



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY- AUGUST 5, 2019**

Members Present: Shana M. Shufelt, Chair
 Brian T. Valcourt, Vice Chair
 Ann E. Boxler, Clerk
 Steven J. Ouellette
 Richard W. Brewer

Also Present: Timothy King, Town Administrator

Select Board Chair, Ms. Shufelt called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Westport Town Hall, 2nd floor meeting room, 816 Main Road, Westport, MA.

Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair's Announcement – The Chair announced that under the provisions of MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f), the meeting was being recorded.

1. Acknowledgments & Recognitions.

Ms. Shufelt acknowledged the work by lifeguard Evan Audette for assisting a citizen who wrote in to commend his assistance in finding a lost ring in the sand and helping him in the parking lot.

Ms. Shufelt reminded all that the opening ceremony for Noquochoke Village is tomorrow at 9:30am.

Also, the Westport Cultural Council Summer Film Series begins this month with 3 documentaries free to the public and to check the Town website for information.

Ms. Shufelt recognized the Westport American Legion James Morris Post 100th anniversary on July 27.

2. Licenses/Permits.

Request to approve the Minuteman HOG Chapter 2522 motorcycle ride on Sunday, September 22, 2019 from 11:30am to 1:00pm through Westport roadways.

Tony Alfonso, director of the Minuteman HOG riding club. The chapter is holding a fundraiser ride through Dartmouth and potentially part of Westport. He spoke with Detective Majewski regarding the amended route and that had a recommendation for 9 officers. He asked the Board for permission to conduct the ride. Mr. Alfonso stated that he will have two Dartmouth officers in the ride. The Detective suggested that a couple of route areas be covered by Dartmouth where the route exits and enters Dartmouth. Detective Majewski requested something in writing indicating so from Dartmouth.

Mr. Brewer asked what the route was before. Mr. Alfonso said that usually they stay in Dartmouth, but they have conducted the same ride over the same routes each year in Dartmouth and are hoping to attract others to raise funds for the veterans. **Motion** by Mr. Valcourt to approve conditional on police recommendations. Seconded by Ms. Boxler. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

Mr. Ouellette stated he reserved his comments because he is a member and vouched for the orderly pace of the ride.

3. Appointments and/or Resignations.

- a. Request from the Assessors to hire Diana A. Venafo for the Senior Clerk position. Assessors Steve Medeiros and Sue Anne McDermott were present to give their support to hire Ms. Venafo. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- b. Request from the Board of Health to appoint Joseph C. Reis Jr. as the Full-Time Health Agent. Board of Health Chair, Philip Weinberg and Public Health Director, Mathew Armendo were present to ask for support of hiring Mr. Reis. He is currently the Health Agent in Fall River. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve the hire. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor. Mr. Weinberg noted the septic betterment program and encouraged citizens to look into the low interest loan program offered by the Town.
- c. Request from the Highway Surveyor to appoint Daniel Ledoux as a seasonal employee for the Highway Department. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- d. Affordable Housing Trust: Henry Lanier (3-year term). **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- e. Camping Ground Use Committee: Karin Bergeron as the Council on Aging Representative (1-year term). **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- f. Request to accept the resignation of Maintenance Specialist, John Medeiros effective September 15, 2019 and to post the open position. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve and post 2 part time positions as requested by the union. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

4. Action Items.

- a. Review and approve proposal for the lease of land at the Head of Westport submitted by the Westport River Watershed Alliance. The lease in excess of 5-years was approved by the legislature and it has been ratified at Town meeting. Because the total value of the lease of the land would be in excess of \$30k, bid proposals were required. WRWA was the only submittal. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve and to allow Mr. King to negotiate the lease in conjunction with the Landing Commission. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- b. Request from Manuel Resendes of 882 State Road for a waiver to allow parking on Hillside Avenue for the 6th annual after-mass celebration in memory of his son on August 18th 2019 between 4 and 9 pm. **Motion** by Mr. Valcourt to approve. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- c. Request for Release from Chapter 61A – Valerie Hawes and Barbara Hawes Caldwell- a parcel at 1778-1780 Drift Road, Map 58, Lot 185 (approximately 1.8 acres), recorded with the Bristol County (S.D.) Registry of Deeds, Book 1827 Page 1173. **Motion** by Mr. Valcourt to approve conditional that it is voted favorable at a posted meeting by the AgOpen Space Trust Fund Council. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- d. Request to accept a donation of \$1,000 from the Diane B. Snyder Tennis Complex for the Westport Recreation Department. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to accept. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- e. Request to accept a donation of \$7,047.00 for the Council on Aging Gift & Donation Account. **Motion** by Mr. Valcourt to accept. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- f. Review and endorse the employment contract for the Animal Control Officer. Mr. Weinberg, Chair of the Board of Health stated that they have reached an agreement with the ACO. The Board of Health is still hiring for an Assistant Animal Control officer. Mr. Armendo noted that he would

provide the Board his reports. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

- g. Review and endorse the contract for the Treasurer's Consultant. Ms. Shufelt stated that the first part may not be necessary. The one item for the completion of the reconciliation, may not be necessary. Mr. King recommended the Board approve tasks 2-5 at this time. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve tasks 2-5. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- h. Release of Lien Book 10108 Page 269-273. **Motion** by Mr. Valcourt to release. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

5. Discussion Items.

Update on Treasurer's Department.

