

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF May 26, 2015**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Robert E. Lavash, Sr., Chairman, Mr. Dario Nardi, Vice-Chairman and Mr. James A. Gagner, Clerk

**ATTENDEES:** Stan & Bev Soltys, James Kordek, Timothy O'Brien and James McKeon

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**Chairman Lavash 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 Lavash 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. - None**

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Nardi advised all that a call has been placed to the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Worcester in order to clean up the excessive "donations" at the donation box on the corner of Main and North Streets in West Warren. In speaking with office personnel at St. Vincent de Paul, the donations sought are that of clothing and books and not meant as a dumping area for trash/bulk items. The society is arranging for the items to be cleaned up.

Mr. Nardi expressed his thanks to the Veteran's Agent and Council for their work on the Memorial Day Parade.

Mr. Gagner expressed his gratitude to the CERT volunteers for their help in coordinating the days' events.

**COMMENTS & CONCERNS**

Mrs. Soltys requested to follow up on comments from last week's meeting by a town resident (Mrs. Whitney). She too would like to be able to have a hard copy of the Quaboag Regional School District annual report just as the town provides as well as the Finance Committee which can be distributed to the residents. Mr. Nardi suggested that she contact the Superintendent to discuss the matter.

Mrs. Soltys also questioned how many Special Education students are in the district that would warrant so many SPED teachers and who hires the teachers. Again, Mr. Nardi directed her to speak the Superintendent and advised her that the Superintendent does the hiring.

And lastly, Mrs. Soltys reminded the Board that at the April 30, 2015 meeting, then Chairman Delanski stated that the final report of the investigation regarding the highway department vehicles would be made public. When she requested a copy from the Administrative Assistant, she was advised that it was not available. Mr. Lavash will follow up next week when she is back from vacation.

Mr. Kordek addressed the Board this evening regarding the underpass and subsequent water that is lifting the pavement resulting in water being tracked onto Maple, Southbridge and Main Street from passing vehicles. Mr. Nardi advised that that area he is referring to is scheduled to be reconstructed as part of the Downtown Redesign Project which is expected to begin in the spring of 2016. Mr. Lavash added that the office could speak to the Highway Surveyor; however it can only be a suggestion as he is an elected official. Mr. Lavash also added that Mr. Boudreau is very agreeable to help in any manner he can. The office will contact Mr. Boudreau to see if something can be done.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Correspondence from the Quaboag Regional School District informing the town that the School committee voted to approve the revised FY2016 budget resulting in the assessment calculation as detailed:

Minimum Contribution	\$2,462,820.00
Request above Minimum	\$556,000.00
Transportation Assessment	<u>\$548,771.00</u>
<b>Total Operating Assessment</b>	<b>\$3,567,591.00</b>

Warren Capital Assessment	\$208,173.00
<b>Total Capital Debt Assessment</b>	<b>\$208,173.00</b>

<b>Total Assessment</b>	<b>\$3,775,764.00</b>
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*Mr. Nardi stated that new numbers were provided on the cherry sheet dated 5/20/15 which puts Warren in a better position.*

- Correspondence from Pathfinder Regional Vocational-Technical High School thanking the town officials for supporting the FY16 budget/assessment at the Annual Town Meeting. – *Noted*
- Correspondence from Fire Chief Lavoie regarding an extended medical leave of absence for one of his department personnel. Chief Lavoie is looking for the board’s opinion regarding liability and job expectation issues. *Mr. Nardi stated that he will set up an appointment to speak with Chief Lavoie for further details and then bring the matter before the board. Mr. Lavash agreed. Mr. Gagner abstained from the discussion.*

**ARCHITECTURAL INSIGHTS, INC.**

Motion to approve and sign the contracts for Architectural Insights, Inc. for the crawl space, basement slab sealing and basement door for the Town Hall as presented made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

**PLEASANT/HIGHLAND STREET PROJECT – CDBG PROGRAM**

Motion to approve and sign the contract for Pioppi Construction, Inc. for the Pleasant and Highland Street Project through CDBG in the amount of \$389,999.11 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

**MEMA-CERT GRANT #CCP-FY15**

Motion to approve and allow the Chairman to sign the Request for Reimbursement from MEMA-CERT in the amount of \$1,101.91 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Gagner –unanimous.

**MASSDOT – OLD BOSTON POST ROAD – NAULTAUG BROOK BRIDGE NO. W-07-012**

MassDOT is proposing demolition of the bridge over Naultaug Brook on Old Boston Post Road due to the deterioration of the bridge. MassDOT has been inspecting this bridge on a yearly basis and has found it to be structurally deficient, prompting the request for demolition. The Historical Commission expressed opposition to the removal of the bridge and the south approach. Mr. Nardi walked the area on Sunday and concurs with MassDOT’s findings. After a discussion, Mr. Gagner made a motion to adhere to MassDOT’s recommendations and move forward with the project which includes the removal of the south approach as detailed in the plans and seconded by Mr. Nardi – unanimous. A letter will be sent to James Dalton, Project Manager.

**TREASURY WARRANTS**

Motion to sign warrant #97 dated May 25, 2015 for payroll in the amount of \$30,312.45 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to sign vendor warrant #98 dated May 25, 2015 in the amount of \$10,486.48 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to sign warrant #99 dated May 25, 2015 for payroll in the amount of \$530.00 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Lavash – 2 Yes, 1 Abstention (Mr. Gagner abstained due to conflict)

**DRAW DOWNS AND OTHER INVOICES**

Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 5 for FY14 for PVPC for the Community Assistance Program in the amount of \$8,318.26 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Invoice No. 64853 for FY14 for Lenard Engineering, Inc. for the Pleasant & Highland Street Project in the amount of \$4,093.85 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

**OTHER BUSINES**

Mr. O'Brien extended his thanks this evening for the Board's willingness to sign for the CERT reimbursement. He also expressed frustration regarding his difficulty in obtaining a key to the CERT room at the MOB. He reminded all that they are an emergency team that needs access to their supplies at any given moment. Mr. McKeon stated that the key would be kept at dispatch and would need to be signed out by a member of the team. Mr. Lavash will check with the Administrative Assistant next week as to the status.

Mr. Nardi reminded all that a Special Town Meeting will be held at QRMHS on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at 7PM for one article. The purpose of the STM is to request voters to approve funding for the non-participating work incorporated in the Downtown Redesign Project. The "NP" work is water and sewer lines and services which are not funded in the grant. It is imperative that this is approved as it could jeopardize the entire project.

Next Meeting will be held on June 2, 2015 at 6PM. The BOS will then go a bi-weekly schedule. For the month of June, the meetings have been set for June 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 6PM, June 16<sup>th</sup> @7PM and June 30<sup>th</sup> @7PM. Mr. Lavash will continue to hold office hours on the corresponding weeks on Wednesday's from 5PM to 7PM in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Mrs. Acerra advised the Board that the office has been receiving calls from residents regarding the noise from the Palmer Motor Sports Park located on the Ware Road. The Board stated that there is little the office can do, however a call log will be started in order to have a record of complaints. Mr. Gagner stated that from his understanding, the owners/operators of the facility will be holding a meeting for the area Chiefs to inspect the facility and review their emergency plan.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous at 7:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra  
Selectmen's Assistant

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James A. Gagner, Clerk

