

Weathersfield Select Board
Minutes
June 17, 2013

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

Others Present: Jim Mullen, Town Manager
Lisa Slade, Recording Secretary
Josh Dauphin
Lynn Esty
Nicholas J. Koloski
Charles Horton
Michelle Eglintine
Ernie Shand
Kelly Murphy
Pat Howe
Carissa Hodgdon
Robert Knight
Colby Hodgdon
Shawn Brown
Ron Main
Steve Brown
Rod Spaulding
Robert Compo
Travis Compo
Mark Girard
Gordon Eglintine
Gene Adams
Edith Stillson
Bette Jo Esty
Edward Barrup
Dan Nelson
John Cassidy
Mychael Spaulding
Ben McClean
Tracy Dauphin
Michael Steiner
Kodi Andrews
Eric Berquist
Darrin Spaulding
Josh Compo
Michael Barrup

William E Davies Jr
Michael
John Esty
Wes Hazeltine
Pat Daniels
Michael Thomas
Barbara Thomas
Marc Knight

1. Call to Order: Mr. Boyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Ascutney Volunteer Fire Station.

2. Comments from citizens and Select Board Members: Mrs. Bette Jo Esty said there will be a school safety discussion on Thursday night from 5:00 - 7:00 at the Ascutney Fire Station and she invited the Select Board members to attend.

Mrs. Daniels asked for those that talk during the meeting to stand up and face the audience as it is hard to hear everyone.

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

Mr. Fuller made the motion to approve the minutes dated June 10, 2013, Mr. Cole seconded the motion. A correction was noted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Regular Business

A. Approve release of request for bids for replacement of 0.6 mile Baltimore Road culvert: **Mr. Fuller made the motion to approve release of the request for bids for the 0.6 mile Baltimore Road culvert project, Mr. Arrison seconded the motion.** Mr. Fuller asked if the engineering has been done. Mr. Mullen said yes. Mr. Fuller asked if this was enough time for the bidders with a return date of July 11, 2013. Mr. Mullen said yes. Mr. Fuller asked the anticipated cost. Mr. Mullen said \$175,000, he also said that the bid spec's had been changed a little bit for clarification reasons. **Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Approve contract with Clay Point Associates for assistance with bidding Perkinsville School hazardous materials abatement project: **Mr. Cole made the motion to hire Clay Point Associates to assist the Town with the procurement of bid prices from qualified environmental contractors to address asbestos abatement and universal waste at the 1954 and 1969 additions to the Perkinsville School, for a maximum limiting amount of \$2,500, Mr. Arrison seconded the motion.** Mr. Arrison asked what the hourly rate was, Mr. Mullen said he didn't have that information with him. Mr. Clattenburg asked what they would be doing for this amount of money. Mr. Mullen said they are assisting us to put out the bid for qualified contractors to remove the hazardous waste. Mr. Fuller asked if the \$2,500 came out of the money that was approved by the voters. Mr. Mullen said yes. Mr. Fuller said can this be completed for \$2,500 or will they need more. Mr. Mullen said their price is not to exceed \$2,500. **Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Approve submittal of second application for 2013 dry hydrant grant: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the submittal of the second application for a 2013 dry hydrant grant, Mr. Fuller seconded the motion.** Mr. Arrison said this was discussed at the Fire Commission meeting and it is in the area of Little Ascutney Road. Mr. Fuller said he would still like to see a map of all hydrants in Town, Mr. Arrison said the Fire Commission is working on this. **Motion carried unanimously.**

D. Evaluation of Weathersfield's Fire Services (with AVFD, WWFD, Police Chief and Fire Commission): Mr. Boyer said this meeting is being held as a follow up to a meeting that was held in October, no decisions will be made tonight but we will keep working on it on a regular basis.

Mr. Shand asked to read a prepared statement which represented Ascutney Volunteer Fire Departments thoughts and comments on the items listed on the agenda. He referred to (and shared) information on ISO and NFPA Standards with the Select Board members. He said in October the Select Board said they would decide how much fire equipment was needed in Town and by each fire department and he doesn't believe this has been addressed yet. Mr. Shand also mentioned that the six questions listed on the agenda for discussion topics can't be properly addressed or answered with the limited information that has been gathered to date.

Mr. Dauphin said he received this agenda on Thursday and he has not had time to discuss it with his department yet.

Mrs. Lynn Esty said this was talked about at the last Fire Commission meeting and she feels the personal conflicts and individual actions do need to be addressed however, she does not feel there are issues with the fire fighters abilities.

Mr. Boyer said the advantages and disadvantages of uniting the two departments were brought up by residents and taxpayers - with having two departments equipment is redundant.

Mr. Clattenburg said Mrs. Daniels mentioned in the past that the Fire Commission is not able to do what it was set out to do. Mrs. Daniels said as a former Fire Commission Chairperson it was difficult having the Fire Commission be a facilitator between the Select Board and the two departments, that was not working. She also said because the Town pays for some vehicles, the insurances and \$20,000 to each department each year the two departments should work together for the Town and communicate with the Select Board.

