

TOWN OF WEATHERSFIELD, VERMONT

SELECT BOARD

Select Board  
Highway Department  
Monday, August 15, 2016  
7:00 PM  
REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES  
APPROVED 9/6/2016

**Select Board Members Present:** Daniel Boyer  
C. Peter Cole  
Lynn Esty  
Kelly Murphy (arrived at 8:00 PM)  
Amy Beth Main

Ed Morris, Town Manager

**Others Present:**

Mychael Spaulding	Les Rogers	Ken Cooper	Bette Jo Esty
Josh Dauphin	Darrin Spaulding	Rod Spaulding	Greg Smist
Mike Barrup	Katie Cooper	Brenda Richardson	Bob Stevens
Maureen Bogosian	Wes Hazeltine	Matt Keniston	Colin Butler
Tracey Dauphin			

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Boyer called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

**2. Comments from Select Board and Town Manager**

No comments.

**3. Comments from Citizens on topics not on the agenda**

Mr. Spaulding said he had received a letter on some information that was “completely false”. He said he hoped that before anyone sends out an email that they confirm their facts first.

Josh Dauphin said the West Weathersfield Fire Department will be holding a spaghetti supper on October 1, 2016 from 5PM to 7PM to raise funds for fireman Levi Parker's medical expenses. All proceeds will be donated.

BJ Esty announced the Weathersfield Festival to be held on September 24<sup>th</sup>. Multiple events will be held all day all around town.

**4. Review minutes from previous meetings – 8/1/2016**

**Additions/corrections/deletions:**

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- a. Add Lynn Houghton to the list of those present;
- b. remove C. Peter Cole from the list of Select Board members present

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty **Second:** Mr. Cole

**Discussion:** Mr Dauphin said he disagreed with the statement that the fire chiefs had not agreed to participate in the (fire services discussion) meetings. Mr. Boyer said that this was the impression he had formed from conversations regarding the meetings and apologized if he had offended anyone. No changes were requested for the minutes regarding this matter.

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor.

### 5. Perkinsville School Update – BJ Esty

Mrs. (BJ) Esty updated the Board on the renovation activities at the 1879 school and asked the Board for permission to use funds from the reserves to pay for construction of a handicap ramp. Matt Keniston showed the Board the plans for the ramp (drawn by Norman Clark Design) and said the estimated cost will be \$13,000 (\$3,000 for materials, \$10,000 for metal roofing to be installed by a professional roofer). The ramp itself will be built with volunteer labor. It will be built to building code specifications.

**Motion:** To authorize an expenditure not to exceed \$13,000 for construction of a handicap ramp.

**Made by:** Mr. Cole **Second:** Mrs. (Lynn) Esty

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

Mrs. (BJ) Esty asked for guidance on how to get the septic line connected to the septic system (so the bathroom can be completed). Mr. Morris and Mr. Hazeltine will see that it gets done.

Mrs. (BJ) Esty said the committee would like to apply for an Historic Preservation grant to fund restoration of the windows. The grant requires a 50% match from the Town. Mrs. Esty asked if the committee could use residual reserve funds for the match. The exact amount has not yet been determined, but it would not exceed whatever is available in the reserve. The Board agreed to having the committee pursue the grant.

### 6. Ferry Road Discussion/Maureen Bogosian

Maureen Bogosian, Bob Stevens, and Greg Smist, residents of Weathersfield Bow on or near Ferry Road, described to the Board the increased activities taking place at the end of Ferry Road that are becoming a nuisance (camping, littering, etc.). They asked the Board to consider some type of action to put a stop to it. It is unclear whether the activities are occurring on the Carreker property or within the Ferry Road right-of-way. Mr. Morris said the Town cannot control actions occurring on private property; however, if the land was posted “No Trespassing”, then the police would be able to enforce it. He also said

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he would look into what, if anything, the Town can do to control activities within the highway right-of-way. Greg Smist said he would attempt to contact the Carreker estate about the No Trespassing signs.

**7. Cemetery Road/Jaime Wyman**

Jaime Wyman submitted a letter to the Select Board accompanied by signatures from several town residents asking the Board to write a letter to the Vermont Highway Department requesting a dedicated left-turn lane on Route 131 at Cemetery Road. Ms. Wyman was not present at the meeting. The Board said they would look into the matter.

**8. Approve *Errors and Omissions* from the grand list**

**Motion:** To approve to removal from GL a park model at Crown Point Campground which is now registered with the DMV on parcel #080103.122, Frederick & Melanie Crosby in accordance with 32 VSA section 4261.

