

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13, 2015  
SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

PRESENT: Dario F. Nardi, Chairman, Robert E. Lavash Sr., Vice-Chairman, James A. Gagner Jr., Clerk  
ATTENDEES: See list (attached)

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

Chairman Nardi 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. Ms. Colleen Montague acknowledged she was recording.

**MINUTES**

Motion to accept the meeting minutes of October 6, 2015 as so written made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Lavash commented he is meeting with a vendor to look at the drainage system at the Town Hall; per his personal observation, he feels there may be issues with the front or portico area. He will update as she knows more.

**COMMENTS & CONCERNS**

Ms. Beverly Soltys inquired as to the Cell Towers. Mr. Gagner responded that an Article on the STM regarding zoning changes if passed, would then allow for the pursuit of companies/vendors to come forward. At present, there is one vendor who is interested, he would pursue other vendors as well.

Ms. Soltys, inquired about the meeting minutes of September 15<sup>th</sup> as she did not see them posted to the website. The Board will look into it.

Mr. Don Nickerson brought to the Selectboard's attention his concern with 18 wheelers operating on Quaboag Street and Old West Brookfield Road, to access Route 9. He referenced the trucks are hauling wood chips from the clear cut job in the area. Mr. Nardi stated he would reach out to the Chief of Police to inquire about restrictions and to identify trucking company, following which he would contact Mr. Nickerson with his findings.

Mr. Nickerson additionally addressed a distressed property along Main Street, which he believes to be an eye-sore for the town. He recognized the matter falls under the purview of the Board of Health, however, hoped the Selectboard could assist the BOH. Mr. Nardi mentioned he was aware of the property in question and would reach out to the Board of Health Chairman relative to this inquiry.

Mr. Stanley Soltys inquired about vehicle inspections on Highway vehicles. Mr. Nardi remarked that the office had received notice from the Highway Surveyor that the State Police DOT division had been contacted for an inspection; and would inform the Board when a date/time was provided. Mr. Soltys requested a copy of that communication and the reports of the inspection(s) done a few weeks back. Mr. Nardi noted that request would be made for the reports and copy of HS's email would be provided.

Ms. Jessica Gauthier addressed the Selectboard with her plans to hold a 12 week youth running club for students in grades 3-9. The club would be free of charge to participants and at the conclusion of the 12 weeks, hold a 5K road race in and around the WCES area. After the payment of necessary costs, any sponsorship funds would be turned in to the school. She has the support of both the School Principal and Superintendent. The 5K race to be held Father's day weekend, June 19, 2016. She currently has sponsorship from Team Hoyte, and the program is designed for all fitness levels from walkers to runners. Following a brief discussion on the location and timing of the event, there was a consensus of the Board to permit the 5K race and asked Ms. Gauthier to reach out to the Board again in the spring to firm up the details.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Board reviewed the following:

- As a follow up to last week's correspondence, the office received official notification from Patrick Johnson, CEO of Mass Organic Therapy, Inc. advising the Board that they have submitted a Management & Operations Profile to DPH. If and when they get invited to submit a Siting Profile, they intend to list Warren as the Cultivation location. *Noted*
- A letter from Louise Mundell, Secretary for the Warren Action Committee once again requesting information for town owned/tax title properties. *Mr. Gagner has provided a listing to Mr. Jim Fountain. The Selectboard will continue efforts to seek information sought in Ms. Mundell's request.*
- Notice from the Planning Board that a Public Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 4th at 6:45PM on the proposed zoning amendments (cell towers and creation of commercial district) *Noted.*

### **7:15 CHRIS DUNPHY, Comm. Development Strategy Adoption – discussion, possible vote**

Mr. Dunphy provided the Selectboard and members of the audience with a handout that outlined the FY2016-2018 Community Development Strategy. Mr. Dunphy gave a brief statement as to the development of the strategy, making note of the CDAC meetings and open discussion at public hearings to discuss projects that can be funded or would be eligible through CDBG funds. Mr. Dunphy continued with a synopsis on the preparation of the 7 page Strategy document. He briefly made reference to bullet items such as pervious planning; description of needs; list of priority projects; next action plan – outlined in identified target area specific to population criteria establish under the current CDF program. The document includes five general priority areas followed by specific priority projects.

