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Present: Heather M. Billings, Chairman; John F. Fairbanks, Vice-Chairman; and Wayne R. Walker, Clerk.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Billings 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.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES FERGUSON AND ZLOTNIK

State Representatives Kimberly Ferguson and Jonathan Zlotnik were in attendance. Rep. Ferguson advised that she has been appointed to the Foundation Budget Review Committee. Rep. Zlotnik reported that state revenue collections were down in August, due mainly to the sales tax holiday and amnesty program. Ms. Billings asked for the Representatives' support should the Town move forward with a USDA application for the sewer improvement project.

APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

Mr. Walker moved that the Board approve the following warrants:

September 22, 2014	Accounts Payable (#15-14A)	\$ 98,088.97
	Payroll (#15-14B)	\$ 182,465.93
	Deductions (#15-14C)	\$ 162,849.63
September 29, 2014	Accounts Payable (#15-15A)	\$1,442,227.51

APPOINTMENT – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mr. Walker moved that the Board vote to appoint Robert Hamm to Emergency Management. Mr. Fairbanks seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

DPW COMMISSION – SEWER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT UPDATE

DPW Director Joshua Hall and Commissioners Lorraine Emerson, Vance Butterfield, and Scott Ryder were in attendance. Ms. Emerson distributed a copy of four additional slides that will be added to the presentation for the proposed sewer improvement project. The slides showed funding scenarios for a 20-year and 40-year loan period for both the In-Line Storage and Siphon alternatives, as well as a comparison of both alternatives. Mr. Butterfield informed the Board that the USDA has reviewed additional budget and capital planning documentation submitted by the Town and has concluded that the agency would be receptive to a loan application containing an 85% taxpayer/15% user-funded scenario. This was due in large part to the ability of the town to demonstrate through its long-term capital plan that although the Town has been able to build up some funds in reserve, there are also future capital improvement needs that have been earmarked against those funds.

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Mr. Butterfield also noted that the USDA indicated that a grant of at least 25% could be anticipated for the project.

REFERRAL OF PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENTS TO PLANNING BOARD

Board members were in receipt of four proposed amendments to the Zoning Bylaw, including: 1) a provision for non-criminal disposition for the enforcement of the zoning bylaw; 2) a bylaw regulating kennels; 3) off-street parking and loading requirements, and 4) a few housekeeping items related to the issuance of special permits. Mr. Walker moved that the Board vote to refer the proposed amendments to the Planning Board with a request that that Board hold a public hearing, as required in accordance with MGL Chapter 40A, Section 5. Mr. Fairbanks seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Wayne R. Walker, Clerk
(Prepared by K. Murphy)