types of storms with sections having to be picked up and put it back in place, plus having to repair railings. Ms. Quintal stated this would be easier to put back into place and sections won't wash away. Alternative #2 – this is most easiest to maintain, there are no railings to repair; it is easier to anchor a Trex boardwalk, they require less anchors; an uplift from waves may break a couple of boards or sections but they won't drift away; a gravel roadway is used instead of timber and it is a low cost to fix. Alternative #3 – the use of Mobi Mats, they are seasonal and the 500-600 ft. section we are talking about can be picked up in approximately 4 hours if there is an approaching storm. Mr. Dutra asked if any feedback had been received on these Alternatives. Ms. Quintal stated they have met with various Town committees, and the Coast Guard, Coastal Zone Management, Commission on Disability, Conservation Commission, National Heritage, Police and Fire Depts. and all are either supporting or have no objections to Alternative #2. Ms. Quintal stated we have funding for the dune restoration (\$120,000.); the additional cost for the public access piece are Alternative #1 – approximately \$170,000.; Alternative #2 – approximately \$130,000.; and Alternative #3 – being the least costly at approximately \$40,000. Ms. Quintal stated that permitting from Natural Heritage, CZM and the Conservation Commission looks good for Alternative #2 and the BBC maybe able to raise this amount through private funding, which we think we can, is a workable solution. Mr. Dutra stated he wanted to remind everyone, that this is an informational meeting with no action being required, so even though we may want to formally request feedback from various boards in Town but for structure of this discussion, he would like to entertain questions from the Board and then questions from the audience. Mr. Vieira stated when developing this for ADA compliance, Alternative #3 is not viable for Federal and State Law; Alternative #'s 1 & 2 are more realistic and have more positives; we need to provide access at least what we presently have. Mr. Vieira stated he would like to hear from the Commission on Disability. Elaine Ostroff, COD Chairman, stated that conceptually, the COD is very supportive but it is in the fine details that the COD has some questions, so the COD will be meeting this Wednesday to discuss this more in-depth; there has been a very positive, back and forth dialogue. Ms. Ostroff questioned the 4ft. ramp and stated they do not want to lose their extraordinary flat access onto the Land Trust property. Ms. Quintal stated in regard to handicap access, you can't have slopes that are too steep so in order to address that, what is basically good for the slope is also good for a dune; the 4ft is not being limited to the slope but it is feathered down to the abutting lands, the mobi mats and the beach; owners we have spoken with, see this as a positive and have no issues with this; and this slope will work well with mobi mats. Mr. Sullivan stated it would still be flat to get out of the car at that point; Ms. Quintal stated yes. Mr. Vieira asked if the Beach Committee has been met with yet. Ms. Quintal stated yes, they do not have any one preference, it was more of a dialogue in discussing the options; we spoke about the landing and dune restoration; after speaking with Sean Leach and Jeff Bull, they stated they serve at the pleasure of the BOS and are willing to work with whatever the Town decides is best for the situation. Mr. Vieira asked about speaking with area residents who live down there; whether they have a preference. Ms. Quintal stated there is a suite of opinions; so we are looking for a solution for a majority of the concerns while reaching the goals that were set forth in the grant process; but there is no solid preference of

