

**Westborough Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2013**

6:00 p.m. – 7:03 p.m.

Present: Chairman Johnson, Vice Chairman Barrette, Selectmen Dodd, Drewry and Emery

Also Present: Jim Malloy, Town Manager; Kristi Williams, Assistant Town Manager/HR Director; Greg Franks, Town Counsel

Request to Approve the Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Selectman Barrette's motion to approve the minutes of May 28, 2013 was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Vote: 5-0

Open Forum

Jim Rhein, Troop 100 Committee Chair, informed the Board that they will comply with the Town's request to vacate the Forbes Community Building and requested clarification that when the Town Hall project is complete they will be able to return to the building. He asked the Board to consider this request and to further discuss it at a future meeting.

Planning Board Appointment

Brian Bush and Mark Silverberg from the Planning Board were in attendance. Mr. Silverberg noted that he was not in attendance for Mr. Noonan's interview but did watch the meeting on Westborough TV online and Attorney Franks confirmed that the Mullen Rule does not apply in this case.

Selectman Emery's motion to appoint Chris Noonan to the Planning Board for the remainder of the term until the next Town election was seconded by Selectman Barrette. Discussion: Mr. Bush spoke in favor of Mr. Newton and stated his reasons.

Mr. Bush's motion to appoint Edward Newton to the Planning Board for the remainder of the term until the next Town election was seconded by Mr. Silverberg. Discussion: the Board discussed the two motions on the table and agreed that they should be voted sequentially. Mr. Silverberg and Selectman Dodd stated their reasons for supporting Mr. Newton. Selectman Emery provided reasons for her support of Mr. Noonan.

Vote to appoint Mr. Noonan: 2-5 (Drewry, Johnson, Dodd, Bush, and Silverberg)

Vote to appoint Mr. Newton: 7-0

There will be another vacancy on the Planning Board in the near future and it will be posted once the resignation letter is received.

Request to Appoint Todd Savage to the Bike & Pedestrian Advisory Ad Hoc Committee for a Term to Expire on 06/30/14 / Bruce Tretter / Todd Savage

Mr. Tretter informed the Board Mr. Savage is on a bike trip with Boy Scouts and was unable to attend and recommended his appointment.

Selectman Barrette's motion to appoint Todd Savage to the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Ad Hoc Committee for a term to expire on 6/30/14 was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Vote: 5-0

Request to Appoint Alan Ostrander as a Reserve Intermittent Police Officer / Chief Gordon / Alan Ostrander

Chief Gordon came before the Board and reviewed Mr. Ostrander's background, which includes his position as a Town Call Firefighter. He has completed all the required courses.

Selectman Barrette's motion to appoint Alan Ostrander as a Reserve Intermittent Police Officer for a term to expire on June 30, 2014 was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Vote: 5-0

Discussion of Pedestrian Crosswalk Safety during the Farmers' Market and Sunday Services / Chief Gordon

Selectman Emery pointed out to Chief Gordon her safety concerns for pedestrians crossing the street during the Farmer's Market and suggested placing cones in the crosswalks to make drivers more aware. He agreed to try temporary cones this Thursday. Also discussed was the issue when the funeral home is holding calling hours, other options for the Farmers' Market location, and the use of pedestrian flags. The Board asked Chief Gordon to investigate the cost of the flags. Mr. Tretter informed the Board that he has been investigating sidewalk issues, their possible expansion and the Town's responsibility for maintenance. Mr. Malloy noted that due to the decrease in Chapter 90 funding any improvements or repairs were put on hold, but he will ask the DPW Manager to obtain prices per linear foot and the issue will be discussed at a future meeting. The Board further discussed the responsibility and liability aspects of expanding the sidewalks and the cost to taxpayers.

Request to Approve Four Additional Parking Spaces at the Forbes Community Building for the Food Pantry and Recreation Dept. / Town Manager

Mr. Malloy reviewed the concerns regarding the parking shortage at the Forbes Community Building for the Food Pantry and once the Recreation Department moves in. He recommended the installation of a sign designating four spaces along the Bay State Green for the Food Pantry and the Recreation Department, Monday through Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM.

Selectman Barrette's motion to designate the six southernmost parking spaces at the Bay State Green to be reserved for the Westborough Recreation Department and Westborough Food Pantry Staff Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 5 PM until such time that the Recreation Department vacates the Forbes Community Building was seconded by Selectman Emery. Discussion: The Board discussed whether six is enough and agreed that if more are needed it could be revisited. Chief Gordon noted that Mr. Alexander agreed to allow the Town to use his lot when there are events at the Common in exchange for allowing his employees to use some of the Town spaces. Vote: 5-0

Request to Proclaim the Town of Westborough as a Purple Heart Town / Selectman Drewry

Selectman Drewry introduced Ed Donnelly, a Purple Heart recipient. The Town would be second in the State to receive this designation.

Selectman Drewry's motion to proclaim the Town of Westborough as a Purple Heart Town as stated in the attached proclamation was seconded by Selectman Barrette. Vote: 5-0

Request to Approve Reappointments / Town Manager

Selectman Emery's motion to appoint Jeffrey Goldberg to the Open Space Preservation Committee for a term to expire on 6/30/14; Peter Bowman as a Sandra Pond/Conservation Area Warden for a term to expire on 6/30/14; and Maureen Johnson as a Non-voting Associate to the Cultural Council for a term to expire on 6/30/14 was seconded by Selectman Barrette. Vote: 5-0

Request to Award the Forbes Municipal Building Roof Bid / Town Manager

Mr. Malloy reviewed the bid process for the Forbes Municipal Building re-roofing project and the architect verified in a letter to the Board that the low bidder, Hartford Restoration Services, complied with the bid specifications.

Selectman Barrettes' motion to award the bid to Hartford Restoration Services, Inc. for \$312,800 as per their bid and further to authorize the Town Manager to execute any contracts associated with the project was seconded by Selectman Drewry. Discussion: The work will be completed over the summer. Vote: 5-0

Continuation of Town Charter Discussion / Town Manager

Mr. Malloy had provided the Board with a memorandum from Marilyn Contreas at the Dept. of Housing and Community Development addressing the Town's Charter and charters from several towns that would be a good comparison. Mr. Malloy recommended that he work with the Chair and Vice Chair to review the material and come up with a vision statement for a study committee and report back to the Board in September.

Town Counsel Report

Town Manager Report

The Governor signed the Town's Charter changes and Mr. Malloy reviewed the two changes.

Issues and Correspondence of the Selectmen

Selectman Barrette noted that the DPW Manager sent the Board a memo regarding a couch that was left on the sidewalk on Fay Street and Mr. Malloy will look into what policies or bylaws may be in place to address this type of issue. Selectman Drewry asked residents to notify him at the Town Hall if they know of anyone who has received Purple Heart. Selectman Johnson noted that Bruce Tretter has resigned from the School Committee and the Board will be making a joint appointment with them. The vacancy will be posted and interviews will take place at the Board's first meeting in September with an appointment made at the second September meeting. He asked that the liaison assignments be sent to the Board for their review for discussion at the next meeting. The Board received a letter of recognition from a local business commending Derek Saari for his conservation work.

Executive Session

Selectman Barrette moved to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation strategy as an Open Session would have a detrimental effect on the Town's litigating position.

A Roll Call vote was taken: Selectman Drewry – yes; Selectman Emery – yes; Selectman Johnson – yes; Selectman Barrette – yes; Selectman Dodd – yes.

Chairman Johnson

Vice Chairman Barrette

Selectman Dodd

Selectman Emery

Selectman Drewry