

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF JULY 24, 2018**

PRESENT: Mr. Marc W. Richard; Chairman, Mr. Dario F. Nardi; Vice-Chairman and Mr. John Nason, Clerk

ATTENDEES: See Attached List

Opened the Meeting at 7:00 PM

Chairman Richard opened the Meeting and led with the Pledge of Allegiance at this time. Colleen Montague is in attendance and acknowledged her taping of this evening's meeting.

MINUTES

Motion to approve and sign the minutes of July 10, 2018 as written made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. As a reminder, Officer LaFlower and K-9 Murray will be hosting "Murray Day" on August 19, 2018. The evening prior, on August 18th the Park & Rec department will sponsor fireworks at Quaboag. - **Noted**
2. The Veterans Council will be hosting their 3rd Purple Heart Appreciation Day Breakfast on Sunday, August 12th beginning at 10 AM at the Senior Center. Veterans and their families are invited to attend. Please RSVP to any Veteran Council member or to the Selectman's Office by August 9th. – **Noted. Mrs. Acerra advised the Board that the Veterans Council was reluctant to accept her letter of resignation and has decided to stay on. Invitations to our Purple Heart Recipients and fellow Veterans will be mailed out this week.**

DISCUSSION ON REED STREET WATER ISSUE/DEP MEETING

Mr. Richard advised all in attendance that he, along with Mr. Nason, Mr. Scanlan and Mrs. Acerra attended a meeting at DEP in Springfield on Thursday, July 19, 2018 to discuss the Reed Street water issue. The representatives from DEP provided us with a summary of the background of the property and their efforts to date of what has been done. In speaking with them, the officials at DEP stated that as far as their scope of authority goes, their work is done. The site has been cleaned up and are providing bottled water to the affected homes. Two biggest decisions are either the town does nothing or the only other option is that the town try to fund the project to bring water to the homes. Another factor that all are aware about is that the two water districts are independently owned and neither has the financial resources to help. That means that the Board would need to bring the proposal before the voters for funding.

Some of the loans range from 2 – 2 ½ % - 5%. Grant funding is somewhat scarce at this point, however Town Planner Bill Scanlan is willing to work on an application for USDA. In the event the town was successful in obtaining some grant money, it doesn't lock the town into a commitment on the project until all funding was in place. The Board is in favor of having Mr. Scanlan begin working on the application to what is available to us and go from there. Mr. Nardi stated that he is in favor of Option 1 at this point, however is concerned if we pick an option and are successful at a funding source, then the town and resident lose their right to file a class action lawsuit. Also, if the project does move forward, Mr. Nardi would like a signed letter of agreement by and between the town and homeowners that they will tie into the stub, which costs anywhere from \$,3000.00 to \$,7,000.00. Mrs. Rugani reminded all that it could be an issue should a resident not have the discretionary funds for such as expense and further reminded all they are not able to obtain a loan. Reed Street resident, Steven Berry stated that it would cost approximately \$114.00 per taxpayer per year. Robert Souza, who is also a Reed Street resident disagrees with that calculation and said that taxes are based on a properties valuation. Mr. Souza questioned if the residents/town could file a class action suit against the state. Mr. Nason does feel that both the state and federal entities do have responsibility for the

situation that the residents and town alike face. Mr. Richard reminded all that if it weren't for the taxpayers, the report from Tighe & Bond wouldn't have been possible if it weren't for the town.

The office will check with Mr. Scanlan to see how long we have before we need to decide on an option. Mr. Nason feels more information will need to be gathered and then additional meetings will be scheduled. Mr. Souza also requested that the town reach out to our Town Counsel to see what options are available with regard to a class action suit and the effect on the taxpayers.

The Board is ok with the office reaching out to counsel for a brief discussion and further Mr. Nason motioned to allow Mr. Scanlan to continue with the application process and was seconded by Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

DISCUSSION WITH HIGHWAY SURVEYOR RE: PURCHASE OF ROADSIDE MOWER

Mr. Boudreau was in attendance this evening to request that the Board approve and sign the purchase agreement on the roadside mower. The full Board agrees that we are where we are with this, however do not like how we got here. Capital Planning did not recommend this purchase and the BOS voted not to put it on the warrant for the ATM. Mr. Boudreau sought a citizen's petition for \$25,000.00 and received additional funds through a gift account which will allow him to purchase the machine. Mr. Nason stressed that all departments need to work more closely together moving forward. With no further discussion the following motion was made: Motion to approve and sign the purchase agreement for the roadside mower in the amount of \$26,819.73 made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Nason – unanimous.

Mr. Boudreau assured the Board that he will inspect the equipment again prior to taking ownership.

TREASURY WARRANTS & INVOICES

Motion to approve and sign Warrant numbers 5 & 6 dated July 16, 2018 in the amounts of \$46,716.54 & \$104,670.40 respectively made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Warrant numbers 7 & 8 dated July 23, 2018 in the amounts of \$45,081.49 & \$70,733.98 respectively made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign Warrant number 111 (FY 18) dated June 16, 2018 in the amount of \$70,293.02 made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign invoice no. 120 for FY 17 for the CDBG Draw Down payable to PVPC in the amount of \$245,500.00 made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign invoice no. 18 for FY 16 to PVPC in the amount of \$5,960.21 made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

Motion to approve and sign invoice no. 6 for FY 17 to PVPC in the amount of \$8,990.46 made by Mr. Nason; second: Mr. Nardi – unanimous.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Nason stated that he spoke with Mr. Boudreau regarding a sink hole at WCES. Mr. Boudreau stated it is the catch basin located at the second rotary and is on his radar for repair.

Mr. Richard stated that he received a quote from MassCorr for a bulletin board in front of the Town Hall. He received a price of \$214.05. The Board was in support of his request.

Ms. Brenda Mosakewicz who has a parcel of land in West Warren addressed the Board this evening. She is looking to donate her parcel to the Conservation Commission as a wetland. This matter was in front of the Board in the spring and at the time, the Board voted not to put it on the warrant for voter consideration. Their concern is that of flooding and the aftermath. Richard Dimetrius, Conservation member stated that this is a great wetland and the town should consider the offer. The Board will consider again before the STM in the fall. Ms. Mosakewicz will be advised as to the Board's intent.

Next Regular Meeting Date: Tentatively August 14th, however subject to change due to impending meetings.

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Nardi; second: Mr. Nason - unanimous at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra
Administrative Secretary

John Nason, III, Clerk