alternatives. Mr. Spirlet stated that a letter was received from the Coast Guard and was wondering what it said; Ms. Quintal stated there was no formal letter but an email instead, stating the Coast Guard has no problem with the grading happening on their property for the dune restoration; they do not want vehicles on their property that are not their own (similar to the Land Trust's view); but they have stated they are amenable to Alternative #2; the Coast Guard may have to occasionally utilize a 4wd to access their property, which with any of the Alternatives is not a problem. Mr. Spirlet asked who will be responsible for maintaining all the boardwalk, etc down there. Ms. Quintal stated ultimately, it would be the Town's responsibility, details would have to be worked out. Mr. Spirlet questioned a solar power swipe card system; Ms. Quintal stated we are looking at options, on the plans we have specified solar now but this is a developing plan; we are also looking at bringing in electric; the nearest electrical pole is about 600 ft. away from the proposed gate; we are costing this out. Mr. Spirlet stated in looking at Alternative #2 – now there is two handicap parking spaces (lucky for the first two that get there); it is really a long walk or a long way to push a wheelchair 600 ft.; it can't be made less than what we already have because now, we can probably put 30 cars down there; another issue, is that nothing can be done until Town Meeting votes 2/3's to do away with the right of the road, this is a Chapter 90 road right to the end. Mr. Spirlet stated that if, in fact, Town Meeting votes to do away with a section, then Alternative #2 may be the best; but we can't limit access to the handicap at the end. Mr. Vieira asked if there were alternatives for a walkway. Ms. Quintal stated we looked at cost options: press-treated timber and trex which are anchored down; with trex there is no splinters and it holds up well (trex was installed in Swansea in 2009 and is still holding up well); we are looking at four handicap parking spaces (two at the east end and two at the west end) and a proposed turn-around for vehicles that do not have a handicap plate but for individuals who have mobility issues can be used as a means of getting someone down to the water. Mr. Ouellette stated he liked the gate idea because he was done there this weekend and there were two vehicles without parking passes blocking the way and both were from out-of-Town; Mr. Ouellette stated he has been down there when people are on the rocks watching for when the Police come. Mr. Sullivan noted that Ms. Quintal has a stake in this matter because she is a Westport resident. Mr. Tom Hancock stated he had nothing against the project but he wanted to remind the BOS and the folks at home, that there was a non-binding question at election time that asked the question, shall the Town of Westport continue to maintain Beach Avenue to the Knubble as public access and beach parking with permits; overwhelmingly, over 2,000 people voted yes. Mr. Hancock asked Buzzard's Bay, if Beach Avenue was paved to the Knubble, could this reconstruction still be going on; would a paved road stop the dune restoration. Ms. Quintal stated no, in the sense that you would be doing further harm to the dune; by paving through the eastern third of Beach Avenue, the Town was not able to get permits to do that; the two (paving and dune restoration) are very competing and that is why paving was not permitted in the first place; it is not an appropriate location to pave. Mr. Sullivan stated that if it were paved to the end, say like it was paved in the '80's to the end and was still there, Mr. Hancock's question would be, could we move ahead with this particular project. Mr. Hancock stated that if there was pavement, could this restoration be done. Mr. Sullivan stated yes, the pavement could be taken out and a dune put in. Mr. Dutra stated we have an approved road for the first 1,100 ft., the last 600 ft. we have not negotiated a consent decree with the State regarding dune restoration, habitat preservation and management of that; we can't pave to the Knubble and do dune restoration also. Mr. Dutra stated the question was to pave the entire 1,700 ft. and do dune restoration; in the beginning, it was stated very carefully, we are only talking about the last 600 ft.; we can't do the pave to the Knubble scenario (which we have no permission to do) and do what is being proposed for the last 600 ft. Mr. Sullivan stated maybe we are not understanding the question. Mr. Hancock stated that if there is a paved road there, where the road now exists, would that stop the dunes on the right hand side from being restored. Mr. Vieira stated we are talking about restoring dunes on the road that never existed and we got funding for it; we are creating dunes on a Town accepted road. Mr. Hancock