Mr. Arrison said the NFPA has a lot of publications none of which have been adopted by municipalities - they are only guidelines. He said over the last ten years personalities in the departments have helped poison the relationship between the two departments and he has even heard area fire fighters say they are aware of the personal issues within out two departments.

Mrs. Murphy said it would be nice to hear that the Select Board members will make a commitment and back the Fire Commission. She said the question - should the departments stay separate or have one municipal department needs to be answered before all the questions on the agenda can be addressed. Mr. Boyer said he will help the Fire Commission do what ever he can.

Mrs. Lynn Esty said the policy and procedures for the Fire Departments were only signed by the Select Board and not by the departments. Mr. Clattenburg asked if the Select Board was responsible for running the fire departments. Mr. Boyer said it s the

Select Board's job to be sure the Town is run safely. Mr. Fuller said the Town may provide the frame work but the fire departments are two separate cooperation's and that is where some of the problem lies. He said he feels the list goes from nothing is wrong to everything is wrong.

It was discussed that both departments need to do an inventory of equipment. The list should include what they think they own and what they think the Town owns. It was said that the Select Board can't make the two departments work together but they need to make suggestions on how they can work together.

Mr. Koloski said he has been a member of the Ascutney department for nineteen years even though he is a resident of Claremont. He said he stopped attending the Fire Commission meetings because he felt they were not a good use of time. He said there may be a need to set more standards but the fire fighters are professional at the time of need. Mr. Clattenburg said, from his experience in emergency situations, he does not feel performance can be at its best when there are personal issues involved.

Mrs. Kelley asked the Board to give the Fire Commission a chance to work on this since there is now a new member and Chairperson. Mr. Fuller said he thinks getting an outside entity involved to do an assessment may be a good idea.

Mr. Boyer said in addition to an inventory for both departments he would like to see a map of the dry hydrants including future dry hydrants and a list of equipment that will be needed in the future.

Mr. Cole and Mr. Clattenburg agreed an assessment from an outside person is a good idea. Mr. Arrison said no one from the Select Board wanted to be part of the Fire Commission so he offered to do it for six months. He said he would like to be optimistic and hopes the Fire Commission has a productive year.

Mr. Boyer said the policy and procedures can be amended but the Fire Commission has to get together to see what needs to be changed. Mrs. Lynn Esty said she doesn't know that they need to be amended but they need to be utilized.

Mrs. Daniels said she knows the Chief's were asked for information on the drivers a few weeks ago and wondered if the Town had a policy for town driven vehicles and if not, they should have. Mr. Arrison said the Town is liable for the trucks so he feels the Town should have driving information on file and access to the drivers motor vehicle records.

Mr. Dauphin asked if there written complaints received on fire protection. Mr. Boyer said the written complaints are personnel issues so can not be shared. Mrs. Esty encouraged anyone that has a complaint to contact her.

Mrs. Slade said it has been said in the past that the Fire Commission is not working - if the Fire Commission is not working as it was intended to then maybe it's time to change the dynamics of the Commission. Mrs. Lynn Esty said it was set up to be one Select Board representative, two Chief's and two members elected at large. Mr. Boyer said the Select Board changed the two members to be elected to appointed members because no one ran to be elected.

Mr. Dauphin asked what can be changed because it has been this way for over thirty years. Mr. Arrison said he thinks at the scene of an emergency everything is handled ok however, the department members need to stop throwing rocks at each other and each department. Mr. Koloski said, as a member of the Ascutney department, he has seen peaks and valleys and, an example needs to be set.

The Select Board said they still want motor vehicle information on the drivers of the trucks. Mr. Boyer asked Chief Davies if he had any comments, Chief Davies said no. Mr. Koloski said the Select Board may want to check into personal insurance on the driver's as well, there are different laws in different states.

5. Appointments: None

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

General Fund Payroll	\$18,225.17
General Fund Operating Expenses	\$25,507.01
Highway Fund Payroll	\$11,762.43
Highway Fund Operating Expenses	\$50,355.40
Solid Waste Management Fund Payroll	\$ 1,395.92
Solid Waste Management Operating Expenses	\$ 7,095.14
Grants	\$ 965.00
Agency monies	\$ 85.00

Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

7. Future Meeting Agenda Items: Next meeting is July 1, 2013 - tax rate will be discussed, Clay Point Associates will be there via teleconference.

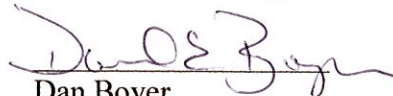
Executive Session: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to go into executive session for the discussion of real estate. Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion which passed without dissent.**

8. Adjourn: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion which passed without dissent.** The Weathersfield Select Board meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

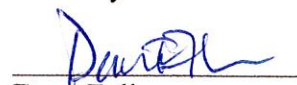
Submitted by,
Lisa Slade

Approved by the Weathersfield Select Board July 1, 2013

Richard Clattenburg



Dan Boyer



Dave Fuller



C. Peter Cole

RECEIVED

JUL 17 2013

WEATHERSFIELD, VI
TOWN CLERK

Jay B. Clark
ASST. T. CLERK