

Present: John F. Fairbanks, Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Fairbanks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen’s Office at Town Hall. Mr. Fairbanks stated that this meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV and confirmed with those present that no other party was taking an audio or video recording of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bill Goodwin acknowledged the efforts of the Town Clerk to comply with the new Open Meeting Law. He also would like to see the Town web site updated. Mrs. Murphy assured him that this was something the Town is moving forward on.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES / WARRANTS

Joe Flanagan moved to approve the minutes of July 12, 2010 as written. The motion was seconded by Laila Michaud and passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants for payment:

6/30/2010	Payroll	#82	\$ 149.00
7/19/2010	Payroll	#3	\$160,082.35
7/19/2010	Accounts Payable	#4	\$232,430.36

NEW BUSINESS

MRPC Agreement – Partial Master Plan Update

The Agreement between the Town of Westminster and Montachusett Regional Planning Commission dated July 19, 2010 awarded District Local Technical Assistance funds to update the Transportation / Circulation section of the Town’s Master Plan. Laila Michaud moved that the Board authorize John Fairbanks to sign the agreement between the Town of Westminster and MRPC. The motion was seconded by Joe Flanagan and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS / OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

Bud Taylor – Layover Station

Bud Taylor discussed the economic and environmental impacts to the Town of the proposed MBTA layover station. Mr. Taylor raised concerns with the projection of sound from the proposed area, the vibrations caused by the trains, loss of tax revenue, decrease of property values for nearby property, and increased assessment of other properties in Town to compensate for that loss. Mr. Taylor asked the Selectmen to

clarify with MART their plans for moving forward with the permit process. Ms. Michaud has been working with MART and believes that the Town will be included in decisions for the design process of the layover station.

ONGOING BUSINESS

Special Town Meeting Articles

Article 2 – The donation of a tract of land located on the northerly side of South Ashburnham Road. Laila Michaud moved that the Board vote to support Article 2 of the July 22, 2010 Special Town Meeting warrant to accept land from Eino and Alice Jarvenpaa. The motion was seconded by Joe Flanagan and passed unanimously.

Article 1 – The Quinn Bill for Police Career Incentive

Laila Michaud moved that the Board vote to recommend the appropriation of \$30,141 to pay the portion of the Police Career Incentive for fiscal year 2010 for which state reimbursement was not received. The motion was duly seconded by Joe Flanagan. John Fairbanks was not in favor of supporting the portion of the Quinn Bill for which state reimbursement was not received. The motion carried.

7:52 p.m. EXECUTIVE SESSION

John Fairbanks moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of conducting negotiations with nonunion personnel and discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining, and that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town. It was noted that the Board would adjourn directly from executive session. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 8:48 p.m.

Joseph E. Flanagan, Clerk
(prepared by S. Kalagher)