

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SHEPARD MUNICIPAL BUILDING
MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2017**

PRESENT: Mr. Dario F. Nardi, Chairman, Mr. James A. Gagner, Jr., Vice-Chairman and Mr. Marc W. Richard, Clerk
ATTENDEES: See Attached List

Mr. Nardi called to order at 7:00 PM and led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Nardi requested that if anyone in the audience is either video/audio recording this evening's meeting to please disclose to the Chair. Ms. Colleen Montague acknowledged her audio taping the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Gagner stated that Industrial Communications met with the Planning Board to discuss their application for the construction of a cell tower on Southbridge Road. There are some engineering changes that need to be made and all parties will meet again in February. Also, the application for the Town of Warren for the 980 Main Street Parking Lot was also discussed. Further discussion on that will be held on February 13, 2017. Heal, Inc. will present their application to the Planning Board that night as well.

Mr. Lavash requested clarification as to whether or not the proposed parking lot will be paved. All options are on the table at this point. Mrs. Soltys requested clarification as to whether the lot will be one or two-way traffic. Mr. Gagner stated that there will only be one entrance and any drawings that were submitted were preliminary.

Mr. Nardi discussed the 4th round of bidding on the Street Lighting Project. Four vendors submitted quotes and are currently under review. He also stated that the town may be in line for an additional 10% discount seeing that the project will be awarded after January 1, 2017.

MINUTES

Motion to approve the Minutes of January 10, 2017 as written made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. The office received notice from Chief Spiewakowski that the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is looking for volunteers. New training sessions are scheduled for February and March. Interested residents are urged to contact James McKeon at 413-230-9325 for more information. - **Noted**
2. The office received notice from the Town Clerk at nomination papers will be available on Monday January 30th. A listing of the open positions is listed on the town's website. - **Noted**

3. The office received a letter from the Chief of Police in Palmer thanking Officer LaFlower and K9 Officer Murray for their assistance during a recent incident at their school. – ***The Board extends their thanks as well for a job well done.***
4. This past Thursday, January 19th, Lt. Governor Polito signed the Community Compact with Warren. Community Compacts are one of the various tools the administration utilizes to strengthen the partnership between cities and towns and the Commonwealth. The Town of Warren is number 252 to sign on. – ***By signing the Compact, it allows the town to utilize Best Management Practices and helps with grant funding.***

APPOINTMENTS

Motion to appoint Maureen Grissom to the Conservation Commission and Catherine Duncan to the Cultural Council made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous

DOWNTOWN PARKING/POLICE VEHICLES – DISCUSSION TABLED

SEWER COMMISSIONERS/DOWNTOWN DOT PROJECT

The Sewer Commissioners were invited to this evening's meeting to discuss an outstanding invoice in the amount of \$10,721.51. The Sewer Commissioners stated that they will not pay this bill. This bill is associated with work performed by Ludlow Construction to correct a sewer backup at 948 Main Street. Shawn Romanski marked the lines according to what he had on his plans which date back to 1965. A discussion took place in where the Commissioners felt that the contractor (Ludlow Construction) should have flushed the toilet to see what line was active. Ludlow Construction submitted a letter dated November 17, 2016 outlining the events that took place. They (Ludlow) connected to the line that was marked, which was a dead line and ultimately caused a sewer backup. Clearly, there was no malicious intent on anyone's part, however the fact remains that there is an outstanding bill to a third party that needs to be paid. A meeting will be scheduled with the Selectmen, Sewer Commission, Ludlow Construction, DOT and Highway Surveyor, Tom Boudreau in order to try to come to a resolution.

CHAPTER 90 REIMBURSEMENT

Motion to sign and approve the Chapter 90 Reimbursement in the amounts of \$36,550.50, \$28,069.70, \$275,825.06 & \$93,202.51 made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Richard – unanimous.

TREASURY WARRANTS & INVOICES

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No. 59 & 60 dated January 16, 2017 in the amounts of \$36,149.60 and \$37,768.56 respectively made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Warrant No. 61 & 62 dated January 23, 2017 in the amounts of \$54,027.67 and \$58,668.73 made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

Motion to sign Invoice No. 23 for the final invoice for the FY2014 Community Assistance Program Grant #00741 to PVPC in the amount of \$3,646.90 made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner - unanimous

Motion to sign Invoice No. 11 for the FY2015 Community Assistance Program Grant #00762 to PVPC in the amount of \$17,944.72 made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner - unanimous

Motion to sign Invoice No. 2 for the FY2016 Community Assistance Program Grant #00783 to PVPC in the amount of \$1,610.86 made by Mr. Richard; second: Mr. Gagner - unanimous

Motion to sign invoice No. 103 for the CDBG Draw Down to PVPC in the amount of \$12,074.25 made by Mr. Richard; second; Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Gagner received a letter from Debilitating Medical who wishes to establish a Medical Marijuana Facility for cultivation in the Hardwick Knitted Fabrics Building. He forwarded it to the Zoning Enforcement Officer for a review.

Mr. Richard requested that the ACO come to our next meeting to discuss several issues. Apparently, the Town Clerk has approached him with concerns.

Mr. Richard also stated that Mason's Grille is now serving Fish N Chips on Fridays through Lent. He encouraged all residents to stop by and support local business.

COMMENTS & CONCERNS

Mr. Soltys asked about disposing of any old equipment/vehicles which are being stored at the Highway Barn. Mr. Nardi stated that he and Mrs. Acerra have spoken about Muni-Bid which was brought before them by a resident. This is a project that will be worked on in the spring.

Mr. Lavash questioned the Board as to comments made regarding the Assessors' knowingly deficit spending their Assistant Assessor salary line item. At a previous meeting, Barry Mongeon, Chair of the Finance Committee provided a handout to the Board as more of an awareness as to their status. Mr. Mongeon stated that this was just a guide. Mr. Lavash stated that is no different than what the BOA voted on.

Mr. Nason spoke to the Board and advised them that he just attended the Warren Water District meeting. From his understanding, there are now more homes (possibly up to 12) now affected with the contaminated water. The Selectmen's office is not aware of any new issues.

Mr. Nardi will be attending the Finance Committee meeting on February 2nd. He has several matters that he would like to discuss. One being the replacement of the Building/Planning Secretary which is currently being held by Mrs. Acerra. Her appointment as Administrative Secretary will continue with the Selectmen with the added responsibility of being the Records Access Officer (RAO).

Next Meeting Date: January 31, 2017 at 7 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra
Administrative Secretary

Marc W. Richard, Clerk