stated the Board needed to fight DEP on the paving; he also reminded the BOS of Town Meeting vote to maintain the road to the Knubble. Mr. Hancock stated that the creation of a Town Beach was also approved; what is being done about that. Mr. Hancock had one more comment referring to a comment from Mr. Rasmussen regarding the Town vote; his comment stated that the results did not tell us much; Mr. Hancock stated it was vote wanting to keep to the Knubble; the intent was not for a learning experience. Mr. Bill Harkins questioned the monies involved; there was talk about \$100,000. being raised already for the project; is it the intent that all the funds be raised before the project is started or is it where the project is started but then they come back to the Town looking for money because they don't have enough to complete it and the Town has to come up with the rest of the money. Mr. Rasmussen stated we already have \$120,000. in hand for the dune restoration; it would not be our intention to go forward with any part of this project until we had all the money; you need money for the boardwalk, the roadway, the gate and the turn-around all at the same time. Mr. Rasmussen stated he hoped tonight that the BOS would give them the sense that Alternative #2 should be developed, so we could get the full-scale of cost estimates so the fund raising could begin and the project started by January. Mr. Harkins asked that once the project is done, is there going to be a study to see what the cost is going to be to the Town to maintain this yearly. Ms. Quintal stated the beauty of this whole process in working with CZM is that we have the money for the dune restoration and their technical expertise; any feedback from the audience tonight will be taken back; also, with more vegetation, the more sand will accrete and there may not have to be maintenance each year; maintenance is not a straight forward answer. Mr. Jim Whitin stated he originally was for Alternative #3 but he is convinced that Alternative #2 is most appropriate; he also suggested not using pressure-treated timber near the river or trex because he believed they would sink; a suggestion would be to use black locust, it is very hard native wood to the US and long-lasting and impervious to rot. Mr. Alden questioned the boardwalk on the seaward side. Ms. Quintal stated that CZM suggested the location shifting everything as far north as we could; the pedestrian walkway is on the south side for the ocean view, and sand blowing won't stay on the ocean side; all will be anchored down, which give this project longevity and it will keep it out of the river. Dr. Elaine Feine, 646 River Road, questioned the emergency access, would the turn-around be sufficient enough if there were two cars parked there. Dr. Feine stated when looking at the parking spaces, how does one get on the ramp because there are side walls; and if you are on that structure, how do you get to the beach access; also, what amenities have been considered should there be an emergency such as a siren and what type of restroom facilities will be there. Ms. Quintal stated we are proposing a bump-out with a bench; with two cars parked, the turn-around would still be viable according to Police and Fire; as for an emergency, with cellphones being prevalent, we really have not thought about a siren system; and for bathroom facilities, there is not really a big usage by people yet, so that has not been talked about; as for beach access, there is two locations, one at the end of the stone wall near the proposed ramp and one at the Town ramp, both having a flat grade and gentle slope. Mr. Rasmussen stated before we can move forward, we have a call for final development plans, permit applications that speak to all the other agencies, Town Meeting vote; all these things need to happen this Fall, so construction can begin in January. Mr. Spirlet stated the Town Meeting is in May, 2016. Mr. Sullivan stated we are talking about Fall Town Meeting. Mr. Spirlet stated it better be checked with Town Counsel and the Town Moderator to see if it can be done at STM or ATM. Mr. Rasmussen asked the Board tonight, if they were on the right track with Alternative #2 so we can fully develop it, get cost-estimates, permits and be ready to go. Marilyn Peck, Horseneck Road, stated that on either side of the road, the sand is quite high; is there a model or study that tells us that 4ft. of sand added will increase the protection; is it for the Harbor or the residents. Ms. Peck stated that she has been out to the area and she has only seen wonderful things. Mr. Oakes referred to the Woodshole Study. Ryan Mann, Westport Land Trust, stated the Trust has six acres down there; have been managing that area by maintaining a storm buffer for erosion into the river; we have