Mr. Brewer and Mr. King provided an update. Mr. Brewer stated there is clear evidence of gaining ground with reconciliations and that 2019 should be finished by June 30 and closed by August 31. That would allow time to file with the State by September 30th. Reconciliations are complete through May 31. Mr. King was reasonably confident that with the assistance Muriel Kokoscka and Mr. Kinsharf, these tasks are fairly cleaned up. Mr. Brewer stated that with Ms. Kokoscka's term ending, there is some uncertainty of work being timely and he asked the members keep that in mind.

6. Town Administrator Report.

Mr. King gave the Board an update on Route 88 resurfacing; the WRWA building at the Head of Westport and contaminated soils which were not considerable; the Hix Bridge feasibility report; the High School reuse and use of the \$25K Mass Development technical assistance grant. Ms. Shufelt stated that HOE focused more on economic/housing/community development. Senator Rodriques stated that they are putting together the next transportation bond bill and asked if there are anything that the Town would like considered; Mr. King noted that the Rep and Sen will be in to talk to board in a few weeks; the landfill solar project of the landfill; Bristol County budget copy available for review. Mr. Brewer will be reviewing and he noted that the Bristol Aggie budget is increasing considerably as well; Town building energy audits have begun for the Green Communities Application; the EEE warning issued; monthly reports from departments.

7. Minutes.

July 22, 2019.

Motion by Ms. Boxler to approve. Seconded by Mr. Ouellette. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

8. Bill Warrant and Payroll report to the Board.

Noted.

9. Selectmen Liaison Committee Reports.

Ms. Boxler had nothing to report. The AHT did not have a quorum and therefore, no meeting was held.

Mr. Valcourt looking for the appointees for Campground Committee.

He has not heard back from Mr. Barnes of the Energy Committee and would like to post the next meeting soon.

Mr. Ouellette stated that there was another fatality on Route 177 and there are constant accidents. He is still pushing the issue with the State reps.

Mr. Brewer noted he would be at Bristol County Commissioners meeting and reviewing the budget; he noted that Bristol Aggie's budget has increased as well and would report on this further.

Ms. Shufelt stated the School Building Committee has chosen Agostini-Bacon and they plan to be at the next BOS meeting to introduce them. This Thursday the School Building Committee will be meeting.

10. Boards/Committees/Commissions Vacancy List.

Noted. See Website for current openings.

11. Board Members Suggestions for Future Agenda Discussion / Action.

None.

12. Topics not reasonably anticipated forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the meeting.

- a. A request was received by the Westport River Watershed Alliance (WRWA). WRWA requested a one-day all-liquor license for August 10, 2019 because their licensed caterer cancelled at the last minute and their event is taking place on August 10, 2019. The Police Department recommended positively. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 4-0 in favor. Ms. Boxler abstained.
- b. Ag Open Space Trust Fund Council.
Request by David Cole to be appointed as the At-large member. This would facilitate that committee meeting with a quorum. **Motion** by Mr. Ouellette to approve. Seconded by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.
- c. Mary Sullivan asked that tonight's executive session be held in open session.
The Board was agreeable to her request. She asked to postpone the discussion so that she can prepare to participate. Mr. King was to give an update on her performance plan. Ms. Shufelt prefers Executive Session to discuss the performance. Since there is nothing urgent, members were agreeable to postpone to the next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Valcourt to postpone the Executive Session for two weeks. Second by Mr. Brewer. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

13. Question & Answers.

None.

14. Executive Session – pursuant to the provisions of MGL c 30A section 21(a), Chair declares an open meeting will have a detrimental effect, to:


- a. Discuss the performance of an employee (1).
- b. Approve Executive Session Minutes.

No Executive session was held due to the personnel requesting open session.

Adjournment

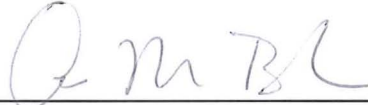
Motion by Mr. Ouellette to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Valcourt. The Board voted 5-0 in favor.

Respectfully submitted,



Lucy Tabit Administrative Assistant/
Confidential Clerk

APPROVED:



Ann E. Boxler, Clerk, Select Board Member

Attachments to Agenda of 8/05/19:

- 2 PD Recs HOG Chapter Ride
- 3a Assessor's hire
- 3b BOH Hire
- 3c HWY Hire
- 3d AHT appointment
- 3e Campground appointment
- 4a WRWA proposal reduced file
- 4b Parking Request
- 4c Caldwell-Hawes Ch61A release
- 4d REC Donation
- 4e COA Donation
- 4f ACO Contract
- 4g Kinsherf contract
- 4h Release of lien
- 6 TA Report and items
- 7 BOS minutes 072219 draft
- 8 Bill Warrant
- 10 Annual Appointment List 2019 FY19-20
- 12a WRWA One-Day Liquor License request
- 12b David Cole request