

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2024
2nd FLOOR MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL
816 MAIN ROAD**

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

Dorothy Howarth, 105 Years Old, 12/12/18, Oldest Resident

1. Appointments and Resignations

- a. Request to accept the resignation of Michael Walden from the Historical Commission.
- b. Request to accept the resignation of Lawrence Holsworth from the Finance Committee, along with the committee appointments to the Infrastructure Oversight Committee and Internet Advisory Committee.
- c. Request from the Finance Committee to appoint Karen Raus to the School Building Committee.
- d. Request from Chief Dunn to appoint John Bell as Reserve Officer, and Robert Thibodeau as EMD 911 Dispatcher.
- e. Request from Chief Dunn to appoint Sgt. Robert Rebello as Deputy Chief.

2. Action Items

- a. Request to approve the Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Agreement Division Road Solar 1, LLC.
- b. Request to accept the following donations to the Council on Aging: Totaling \$4520
 - \$20 Judy Hanlon, Tech Help
 - \$50 Barry Klecan, Outreach
 - \$25 David Severs, Tech Help
 - \$50 Lisa Costa, Outreach
 - \$100 Bristol South Medical District Society, In Memory of Arthur Ancil
 - \$275 Westport Women’s Guild, Best Use
 - \$3,000 Richard Decastro, Best Use
 - \$250 MCOA for Fitness Challenge Winner
 - \$250 Pacific Union Congregation Church, In Memory of Elsa Cory
 - \$500 Valerie Gwozdz, Social Day

Totaling \$4,520
- c. Request from Michael Burris, Town Planner to support a Joint Planning Board/Bike-Walking Path Committee application to the Mass Trails grant program.

- d. Request from Planning Board to initiate amendments to the Town Zoning By-Laws for consideration at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting relating to:
 - Short-Term Rental Zoning Bylaw (Sections 3 Definitions; 5 Land Use Table; 9.8 B&Bs and STRs)
 - Revision of section 7.7.1.1.2: Minimum Lot Width
 - Add a definition of “Congregate Living” to Section 3, Definitions
 - Replace the Unrestricted District with the Residential/Agricultural District (Section 5, Land Use Table; Other Sections as Referenced; Zoning Map)
 - Create a new zoning district, the Westport Gateway District (new Section 5.4) This district would replace the Business District between the Fall River municipal line and Route 88.
 - Modify the Science and Technology Overlay District (STOD; Section 6.6) to allow greater development flexibility and multi-unit residential.
- e. Request to approve Bristol County American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Waterline Design, \$163,000 and authorize survey work.
- f. Request from Chris Gonsalves to approve the change order for the 2023 Roadway Improvements.

3. Discussion

- a. Route 6 Area Public Water Supply Discussion
- b. FY25 Budget Discussion
 - 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan
 - 5 Year Financial Plan
 - Capital Stabilization Fund

4. Town Administrator Report

5. Approve Minutes

- a. January 3, 2024
- b. January 8, 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. Discussion relating to potential new school construction litigation.
 - b. Approve Meeting Minutes
 - January 8, 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

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Town Administrator
James K. Hartnett

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

Date: January 22, 2024

1. Storm Damage

Coastal areas including East Beach were impacted by two back to back storms, the week of January 7, 2024. High water levels impacted Cherry & Webb Lane, East Beach, Main Road at the Point, Beach Avenue, Atlantic Avenue and the Head of Westport. The Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency requested information on the local costs but have not made any emergency declarations.

2. Westport Village

As required as part of their Affordable Housing Restriction the Town has received notice of sale for the property located at 100 Village Way. There are a total of 48 units in the development.

3. Old High School

The Long Term Building Committee has signed a small consultant contract (\$5,000) with Emily Keys Innes, Innes Associates Ltd. The main focus will be to facilitate a Charrette to develop criteria for evaluation, evaluate the existing options, and develop a consensus about an appropriate path forward. The committee is looking to hold the Charrette during the month of February.

4. Street and Bridge Design Updates

- Route 177 – Gifford Road Intersection – Pare Engineering should have the survey complete within the next two weeks, they are aware of the recent accident and will make this design a priority.
- Route 177 – Tickle Road Intersection – MassDOT has approved the preliminary design work and has tentatively scheduled a Design Public Hearing for March 20, 2024.
- Drift Road – Kirby Brook Bridge – Pare Engineering has completed their 25% design drawings. Neighbors have expressed concerns regarding the design and MassDOT has scheduled a public meeting. This will be a virtual meeting and is tentatively scheduled for 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

5. Broadcasting of Meetings

The Town has been waiting on equipment that has been back ordered for months, this has prohibited the Town from live broadcasting meetings. The Town received the parts last week and the upgrades are complete, we are waiting for Spectrum to finish on their end. Select Board meetings can be live streamed at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/@westportgovernmenttv>