

Town of Weathersfield
Minutes
December 2, 2013

Present: Norman John Arrison
C. Peter Cole
Dan Boyer
Dave Fuller
Richard Clattenburg

Others Present: Michael Todd
Charles Horton
Bev Savage
deForest Bearse
Janet Gould
Margaret L. Smith
Sarah Palazze
Edward May
Olivette May
BJ Esty
Mieria Terraciano
Shirley Harlow
Juliette O'Leary
Lynn Esty
Ruth Kelin
Lorraine Shand
Pat Daniels
Edith Stillson
Julia Lloyd Wright
Bill Brink
Lynn Houghton
Ernest Shand
George Lamb
Nancy Tusinsio
Darrin Spaulding
Wes Hazeltine
Edith Stillson
Josh Dauphin
William E Davies, Jr
Carol Orth

Note - some names may be misspelled because they were not legible on the sign in sheet

1. Call to Order: Mr. Boyer called the Weathersfield Select Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Martin Memorial Hall.
2. Comments from Citizens and Select Board Members: None

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3/10 - Ann O'Leary
Town Clerk

3. Review Minutes from Previous Meetings: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the minutes dated November 18, 2013. Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion which passed without dissent.**

4. Regular Business

A. Update from Weathersfield Food Shelf on use of 1879 Perkinsville School: Mrs. Bearse said the Food Shelf Committee has tried to find funding to do the necessary work at the Perkinsville School so it can be used as a food shelf and they have not been able to do so. They do however, have money to stock the shelves with food. Mr. Boyer said it would take approximately \$17,000 to get the building ready for the food shelf. Mr. Clattenburg asked where this money would come from. Mr. Mullen said once the demolition is done we can see if there is any money left from the bond vote other than that the only option is to deficit spend.

Mr. Todd said the consensus of the Towns people is to retain the building but it doesn't mean we have to retain ownership, if we own it we have to pay for it which is a cost to taxpayers.

There were discussions about possible places in town that could help out at least on a temporary basis. Mr. Mullen said there is approximately \$6400 in the residents in need fund. Mr. Fuller said he would be careful about spending all of that money going into the winter heating months.

Mr. Todd said he would talk to his Church in North Springfield who has the old portable class room from Perkinsville School to see if it may be possible to use that building.

Mr. Fuller made the motion to spend up to \$200 a month for "housing" for the food shelf on a temporary basis, Mr. Arrison seconded the motion. Mr. Clattenburg suggested the amount be up to \$400. Mr. Fuller amended his motion to be up to \$400, Mr. Arrison seconded the amended motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Mullen and the Food Shelf Committee will try and find a place in Town that will we can "rent".

B. Continue Review of draft FY15 Budgets

a. Library: The Library showed the Board their proposed budget for next year, told them they would like an Article on the Warning for two cents on the tax rate and they would like a second Article asking for a bond vote in the amount of up to \$1.2 million for renovation and construction. Mr. Clattenburg asked what the Bond payment would be. Mr. Shand said he thinks it was about \$62,000 per year.

Mrs. Shand said they have raised approximately \$52,000 for the Library expansion but there is a great need for this expansion and they need to obtain the funds to do so. It was said they will continue to raise funds and seek grants so hopefully they will not have to bond the full amount.

Mr. Arrison said the books show they have \$180,000 in the bank now and he urged them to ask to bond less than a million dollars, he thinks the taxpayers would be more likely to approve that. Mrs. Shand said they discussed asking for less however, they do not want to run out of money and have to ask the taxpayers for more money to complete the project.

Mr. Mullen noted the Budget Committee recommends not having the Library's "two cent Article" on the Warning since they are asking the taxpayers to approve a bond. Mr. Shand said they are asking for this in case the bond vote does not pass.

b. Martin Memorial Hall Trustee: Mrs. Houghton said the Trustee's aren't asking for any additional funding this year. Mr. Arrison said heat pumps with central air should be considered very soon for this building.

c. Fire Commission: Mr. Arrison noted the equipment reserve fund is drawn down to \$1,000 and the Fire Commission would like this funded back up to \$10,000. Mr. Mullen said \$4,000 will be put in this during this fiscal year so it will be about \$5,400.

There was discussion on Haz Mat - the process of billing and collecting and how the collected funds are distributed.

Mr. Arrison said the Fire Departments would like their "stipend" increased by \$2,000.

