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Present: Laila J. Michaud, Joseph E. Flanagan, and Wayne R. Walker

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Michaud called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen’s Office at Town Hall. She announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV; she also confirmed with those present that no other party was taking an audio or video recording of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES/WARRANTS

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board approve the regular session minutes of June 27, and July 11, 2011 as printed. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

June 30, 2011	Accounts Payable #83 (FY11)	\$ 156,936.02
July 18, 2011	Accounts Payable #4	\$ 128,385.96
	Payroll #3	\$ 165,752.16
July 20, 2011	Deduction #3D	\$ 147,584.02
July 25, 2011	Accounts Payable #5	\$ 116,347.37

CONTRACT – POLICE RADIOS

Mr. Walker moved that the Board approve and sign the contract with Motorola Solutions for 20 Portable Radios and related equipment for the Police Department in the amount of \$48,918.51. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

GRANT APPLICATION – 911 TRAINING/EQUIPMENT

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board sign the state 911grant application in the amount of \$20,554.00 for dispatcher training and equipment. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ANIMAL HOSPITAL JOB CREATION STATUS REPORT

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board authorize the Chair to sign the Wachusett Animal Hospital Job Creation Status Report dated June 30, 2011. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DPW COMMISSION

Based on the recommendation of the DPW Commission, Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board appoint Scott Ryder to the DPW Commission. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION ALTERNATE

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board appoint Dean Johnson as an Alternate on the Agricultural Commission. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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WEIGHER/MEASURER APPOINTMENT

Mr. Walker moved that the Board appoint Jason Tamulen as the Weigher/Measurer of Commodities. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

CDBG GRANT REVIEW

Bill Scanlan, Consultant and Kevin Flynn, Grants Administrator for MRPC were on hand to offer their advice on strengthening any future CDBG grant applications. Their recommendation was to pursue another regional application with at least two activities. They recommended pairing up with a community that has a higher needs score. They also recommended that the Board make a decision on what they would like to do in the next couple of weeks for the next CDBG funding round on December 16, 2011.

In the meantime, Mr. Flynn indicated that they are polling communities to see who is interested in regionalizing.

LAND FOR HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Town Planner Steve Wallace explained that since the Davis Road property has been determined to be unbuildable, he is trying to find replacement property that would be suitable for Habitat for Humanity. He indicated that there is a tax title property at 4 Laws Road that Habitat is investigating but is not sure it will be suitable. In the meantime, if the Laws Road property is not suitable, he will pursue the tax delinquent properties and town owned properties.

The Board agreed to follow the same procedure that the Board of Selectmen took regarding the 72 David Road property. They also agreed to review the donation once the property has been proposed.

PEER-TO-PEER GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW

Town Planner Steve Wallace explained that the Peer-to-Peer Technical Assistance grant would allow thirty hours of technical assistance to hire a freight rail consultant to evaluate the MART layover proposal and its potential impact on remaining parcels within the Westminster Business Park.

Mr. Flanagan moved that the Board authorize Ms. Michaud to sign the letter to DHCD requesting a DHCD Peer-to-Peer Technical Assistance grant for FY12. Mr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINALIZE FORMATION OF MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

The Board agreed with the formation of the Master Plan Committee with the following representation:

- Representative from the Planning Board and alternate
- Representative of the Board of Selectmen
- Representative from the Conservation Commission
- Representative from the Open Space Committee

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- Representative from the Historical Commission
- Representative from the Energy Advisory Committee
- Representative from the Public Works Commission
- Representative from WEST
- Representative from the local business community
- Representative from other business organization (Rotary)
- Building Inspector
- Two Citizens at large

ORDER OF TAKING – SOUTH STREET

Mr. Walker moved that the Board rescind the Order of Taking voted at its meeting on July 11, 2011. Ms. Michaud seconded the motion. The motion passed with two votes in favor. (Mr. Flanagan recused himself from voting on this matter.)

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board vote to take, on behalf of the Town, for purposes of relocating, realigning and reconstructing South Street and the intersection of Academy Hill Road, South Street, Leominster Street, and Main Street, interests in land as described in the Order of Taking, including those properties listed in Exhibit A; further, that the Board vote to award the amounts listed in Exhibit B as payment for damages sustained by the owner(s) of said parcels. Mr. Walker seconded the motion, which passed with two votes in favor. (Mr. Flanagan recused himself from voting on this matter.)

HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN

Mr. Walker moved that the Board sign the letter to MRPC in support of the MRPC application to the FEMA Pre-Disaster Mitigation grant application to produce a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan for the Montachusett Region. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

6:47 P.M. - EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Michaud moved that the Board enter into executive session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining; further, that the Chair declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town, and that the Board adjourn directly from executive session. Mr. Flanagan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne R. Walker, Clerk
(Prepared by B. Kazan)