**Made by:** Mr. Cole      **Second:** Mrs. Esty

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**9. Approve expenditure of \$10,900 from Martin Memorial Hall Reserve Fund for Palladium Window**

**Motion:** To approve the expenditure of up to \$11,000 for replacement of the palladium window by Claremont Glassworks.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty      **Second:** Mr. Cole

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**10. Review Burn Permit and Gun Raffle questions from Lynn Esty to Darrin Spaulding**

Mrs. Esty received a complaint about someone having to wait three days for a return call on a burn permit request. Mr. Spaulding asked why the complaint wasn't filed according to the complaint policy. He said he can't return calls to blocked numbers or numbers that have been disconnected. He said he isn't issuing any burn permits unless it's raining due to the dry conditions. He said this information has been made known on the radio, the TV and on the sign at the fire station. He also said the key men (listed in the Town Report) and the wife of the fire warden are also authorized to issue burn permits.

The Board also received a complaint from someone regarding the type of gun being raffled off by the AVFA for a fundraiser. It is a gun that has been used in incidents across the country lately and the complainant felt the choice of gun was insensitive and in poor taste. Mike Barrup said the gun was chosen because it is one that many people want and it will sell more tickets and thus make more money for the fire department.

(Ms. Murphy arrived at the meeting.)

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**11. Approve Employee Wellness Proposal**

**Motion:** To allow the Town Manager to allocate any Workers Compensation Savings from the wellness and safety evaluations to the Employee Safety and Wellness Fund for the purposes of encouraging wellness and safety throughout the Town staff.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty    **Second:** Ms. Main

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**12. Reserves Presentation**

Mr. Morris and Mr. Butler presented a discussion on the purpose and value of reserve funds. Mr. Morris recommended

- that the Board create a policy for disbursement of reserve funds,
- building up the reserves and
- trying to maintain between 7.5% and 10% of the general fund in an undesignated reserve fund for unanticipated expenses.

**13. Fire Services Discussion**

Mr. Morris said the Fire Commission is once again full and asked that the Commission start meeting again to discuss the John Wood report. He said the decision to hire a facilitator (or not) will be better made after the Commission, the Manager and the Fire Chiefs have had the opportunity to discuss the issues first. The first goal is to decide how fire services will be provided to the Town. The Board agreed that this was the way to proceed.

**14. Award RFP bid for Amsden School Road**

**Motion:** To award the Amsden School Road project to Springfield Paving at a cost of \$61.59 a ton in place.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty    **Second:** Ms. Main

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

The work will be done the first of October.

**15. Accept Resignation from Budget Committee Member/Amy Beth Main**

**Motion:** To accept the resignation from the budget committee of Amy Beth Main.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty    **Second:** Mr. Cole

**Vote:** unanimous in favor

The Board thanked Ms. Main for her service on the budget committee and welcomed her to the Select Board.

**16. Conflict of Interest Policy – Second Reading**

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Ms. Murphy asked that the Town Manager join the Chair of the Select Board in discussing the possible conflict with the public officer in the second paragraph of Article 10 (pg. 4). The Board moved the policy to a third reading.

**17. Ethics Policy – Second Reading**

The Board was satisfied with the policy as now written.

**Motion:** To adopt the Ethics Policy as presented on August 15, 2016.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty   **Second:** Mr. Cole

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**18. Appointments**

**Motion:** To appoint M. Howard Beach to a four-year term on the Conservation Commission.

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty   **Second:** Ms. Murphy

**Vote:** unanimous in favor

**19. Approve Warrants**

**Motion:** To approve the warrants for August 15, 2016 as follow:

General Funds	Operating Expenses	\$24,626.71
	Payroll	\$13,431.67
Highway Fund	Operating Expenses	\$15,249.02
	Payroll	\$8,786.80
Solid Waste Management Fund		
	Operating Expenses	\$9,149.82
	Payroll	\$1,077.91
Library	Operating Expenses	\$12,76
Grants	Operating Expenses	\$0.00
Agency Monies	Operating Expenses	\$171.45
Reserves		\$5,583.50
Grand Totals	Operating Expenses	\$54,693.26
	Payroll	\$23,296.38

**Made by:** Mrs. Esty   **Second:** Ms. Murphy

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**20. Future Meeting Agenda Items**

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21. Adjourn

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting.

**Made by:** Mrs, Esty      **Second:** Mr. Cole      **Vote:** Unanimous in favor

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
*deForest Bearse*

WEATHERSFIELD SELECTBOARD

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Daniel E. Boyer, Chairperson

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C. Peter Cole, Selector

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Kelly Murphy, Selector

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Lynn Esty, Selector

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Beth Main