

Town of Westminster

Select Board Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Select Board Present: Chair, Sheldon Beebe, Vice Chair, Paul Banik, Peter Barrett, Toby Young and Craig Allen

Others Present: Russell Hodgkins Town Manager, Nancy Dalzell, Susan Harlow, Christian Blake, FACT TV and Alison Bigwood Town Clerk/Treasurer

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Select Board Chair, Sheldon Beebe
2. Adjustments to the agenda: Russell Hodgkins added 6C: Appointment of remaining term's for listers 6D: Cemetery Deed.
3. Acceptance of Minutes: Toby made motion to correct the minutes to read: D: Lister's Office, remove "all of a". 7. Manager's Report #4 PSB Meeting insert "of" in line two before wildlife. 9. Other Business: typo remove "tikes" and replace with takes in the next to last sentence. Craig made motion to accept the minutes as amended, Paul seconded. Motion passed.
4. Communication and Public Comment: None
5. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Buyout from FEMA- update: The appraisal on the property, 36 Town Garage Rd, is complete and has been sent to the State for approval. The appraisal came in at \$40,000.00.
 - B. Natural Burials in Westminster: Russell and Alison have asked numerous people in the State of Vermont about regulations or ordinances any town may have in place. Finding none the TM wrote an ordinance using Act 24 guidelines. Craig made a motion to accept and adopt the "Home, Private and Green Burial Ordinance" Toby seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 - C. FY 16-17 Revenue Budget: Discussion.

- D. FY 16-17 Expenditure Budget: Russell went line by line and answered questions along with the TC. Discussion followed. The Westminster West and North Westminster Town Halls follow up, nothing new with the North Westminster TH, but the Westminster West TH was responded to by Peggy O'Toole via email to TM. Peggy stated that she should have been notified of the possible sale of the TH or the building being "in major disrepair", the SB asked the TM to invite Peggy to the next meeting for discussion. Grader purchase information was presented by the TC, percentage rates at a 7 year term and the financial institution that gave the rates. Discussion followed. Mark stated the reason's we should replace the grader, mainly because repair cost would be quite expensive and the grader had 9000 plus hours. Motion was made by Toby to purchase the new grader and to go through Mascoma Savings Bank as they had the best interest rate at 2.10%. Craig seconded. The motion passed with only Paul stating nae.

 - E. PO Parking Lot Extension Permits: Concerns from neighbors on both sides of the post office about the parking lot expansion that may happen. The DRB will give their recommendations to the SB.

 - F. Town Report Dedication
 - G. Citizen of the Year Nomination: Motion was made by Toby to go into executive session to discuss Dedication and Citizen of the Year. Craig seconded. Motion passed.

 - H. Letter from Tim Morton-State Forrester: Tim will report to the TM. The Conservation Com. will be included in discussions but ultimately the TM will report to the SB and it will be the SB's decision if there will be cutting or not.
6. New Business:
- A. Health and Welfare 3 year Allocation-Rule
The current allocations that we send out are all voted on years prior, the issue being some of the agencies are no longer "local" and some send no end of year report to state what exactly is done for Westminster from our allocation. Sheldon would like to visit this issue after Town Meeting.
 - B. November Grand List-Updated
Russ made sure the figures from the Grand list was in the SB packet per Craig's request at the last meeting. No discussion.
 - C. Appointment of Lister's
The appointments go as follows: David Mulholland- 3 years of a 3 year term
Jackie Atwood- 2 years of a 3 year term
Bruce Sterling- 1 year of a 3 year term
Motion made by Toby to accept appointment terms, seconded by Craig. Motion passed.
 - D. Cemetery Deed
The cemetery deed was signed by the SB Chair and passed to the TC for notarization.
7. Manager's Report

TM and Toby went to an emergency management meeting in Vernon on Tuesday evening 12/8/15. Westminster services for VY emergency will end on

6/30/2015. Cole Streater, fire chief and the TM are hoping to find state funding to continue classes and training. The ultimate goal being able to support the FD#3 in case of a catastrophe. Toby stated it was an interesting meeting. Russ received a revision of an Article from Town Counsel for Town Meeting. The TC received notice of a Windham County Annual Meeting, and passed it onto the TM and SB. The agenda was given to all in their packets. Russell will be attending and invited the SB to join him on Tuesday January 19, 2016 at 3:30 in Newfane.

8. Boards and Commissions: None

9. Other Business: None

10. Date of Next Meeting: Monday December 21, 2015

At 8:46 p.m. the Chair brought the meeting into executive session.

At 9:08 p.m. the Select Board came out of executive session and a motion was made by Peter to appoint the two awards to the candidates that were agreed upon in executive session. The names will be held until the appropriate time of the announcement. Toby seconded. The motion passed.

11. At 9:11 p.m. the motion to adjourn was requested by Toby and was seconded by Craig. The motion passed and the Chair declared the meeting over.

Craig Allen, Clerk

Prepared by: Alison Bigwood, Recording Clerk