Mr. Dauphin asked if one cent would be put in the motorized equipment fund still. Mr. Mullen said yes. Mr. Fuller said even if money is put in the motorized equipment fund we need to follow the recommended capital expenditures purchasing plan.

d. Weathersfield Directory: Mr. Mullen said the Weathersfield Directory is looking for \$1,000. Mr. Clattenburg asked if they are asking for \$1,000 every year. Mrs. Esty said the Directory would be printed every other year. Mr. Lamb said the Budget Committee feels this is not something that should be supported by the taxpayers but by the users/advertisers. Mrs. Esty said there is a lot of Town related information in the Directory and they are considering adding a few pages in the back of it on emergency preparedness.

e. Tax Rate Computation: Mr. Mullen said talking with the Lister's it's safe to say the value of the new substation will increase \$4,000,000. He said as the drafts are right now on a \$200,000 house there would be an increase of \$61 in the tax bill.

Mr. Fuller said he still wants to know what happened to the General Fund surplus money. Mr. Mullen gave information to Mr. Fuller to review on how this was and will be used.

f. Capital Plan: Mr. Mullen said the Budget Committee recommends not buying a light duty for the Highway department this year and Mr. Hazeltine is ok with this. Mr. Lamb said they had not reached a consensus on if the grader should be replaced. Mr. Arrison said we need to look at the resale/trade in value and look at the warranty.

Mr. Clattenburg asked Mr. Hazeltine his opinion. Mr. Hazeltine said CAT has done a lot of work on this particular unit, it was one of their first ones out but we have spent basically nothing on it.

g. Reserve Funds Status: Mr. Mullen said the Auditors numbers as of June 30, 2013 are on the bottom of page four.

h. General Fund: Mr. Mullen said there are no major changes from the last time this was reviewed.

i. Highway Fund: Mr. Mullen said we will look at this at the next meeting. He noted the COLA is at .71% right now and if that is granted to all employees it's an increase of \$7,000.

C. Approve purchase of \$25,000 of crushed gravel: **Mr. Cole made the motion to purchase approximately \$25,000 worth of crushed gravel delivered to the Highway Garage from Butch Wilson Excavating for \$14.90 per yard, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion** Mr. Arrison asked if this was the same price as the bid was from earlier in the year, Mr. Mullen said yes. Mr. Fuller said he would not support this because we have enough gravel already and because this wasn't sent out to bid. Mr. Arrison asked where the money would come from. Mr. Mullen said we would get 87.5% back from VTrans and/or FEMA from the July 2nd rain storm which was declared a national event. **Motion carried 4 - 1 with Mr. Fuller being the dissenting vote.** Mr. Fuller wanted it noted in the minutes that this violated the bid process.

D. Authorize filling Full-Time Police Officer vacancy: **Mr. Clattenburg made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to post the position of Full-Time Officer, and if the position is filled internally by one of our three Part-Time Officers, to approve posting the position of a Part-Time Officer, Mr. Cole seconded the motion.** Mr. Fuller said he has no idea what is happening in the Police department and until he does he will not support this. Mr. Arrison said he will not support it for the same reason. Mr. Mullen said this is a Personnel issue. Mr. Fuller asked Mr. Mullen if he had consulted legal council, Mr. Mullen said yes. **Motion carried 3 - 2 with Mr. Fuller and Mr. Arrison being the dissenting votes.**

E. Update on Tarbell Hill Road Reconstruction Project: Mr. Mullen said they are on the third culvert out of four, the project is going well.

F. Update on Perkinsville School Demolition Project: Mr. Boyer said the project is all but done at this time.

G. Update on Maple Street Reconstruction Project: Mr. Mullen said they just finished the survey work.

5. Sign Treasurer's Warrants: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the Warrants as follows:**

General Fund Payroll	\$18,839.70
General Fund Operating Expense	\$21,977.54
Highway Fund Payroll	\$12,463.83
Highway Fund Operating Expense	\$26,558.93
Solid Waste Management Fund Payroll	\$ 1,492.92
Solid Waste Management Fund Operating	\$ 5,318.70
Library	\$ 222.20
Grants	\$ 37.50
Reserves	\$ 2,997.00


Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Arrison asked what the Aflac payment was for, Mr. Mullen said this is just a "pass through". Mr. Arrison noted the police budget on equipment is already over budget. **Motion carried unanimously.**


6. Future Meeting Agenda Items: Draft budgets, Solid Waste punch card fee, town meeting Warning, engineering/permitting for future projects.


7. Adjourn: **Mr. Clattenburg made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Arrison seconded the motion which passed without dissent.** The Weathersfield Select Board meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Submitted by,
Lisa Slade

Approved by the Weathersfield Select Board on December 16, 2013


C. Peter Cole


Norman John Arrison


Dave Fuller

