

**SELECT BOARD
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024
2nd FLOOR MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL
816 MAIN ROAD
6:00 P.M.**

6:00 p.m. Call To order & Pledge of Allegiance

Under MGL Chapter 30A, section 20(f) – this meeting is being recorded.

Welcome Comments from the Chair

Acknowledgments & Recognitions

1. Appointments and Resignations

- a. Request from Finance Committee to appoint Christopher Thrasher to Infrastructure Oversight Committee, and Duncan Law to the Internet Advisory Committee.
- b. Request from Beverly Bisch, Council on Aging Director to appoint Kim Pensalfini to the part time position of Supportive Day Program Assistant Director.

2. Action Items

- a. Request from Carol Freitas to approve the following donations:
 - Anonymous, (4) \$25 Stop & Shop Gift Cards
 - Winifred M. Tripp, \$100 in Memory of Eloi Levesque, discretionary use
 - Westport United Congregational Church, \$500, discretionary use
- b. Petition request to lay out the way known as Rita Lane Extension and refer the petition to The Planning Board.
- c. Request from Carl F. Tripp, FL Tripp and Sons, Inc. to transfer/donate two parcels of land to the Town of Westport, 0 Route 88, Parcel 54-33-0 and O Main Rd., Parcel 54-33A-0
- d. Select Board Request - To proceed with establishment of the Westport Municipal Light Plant to implement the programs authorized by vote on Article 22 of the Westport Town Meeting of May 4, 2023, and to request that the Town Attorneys assist with this process.
- e. Request from Spindrift Oysters for permission to install and maintain conservation activities on Farm 2815 Tract 3061.
- f. Request from Bay Breeze, Inc for permission to install and maintain conservation activities on Farm Farm 2679 Tract 2904.
- g. Request from Kristin Stinson, Town Clerk to approve the warrant for the 2024 Presidential Preference Primaries Election on March 5, 2024.
- h. Request from Sue Brayton, Treasurer/Collector to accept a donation for the benefit of the Town Farm of approximately \$20,000 from an anonymous donor.
- i. Request from Chris Capone, Conservation Agent for a Town Meeting Article to transfer parcels 79 - 4 & 5 into the care and custody of the Conservation Commission.

- j. Requests from the Infrastructure Oversight Committee:
 - To place on the April 2024 Town ballot a vote to approve a Debt Exclusion for a loan from either the public municipal bond market or the State Revolving Fund of up to \$35 million for the construction of the entire Route 6 Water & Sewer project.
 - To place on the May 2024 Annual Town Meeting Warrant an Article to approve a Debt Exclusion for a loan from either the public municipal bond market or the State Revolving Fund of up to \$35 million for the construction of the entire Route 6 water & sewer project.
 - To determine a Betterment Policy for the “bettered properties” for the entire Route 6 water and sewer project.
- k. Request to approve Kleinfelder Change Order to design sewer for the Osborn Street Gifford Road loop and approve funding source, \$126,000.
- l. Request to approve Kleinfelder Change order to provide bidding services for Route 6 sewer and water and approve funding source, \$22,000
- m. Review Fiscal Year 2025 Town Budget and refer to the Finance Committee.

3. Discussion

- a. East Beach Road Discussion

4. Town Administrator Report

5. Approve Minutes

- a. January 22, 2024

6. Report on Bill Warrant

7. Selectmen Liaison Committee Reports & Suggestions for Future Agenda Discussion / Action

8. Comments and Statements

9. Boards/Committees/Commissions Vacancy List

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

- 11. 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 Step 2 Grievance filed by AFSCME, Council 93, Local 1701.
 - b. Discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining – AFSCME, Council 93, Local 1701.
 - c. Discuss strategy with respect to litigation, Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS)
 - d. Approve Minutes
 - January 22, 2024

Adjournment

The Town of Westport does not discriminate based on disability and is committed to hosting accessible meetings. To request a reasonable accommodation to attend this meeting, please contact the municipal ADA Coordinator James Hartnett at Hartnett.J@Westport-ma.gov.

Boards/Committees/Commissions Vacancy List

****Committee members with terms that end in June should advise if they wish to continue****

ADA Transition Plan Committee – 1 Vacancy

Agricultural Commission Alternate – 2 Vacancies (Alternate)

Bike / Walking Path Committee - 2 vacancies.

Economic Development Task Force - 3 vacancies

Energy Committee – 2 vacancies.

Fence Viewers – 1 vacancy.

Safety Regulation Board - 1 vacancy.

**** Committees are kindly requested to advise who serves as chair, vice chair and clerk ****



TOWN OF WESTPORT
816 Main Road
Westport, MA 02790
The Coastal Agricultural Resource of New England
Office of the Select Board

Tel. (508) 636-1003
Fax. (508) 636-1147

Town Administrator
James K. Hartnett

To: Board of Selectmen
From: Jim Hartnett, Town Administrator
Re: Bi-Weekly Report

Date: February 12, 2024

1. Governors Budget

The Governor's budget was released on January 24, 2024. The initial Cherry Sheet state aid numbers and assessments are in line with the Town's preliminary budget numbers. The Governor also filed the "Municipal Empowerment Act"

The bill contains local option revenue raisers, including a new Motor Vehicle Excise surcharge local option; provides relief from numerous administrative burdens, including reforms to procurement rules that raise thresholds for competitive bids and remove onerous publishing requirements; improves the efficiency of local operations by, for example, updating borrowing rules for school projects and establishing enforcement mechanisms for double pole prohibitions; and provides new tools for addressing critical local workforce challenges, such as allowing the creation of Regional Boards of Assessors, centralizing valuation of telecom and utility property at the state level and creating additional flexibilities in post-retirement employment exemptions.

2. Town Hall Improvements



Waiting on one more quote for work at the Town Hall which includes repair and painting of all the entrances and replacement on the four garage doors.

Manny Botelho from Diman is also in the process of developing a materials list for a new Select Board conference table.



3. Street and Bridge Design Updates

- Route 177 – Tickle Road Intersection – MassDOT has approved the preliminary design work and has been confirmed the date for the Design Public Hearing, March 20, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.
- Drift Road – Kirby Brook Bridge – Pare Engineering has completed their 25% design drawings. This meeting has been rescheduled for 6:00 pm on Thursday, March 7, 2024.

4. Broadcasting of Meetings

The Town is still waiting for Spectrum to make the connection to broadcast meetings live. Requests have been made to expedite this work. Select Board meetings can be live streamed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@westportgovernmenttv>