



# BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CHARLES E. SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING

48 High St. • P.O. Box 609 • Warren, MA 01083-0609 • Tel. 413-436-5701 • Fax 413-436-9754

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES OF MARCH 4, 2021

**PRESENT:** Mr. John Nason: Chairman, and Mr. David Dufresne, Clerk.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Marc Richard.

**ATTENDEES:** see attached list.

### Opened the Meeting at 6:00 PM

Mr. Nason called the meeting to order and led with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting is not being taped due to a prior commitment with WCAT.

### MINUTES:

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of February 25, 2021 as written, made by Mr. Dufresne; second: Mr. Nason, - AIF.

### CORRESPONDENCE, as written read by Mr. Dufresne:

1. The Town is in receipt of CDBG funds for Grant #875 for \$8,393.05, and Drawdown payment #162 for Grant #875- \$8,393.05.
2. There will be a town cleanup day, Saturday March 6<sup>th</sup> between 8am-4pm. Volunteers will be handing out yellow bags at the Warren Town Common and the Allard lot near the traffic lights in West Warren. Bags are to be returned to the locations by 4:00pm. Also, at 1pm the Park Department is having a scavenger hunt; already there are 25 pre-registered teams. Part of the scavenger hunt will be to pick up a bag of trash in town and drop it back off at the drop off locations before 4pm.
3. The office received the resignation letter of Police Officer Scott Romani, effective March 16<sup>th</sup>. Officer Romani stated he will be taking a position as police officer with another agency.

Mr. Nason thanks Officer Romani for his service.

**Warrants & Invoice:** Mr. Dufresne made motion to approve the Warrants and Invoices as written, Mr. Nason seconds - AIF for:

#71	Payroll	3/1/21	\$ 43,276.67
#72	Vendor	3/1/21	\$99,606.05

### APPOINTMENT:

Mr. Bill Ramsey/BOA stated that it is unfortunate that Paula Keefe recently resigned; they really appreciate her time and effort put into the BOA position. Kathy Czub recently put in her letter of intent and the BOA voted to appoint Ms. Czub on February 24<sup>th</sup>. Also, Ms. Czub pulled papers to run for the Board in May 2021. Mr. Dufresne made motion to Appoint Kathy Czub to the Board of Assessors, Mr. Nason seconds - AIF.

### AMBULANCE ABATEMENTS:

Mr. Dufresne made motion to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter FY21 Ambulance Abatements; second by Mr. Nason - AIF.

*Town of Warren, MA is an Equal Opportunity Employer*

## **HIGHWAY BUDGET & ARTICLE PROPOSAL:**

Mr. Jeremy Olson/Highway Surveyor proposes a new wage classification for Highway Department. There are 2 major positions available now for Mechanic and Foreman, and Mr. Olson stated that we do not pay nearly enough to attract help for Highway positions. Mr. Nason stated that we are not looking into wage classification at this meeting; need to focus on regular Budgets for now, and will meet later on for wage classification. Mr. Nason stated that the Treasurer, Accountant and BOS all need to get together as a team to review. Overall, the FY21 Budget for Highway \$595,969 and the proposed Budget for FY22 is \$623,727. Increases are being requested in the salaries line, overtime, and resurfacing. Mr. Olson stated that he would like to put on an Article for a Backhoe that is much needed. Their current backhoe bought new in July 2007 needs major repairs.

## **BUSINESS:**

The Ware Select Board will be sending a letter to Baystate Health regarding their closing of the Mary Lane Emergency Room and other health services, respectfully asks if Warren would agree to sign on. Mr. Dufresne made motion to support putting Warren on the letter; Mr. Nason seconds – AIF.

## **COMMENTS & CONCERNS:**

Mr. Dufresne stated that he will be having Charlie Blanchard and Andrew Sheehan visit at BOS meeting next Thursday to discuss Town Manager/Administrator for town. Mr. Dufresne will put on Facebook and add in a Zoom meeting, so residents can attend via zoom.

**Next Meeting Date for a Working Meeting with several departmental FY22 Budget proposals: Thursday, March 11, 2021 - 6:00 PM, Shepard Municipal Building.**

**Meeting dissolved at 7:01 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Priscilla J. Clowes  
Administrative Secretary



David P. Dufresne, Sr., Clerk