no plan or desire of how the Town manages the roadway; we are in favor of this; we do have some issues out there, such as unauthorized vehicles on our property and a failed pipin plover nest; due to these issues, we have installed posts instructing people who visit that area but several of those posts were destroyed. Jeff Bull, Beach Committee, in looking at the schedule of the RFP, are we at Task 2; Ms. Quintal stated we are there. Mr. Bull stated he was concerned about the schedule for the public hearings and according to the Woodshole Study, we have a number of years to figure this out; he does not want this to split the Town again, since we are already 60 days behind schedule; also, the 30x60 ft. parking pad is considered "road pack"; according to the Woodshole Study, this area would gully out, wouldn't vegetated sand be more durable? Mr. Oakes stated MA DOT crushed stone would be used, it will be compacted and is more durable than sand. Mr. Sullivan stated he is excited about Alternative #2; just look at it; imagine this overlooking the ocean; it will provide a place to walk and a destination to go to; when the roadway is brought up, the view of the ocean is there; the boardwalk will be a nice hard walking surface and for those with mobility restrictions, they can get out right at the beach. Mr. Sullivan stated he would like to see three or four more benches rather than one bench; this project is our obligation to provide service to all the people we sell beach parking passes to; with a little effort, we can add to our nice places to go. Mr. Spirlet stated he felt strongly that this can be passed but we should asphalt the first section and then push the boardwalk 10ft. and have a drop-off area with about 10 handicap parking spaces. Mr. Dutra stated in closing, he would like a written report from the Commission on Disability, Police and Fire Chiefs, Planning Board, Beach Committee and the Conservation Commission in terms of their responses to this Alternative Plan, hopefully for our next meeting. The Board thanked everyone for a good job presenting. *see attached presentation.

Action Items

1. Mr. Sullivan stated there is a lot of moving parts to these two projects, there is a lot of pieces for which we have engaged Town Counsel in a piece meal fashion; as a Board, Mr. Sullivan would to provide guidance to Town Counsel on what direction we are taking as a Board on this project and to have them work toward assisting us in making this happen. Mr. Sullivan prepared a one-page document, which he reviewed with the Board. **Motion** made by Mr. Sullivan to forward to Town Counsel for guidance the one-page document titled: Beach Avenue – Project Description and Background seeking Town Counsel Guidance. Second by Mr. Ouellette. Discussion: Mr. Spirlet stated he could not support some of the stuff in the document; we should just leave the road graveled and put a turn-around. Mr. Sullivan stated that by doing nothing, things won't change and years from now, we will still be dealing with Beach Avenue and it's problems; this will address management of that area; people pay for beach passes and we should provide a safe and hospitable place for them to enjoy. Mr. Vieira stated that Mr. Sullivan was asking Town Counsel to research this and the final decision will be Town Meeting; this just gives us direction. Mr. Vieira stated to Mr. Spirlet, we should have options for Town Meeting, as long as we keep the price down. Mr. Dutra stated this document is asking Town Counsel to draft some articles for Town Meeting and as well as to keep a consistent course of action. Mr. Spirlet stated there should be a Phase 3, it would be to leave what is there. Mr. Bull cautioned about the cost of the guidance. Mr. Vieira stated it should be around \$1,000. or less; he would not sign off on more than that. Mr. King stated that Town Counsel will tell us about the discontinuance of the road while retaining access for the public such as an easement or taking by eminent domain. The Board voted 4 in favor, 1-opposed (Spirlet). *see attached.
2. Mr. King stated this project was recommended by Mr. Gonsalves, who solicited a proposal from Tibbetts Engineering; under State Law the Town is not required to seek competitive bids for engineering services (\$94,000.00). **Motion** made by Mr. Spirlet to approve. Second by Mr. Vieira. Mr. Vieira asked if it was recommended by Mr. King also; Mr. King stated yes. Mr. Dutra stated

this came up at last meeting and was held until Mr. King was able to review it. Mr. King stated he did review it. Discussion: Mr. Sullivan stated this is a big bid and unless there is a pressing time constraint, he would suggest getting competitive bids, the reason we don't have it is because we don't have to have it but because this is well over \$25,000.00 threshold for normal purchases, it should be bid out. Mr. King stated for competitive proposals, it is \$5,000.00. to \$25,000.00, anything over that would be a formal bid; but because this is for professional services, it would be a RFP. Mr. Vieira stated he was confused; this came up at the last meeting, why didn't the Board have this bidding discussion then. Mr. Dutra stated we did not have Mr. King's recommendation, so we passed over it. Mr. Vieira stated we have been using Tibbetts for all our projects; did he bid all the others and forgot to put this one in; did we bid all the others? Mr. King replied no. Discussion ensued. Mr. Vieira stated the only emergency he could see was Charlotte White Road; it is a mess due to the gas line extension; this road is a major way out to Main Road and Route 88; he was concerned over what a delay would mean. Mr. King stated the delay could cause a 6-8 week backup. Mr. King stated this was just for preliminary work; this probably won't happen until spring. Mr. Spirlet withdrew this motion; Mr. Vieira withdrew his second. **Motion** made by Mr. Vieira Mr. King put this matter out to bid. Second by Mr. Sullivan. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

