

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF AUGUST 12, 2014**

PRESENT: Mr. David A. Delanski; Chairman, Mr. Robert E. Lavash, Sr.; Vice-Chairman and Mr. Dario Nardi; Clerk

ATTENDEES: See Attached

Chairman Delanski called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance in the Selectmen's Meeting Room in the Shepard Municipal Building.

Chairman Delanski announced that tonight's meeting was being both video and audio taped and requested anyone in the audience to disclose if they are recording tonight's meeting. Mr. Michael Baril stated that he is also video/audio recording the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Update on the telephone pole issue on Little Rest Road – National Grid has the work order in their central office and it will be placed on their schedule.
- Approve contract for stucco work to begin on Fire Station A in the amount of \$9,997.00. Select board to sign contract. Motion to approve and sign the contract for New England Brickmaster & Exteriors for repairs for Station A as outlined in the amount of \$9,997.00 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.
- Mr. Nardi stated that the LED Replacement Light bulbs have arrived and he will inventory and distribute them accordingly. He also stated that possibility of replacing the streetlights with LED lights will not occur. The town does not own the poles nor will it be cost effective.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Beverly Soltys stated that she has researched all departments for a copy of the warranty for the Town Hall roof to no avail. Greenwood Industries performed the work and the 15 year warranty will be up shortly. The FOTTH would like to act swiftly on the matter while the warranty is still in place. The Board of Selectmen's Office will contact Greenwood Industries to look further into the matter. While discussing the Town Hall, Mr. Delanski stated that if the Board were in agreement, he'd like to invite Lenard Engineering, Inc. to the next meeting to discuss the status. He requested that the office contact LEI and place a hold on all work until further notice.

Additional discussion surrounding the Town Hall took place. Madeline Witaszek stated that the \$150,000.00 funding that was allocated in July of 2013 was very specific. She stated that it appears that duplicate studies have been done while no further progress was being made. An attempt will be made to see if the names of those who served on the committee that oversaw the roof project can be found.

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CORRESPONDENCE

- A memo from Chief Lavoie advising the Board of the 4th Quarter ambulance abatements for FY14. – Noted
- A letter from the Board of Sewer Commissioners requesting that the office be relocated back to the first floor due to accessibility issues. – Mr. Delanski requested that Mrs. Acerra check to see if there is any space available.
- Notification from the ABCC regarding Farmer Winery Authorization to charge for samples. This legislative change allows Farmer Winery Licensees, which do not hold a Farmer Series Pouring Permit to charge a fee to their customers for on-premises sampling of their winery products. Please note that stipulations do apply. -Noted
- Correspondence from resident Gladys Theodore expressing concern over the current condition of the Warren War Memorial located in front of the library. A copy was forwarded to the Veterans Agent for his input. – The Select board would like to hear Mr. Swain’s recommendations. In light of the board being on private property, the town can only repair the board itself. Contact will be made to the Warren Public Library for permission.
- A letter from Ursula Wright on behalf of the Wright Family is requesting permission from both the Board of Selectmen and Park Commissioners to gather at McWhirter Park in West Warren. As you may recall several years ago the bell from the tower of the Wrights Mill Facility was moved to the park. They would like to donate plaques to commemorate the history of the bell and all of those involved with the Wm. E. Wright Co. The event is scheduled for Sunday, August 17th at 11AM and all are welcome to attend. - Noted
- Official notification from the Director of the Warren Senior Center, Armand Dimo, advising the Board of his retirement effective September 30, 2014. -Noted
- Request from the West Warren Library for a 1-day pouring license to serve beer and wine as part of a fundraising event. The Trivia Night will be held on Saturday, August 23rd from 5PM to 9PM at the Senior Center. – Motion to approve the request for a one day pouring license and to waive the fee made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.
- July 2014 Report from ACO – Sara Prideaux - Noted

Michael Baril – Mr. Baril requested to be placed on this evening’s agenda and address the Selectmen on two separate issues. The first being a Public Records Request he made to the Warren Police Department and the other regarding a Citizen’s Petition to have town counsel (Kopelman & Paige) removed and the position go out for bid.

Public Records Request – Mr. Baril made a request for Public Records with the Warren Police Department. Upon receiving an estimate from Chief Spiewakowski to produce the documents, Mr. Baril felt that the cost was excessive. He requested that the Board of Selectmen overrule the Chief and lower the cost. Mr. Baril also stated that during a conversation with Mrs. Prokop, she stated to him that the Selectmen do have the authority to step in. Mr. Delanski stated that if Mrs. Prokop did indeed state that, then she was incorrect. Mr. Delanski informed Mr. Baril that Chief Spiewakowski is the keeper of the records, therefore would be the one to provide such estimate in accordance with the law. Mr. Baril stated that he appealed his estimate and the state found in his favor however, did not have the documentation with him. Mr. Delanski stated that he may provide a copy of the state’s findings to their office and at that time would be willing to look into the matter.

Citizens Petition – Mr. Baril would like to remove Kopelman and Paige as town counsel and seek sealed bids to have them replaced. Mr. Baril feels that town counsel is not honest nor is certain town employees. He also stated that he felt that counsel along with the Board of Selectmen helped hide criminal activity. Mr. Delanski stated that the Board of Selectmen is the appointing authority for legal counsel. (Refer to General Bylaws, Article VII, §3)

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Although not on the agenda, Mr. Baril also discussed a request he made for Executive Session Minutes of December 10th and December 18th of 2008. He alleges criminal incidents are outlined within those particular documents. Mr. Delanski pointed to the fact that it appeared Mr. Baril already had a redacted copy of such. He (Mr. Baril) also alleged sexual misconduct by current town employees and the Board of Selectmen did nothing to correct the situation. Mr. Baril also requested a copy of the “last chance agreement” with a highway employee. Mr. Delanski stated that no more will be discussed on this issue.

Graves Engineering, Inc. – Motion to allow the Chairman to sign the Standard Agreement for Limited Professional Services with Graves Engineering, Inc. as written made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Warren Public Library – The Warren Public Library has requested to place an Article on the Special Town Meeting in order to reallocate funds back to the recommendation at the ATM in May of 2014. While Mr. Delanski stated he is not in favor, he also said that he’s not against placing an Article on as long as it is a Citizens Petition. All members agreed.

Motion to sign the Warrant for the 2014 State Primary as presented made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to ratify the contract with the Town Accountant, Madeline Witaszek as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

TREASURY WARRANTS/INVOICES

Motion to sign warrant #10 dated August 4, 2014 in the amount of \$41,046.75 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Motion to sign warrant #11 dated August 4, 2014 in the amount of \$105,956.68 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Motion to sign warrant #12 and #13 dated August 11, 2014 in the amount of \$37,811.87 & \$121,901.48 respectively made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

MINUTES

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of May 20, 2014 as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of June 3, 2014 as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign the Minutes of July 29, 2014 as written made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

OTHER BUSINESS

FOTTH held their Chicken BBQ to raise additional funds for the town hall. It was well attended and all had a good time.

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Once the deadline passes for individuals to submit their applications for the Senior Center Director position, copies will be forwarded to the COA for their review and recommendation. The Board of Selectmen has requested that the COA present 2-3 finalists for the final interview which is to take place on August 26, 2014.

Next Meeting Date: August 26, 2014 at 6:30PM (please note time change)

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra
Selectmen's Assistant

Dario F. Nardi, Clerk