Economic Development and Revitalization of Village Centers

Infrastructure and Public Facilities

Housing Improvements

Social Services

Planning and Administrative Services

Warren Center Improvements; School Street Neighborhood Improvements; Warren Town Hall and Community Center Reuse & Revitalization; Warren Domestic Violence Services; Adult Learning; Case Management and Support Services; Park Improvements; Small businesses assistance; Shepard Building Accessibility Improvements; Property Evaluation, Reuse and Redevelopment; Pulaski Street Improvements.

Mr. Dunphy remarked this is a three year document that comes before the Board this evening for review and acceptance. Mr. Nardi stated that Mr. Dunphy has been and continues to be an invaluable resource for the Town in his efforts to secure and see to completion projects that highly benefit the Town. With no further discussion a motion to accept and sign the 2016-2018 Community development Strategy presented, was made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

Mr. Dunphy remarked that there are 4 years of CDBG programs converging; FY13 w/ Ware for Housing Rehab; PARP, Domestic Violence and Adult Learning. FY14 is at 80% - including the Pleasant St. Improvement; which is at about 80-90% completion. FY15 w/ the Brookfield's; contract has just been signed and returned and FY16; although no projects are designed at this time, there is the planning study for a possible School Street and surrounding street(s) improvement project, this application is due February 2016 and therefore encourages participation from Town officials as well as residents. Strategy document is attached to the conclusion of these minutes.

### **TREASURY WARRANT(S) AND INVOICES**

Motion to accept warrant # 47 (payroll) and # 50 (vendor) dated October 12, 2015 in the amounts of \$36,421.91 and \$ 102,724.89 respectively was made by Mr. Gagner; Second: Mr. Lavash– unanimous

Motion to accept warrant # 48 (payroll) dated October 12, in the amount of \$210.97, made by Mr. Nardi; Second: Mr. Gagner – 1 abstention

Motion to accept warrant # 49 (ambulance payroll) dated October 12, 2015 in the amount of \$590.00, made by Mr. Lavash; Second: Mr. Nardi – 1 abstention

Motion to accept FY14 Invoice #10 for Community Assistance Programs, to PVPC for \$11,925.62, made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Selectboard was in agreement to set this year's annual Trick or Treat hours on Saturday, October 31, 2015 from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. The Firefighter's Association, will host their annual costume parade, starting at 6:30 PM – lineup is on North Street and will travel to Station B on Albany Street in West Warren.

Mr. Gagner stated he is continuing to seek out new business ventures that would benefit the Town.

Mr. Nardi remarked he attended a recent local meeting of residents regarding concerns over the Palmer Motor Sports Park. State Representative Smola and Senator Anne Gobi also attended. He noted that Palmer is moving forward to find a solution to the numerous complaints brought by local and surrounding town residents and urged everyone to be patient during the process. He fully supports resident concerns and will continue to participate in the discussion. Mr. Barry Mongeon asked if there is a consensus for or against closure or modifying area. Mr. Nardi responded, there is a lot of discussion going on by resident participants; citing the discussion is both constructive and well organized.

Mr. Mongeon stated that Finance Committee would be meeting on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM and would like to invite Chairman Nardi to attend the meeting. Mr. Nardi requested that the Board be posted for that evening in the event his colleagues would also like to attend.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE:**

Next scheduled meeting: October 20, 2015 @ 7:00 PM. Mr. Nardi stated that Mr. Gagner would be not be present and Mr. Lavash may have a conflict, therefore the meeting may be cancelled and urged everyone to check the website for any last minute cancellation.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorena Prokop  
Administrative Secretary

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James A. Gagner Jr., Clerk