3. **Motion** made by Mr. Sullivan to approve the road use request for the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen's 100-mile ride on Sunday, September 13, 2015 as per police recommendation. Second by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted unanimously in favor. This information will be placed on the scroll.
4. Planning Board Chairman Jim Whitin was present. Mr. Whitin explained the Planning Board voted to go to the Personnel Board; there were two meetings with the Personnel Board and it was determined that it is appropriate to have a contract with the Town Planner, who is non-union. Mr. Whitin stated he is now here asking the BOS to direct Mr. King to work with Mr. Hartnett on a contract. Mr. Whitin stated the Planning Board would like to retain Mr. Hartnett, he is worth retaining and we need a compensation program that is similar to other Town Planners. Mr. Whitin stated the Town Planner position is low in pay compared to other towns/cities that were in the Barrows Report, which was used for the comparisons. Mr. Hartnett has written grants and saved the Town a lot of money (\$100,000.00). Mr. Whitin stated that in the event Mr. Hartnett were to leave, we could not get someone as good as he is (his background knowledge in highway, engineering and zoning, etc., helps with saving money on legal) but we would have a platform to draw the right type of person. Mr. Whitin stated it is understood even with a contract, there is no money unless we find some. Mr. Vieira noted to Mr. King, to look to the Planning Board for recommendations on the salary. **Motion** made by Mr. Ouellette to move this request forward. Second by Mr. Vieira. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Minutes - The approval of minutes was held until next meeting.

One Day Liquor Licenses

1. **Motion** made by Mr. Vieira to approve a One Day Wine & Malt Liquor License for "A Wish Come True, Inc." - Westport Rock, Rhythm & Blues Festival on Sept. 11, 12 and 13, 2015 at the Holy Ghost Club, 179 Sodom Road. Second by Mr. Spirlet. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Appointments and/or Resignations

1. **Motion** made by Mr. Ouellette to appoint Peter J. Berube to the Westport Citizens Betterment Committee. Second by Mr. Spirlet. The Board voted unanimously in favor.
2. **Motion** made by Mr. Ouellette to appoint Floriano Cabral as Camera Operator. Second by Spirlet. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Selectmen Liaison Committee Reports - None.

Question and Answer Period - None.

Board Members Suggestions for Future Agenda Discussion / Action - None.

Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting - None.

Other Business

1. Mr. Dutra announced upcoming events being held by the Westport Cultural Council.
2. Mr. Ouellette noted it was another good year for the Westport Fair; also, he wanted to remind everyone to slow down and drive careful, there have been too many accidents.
3. Mr. Vieira noted the good job being done on Borden Street; the neighbors are very happy. He also visited Sodom Road/Narrow Avenue and viewed the positive upgrades taking place. Mr. Vieira mentioned the work being done by the utility company on Charlotte White Road and the negative comments he is hearing from residents; Charlotte White Road is a major road for all the residents in that area; perhaps there could be more police details to keep the traffic moving. Mr. Vieira stated hopefully, this work is done before the opening of school.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was held due to approval of minutes only. Minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

8:35 PM

Motion made by Mr. Ouellette to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting. Second by Mr. Spirlet.
The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Pelland
Administrative Asst/Confidential Clerk to the Board of Selectmen

APPROVED: _____
Steven J. Ouellette, Clerk