



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CHARLES E. SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

PRESENT: Mr. John A. Nason; Chairman, Mr. Marc Richard; Vice-Chairman and Mr. David Dufresne, Clerk

ATTENDEES: See attached list

Opened the Meeting at 7:00 PM

Mr. Nason opened the meeting and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. He advised all that this meeting is being video/audio taped and will be rebroadcast following the meeting.

MINUTES

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of September 8, 2020 as written made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of September 9, 2020 as written made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of September 10, 2020 as written made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The voter registration and the early voting schedule for the November 3rd Presidential Election has been posted to the town's website at www.warren-ma.gov.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion to appoint Ms. Carla A. Erickson and Mr. William Shoucair to the Historical Commission as presented made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Dufresne – unanimous.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS – ASSESSORS CLERK – NEW HIRE

The Board of Assessors along with the Asst. Assessor were in attendance this evening to introduce their candidate for the Clerk's Position which was vacated in the spring by Tammy Martin. Mrs. Martin has moved into the position of Town Accountant, and due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the position has remained empty until now. After the proper posting and interview process, the Board of Assessors have unanimously voted to recommend Ms. Deanna Lavigne for the position. Ms. Lavigne is a resident of town and is eager to come aboard. With no issues and reliance on the Assessors, the following motion was made: Motion to approve the hiring of Deanna Lavigne for the Clerk's positions in the Board of Assessors' Office made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

WARRANT FOR 2020 STATE ELECTION (PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2020)

Motion to approve and sign the Warrant for the 2020 State Election on November 3, 2020 made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

NOTICE OF NON-EXERCISE OF RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL

The office received notice from Woodland Cabins LLC on the Notice of Non-Exercise of right of First Refusal pursuant to M.G.L. C.61, §8 for property located on 289 Boston Post Road in Warren. With no objections, the following motion was made: Motion to approve and sign the Notice of Non-Exercise of Right of First Refusal for Woodland Cabins, LLC as presented made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Nason – unanimous.

JAMES KORDEK – RESIDENT CONCERN AND DISCUSSION RE: WCAT-12

Mr. Kordek requested to be on tonight's agenda in order to discuss his ongoing frustration with the quality of WCAT-12 programming. After our last meeting, which he was in attendance, he stated that he watched the rebroadcast of the meeting to which the first 8 minutes of the tape were lacking both video and audio. In addition, there were black lines across the screen at points where the video was working. Igor Kuprycz has spoken to Mr. Kordek since then and explained that the tape heads needed cleaning, which was done and has resolved the matter. Further, Mr. Kuprycz has scheduled a work order with Valley Communication in order to complete the necessary wiring in order to go out live from the gymnasium. That work should take place in approximately 2 to 3 weeks at no expense to the town. Mr. Nason suggested that if the meeting goes beyond what tape can accommodate, then to please advise the Board and they will recess for them to do so. In addition to this, Mrs. Acerra and Mr. Kupryck are working on getting the meetings on the website through a YouTube link for residents that are not Comcast subscribers.

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – DISCUSSION

After several attempts at trying to coordinate all pertinent parties' schedules for a STM, Chairman Nason recommended on postponing until early December. The Town Treasurer is reluctant to expend funds from our capital accounts as it could affect our bond rating. It is anticipated that Free Cash will be certified by then, which will give the Board a better vision as to the fiscal picture. The big item on the warrant is going to be the communication infrastructure project for Police and Fire. Chief Lavoie expressed grave concerns over the fact that the portables are not audible when out of the cruisers, which in most times is the most dangerous. Chief Lavoie reiterated that it is not the radios, but the system itself. The engineering report is due either this week or early part of next week and will forward to the office for review. Mr. Dufresne said that he will get with the two Chief's to discuss. Both will be invited to our next meeting.

WARRANTS & INVOICES

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No's. 23 & 24 dated September 14, 2020 in the amounts of \$39,373.31 & \$43,674.53 respectively made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No's. 25 & 26 dated September 21, 2020 in the amounts of \$49,905.65 & \$217,593.67 respectively made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 153 for FY 2017 CDBG Draw Down to PVPC in the amount of \$39,362.00 made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 154 for FY 2018 CDBG Drawn Down to PVPC in the amount of \$29,948.00 Made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 155 for FY 2019 CDBG Drawn Down to PVPC in the amount of \$20,499.94 made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nason said that finally, 980 Main Street Parking Lot is done as well as several roads in town. Thank you to Mr. Richard and Highway Surveyor, Jeremy Olson for their efforts.

Mr. Dufresne expressed concern over potential security issues with the Pre-school at Quaboag. Chief Lavoie stated that due to fire code requirements the door is an egress door and cannot be locked. Chief Lavoie said that the school is looking into options to address concerns. Mr. Dufresne asked that we discuss at our joint meeting with West Brookfield Selectmen and School Committee on October 1st.

Mr. Richard sent out his congratulations to Nathan Lowell (son of Nancy & Jay Lowell) who recently graduated from Ranger school.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Mrs. Soltys advised the Board that the Brookfield Town Hall is now open to the public. Mr. Nason said he'd like to remain status quo until we see the numbers as we enter the fall. Mr. Dufresne disagrees and feels the Town Hall should be fully open. She also asked who approves the projects for the Green Communities Grant. Once again, Mrs. Acerra stated that DOER makes the decisions and all monies are restricted for expenditures specifically approved. A copy of the Grant Award will be posted on the website for her reading.

Mr. Nickerson said that he heard about possible grant funding for IT, which Mrs. Acerra has already begun the processing in trying to obtain for the town.

Next Regular Meeting Date: October 8, 2020 – 6 PM.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Dufresne – unanimous at 7:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,



Rebecca Acerra
Administrative Secretary



David P. Dufresne, Sr., Clerk