

TOWN OF WEATHERSFIELD, VERMONT

SELECT BOARD

Select Board

Martin Memorial Hall

5259 Route 5, Ascutney, Vermont

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

7:00 PM

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

APPROVED 9/19/2016

**Select Board Members Present:** Daniel Boyer  
C. Peter Cole  
Lynn Esty  
Kelly Murphy  
Amy Beth Main

Ed Morris, Town Manager

**Others Present:**

Arthur V. Gates	Colin Butler	Nora Jacobson	Brooke Hindinger
Arthur G. Bryant	Wes Hazeltine	Helen Lawrence	Dory Hindinger
Edith Stillson	Antoinette Jacobson	Todd Hindinger	Susan Hindinger
Ramlah Lauritsen	Patti Arrison	Bob Stevens	Bob Holtorf
Maureen Bogosian	Kate Adams		

**1. Call to Order**

Mr. Boyer called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**2. Comments from Select Board and Town Manager (Festival Update)**

The Board received a thank you note from the Weathersfield Proctor Library Board of Trustees for financially contributing to the Romaine Tenney program. The event was a big success.

There will be a car show at the Weathersfield School on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Proceeds from the show will go towards the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class trip to Boston.

September 24<sup>th</sup> is the Town-wide festival. Vendors are still needed for food items for the evening meal at the Weathersfield School.

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

Patti Arrison asked that Nancy Nutile-McMenemy be recognized for her excellent work in orchestrating the Romaine Tenney event.

**4. Review minutes from previous meetings – August 15, 2016**

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### **Additions/corrections/deletions:**

a. None.

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting as written.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

### **5. Approval of placing Romaine Tenney Monument at the Route 131 Park and Ride**

Antoinette Jacobson, sculptor from Norwich, Vermont, described to the Board three proposals designed to honor Romaine Tenney. The first is a granite sculpture to be placed on the knoll behind the bus shelter at the Route 131 Park and Ride. The second would be an historic plaque near the entrance to the Park and Ride. The plaque would tell Tenney's story. The third would be a smart phone app that would tell Tenney's story, the consequences of eminent domain and describe the effect of the Interstate on the state of Vermont. The sculpture would be paid for through grants; the plaque would be provided by the state.

**Motion:** To strongly support the proposal to create a monument in memory of Romaine Tenney at the Route 131 Park and Ride.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

### **6. Quarry Road**

Todd Hindinger and several residents of Quarry Road described to the Board the increase in traffic that has resulted from someone making sufficient improvements at the Weathersfield end of Quarry Road to allow through traffic. The increased traffic has altered the character of the neighborhood dramatically – noise, speeding cars, trash and dust have all increased significantly. Mr. Hindinger said the improvements are not in compliance with the Town Plan and no regulatory review was performed to assess the impact of them. Quarry Road is not the only road leading into Baltimore, so this access is not necessary. The Town already maintains and has invested heavily in Baltimore Road for the benefit of the residents along the road as well as the Baltimore residents that use it. He asked the Board to consider reclassifying the last 50 feet of the road to the town line from a Class 4 to a trail to put a stop to the traffic.

The consensus of the Board was to look further into the situation. It was noted that reclassification of this portion of the road would require consent from the town of Baltimore as it is within the requisite distance from the town line to require their acceptance. They asked Mr. Hindinger to submit a petition to justify a reclassification.

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### 7. Velco project discussion

Velco was not present at this meeting to present the project. It will be on the next agenda. Mr. Boyer explained that the project is primarily about making improvements to the power lines in the Cavendish corridor and to the substation to improve reliability.

### 8. Ferry Road Update

Mr. Morris and Mr. Hazeltine visited the site at the end of Ferry Road and discerned that the camping activities are taking place outside the road right-of-way. The Town is unable to take any police action unless the private property on which the activities are occurring is posted against trespassing. Susan Caraker, who owns the land, says she is willing to do whatever is necessary to assist the Town in putting a stop to the activities. She said the "No Trespassing" signs she puts up are removed as quickly as she puts them up. All acknowledged that this area has become a public nuisance, but there are no ready resolutions. Mr. Morris asked that Ms. Caraker start with re-posting the land. He will continue to seek appropriate actions.

### #14. Cascade Falls Road Agreement (Cont. from 7/1/2016) (Taken out of order)

Mrs. Esty and Mr. Boyer recused themselves from this discussion. Ms. Murphy (as board clerk) assumed the Chair. Mr. and Mrs. Boyer and Ms. Adams have reached and signed an agreement to resolve the dispute over fencing along the Cascade Falls Road. Mr. Morris asked the Board to approve the variance that is part of the resolution.

**Motion:** To accept the agreement as read.

**Made by:** Mr. Cole      **Second:** Ms. Main

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

### 9. Approve moving 2016 budget surplus to reserve accounts

**Motion:** To move \$49,000 from the \$49,605 Highway Fund surplus to the Highway Maintenance Reserve for the purposes of funding the Amsden School Road project. To move \$116,000 from the \$123,211 General Fund surplus to be allocated as follows:

- \$1000 into the Center Grove Preservation Reserve
- \$5000 into the Police Cruiser Fund
- \$5000 into the Fire Equipment Reserve
- \$5000 into the Fire Protection Dry Hydrant Reserve
- \$5000 into the Martin Memorial Hall Capital Maintenance Reserve
- \$95,000 into the unspecified reserve fund.

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

There was discussion on how the choices were made in dividing up the funds. All agreed the distribution was acceptable as presented.

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**Vote:** unanimous in favor

**10. Fire Services Discussion**

There was no update to report. The Fire Commission will be meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

**11. Award RFP bid for Adams Pond Hydrant**

Jarvis and Sons was the sole bidder for the project with a proposed cost of \$6950.

**Motion:** To award the bid to Jarvis and Sons for \$6950 (plus extra for blue board) as submitted.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

It was 9:00 PM. According to the Board's Rules of Procedure, a vote of the Board was required to continue the meeting.

**Motion:** To continue the meeting and complete the agenda.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**12. Approve Conflict of Interest Policy – third reading**

**Motion:** To adopt the Conflict of Interest Policy dated 9/6/2016.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**13. Strategic Planning/Budget Discussion**

Mr. Morris said he will be looking to the Board for guidance on the future of the Town. He asked the Board to look 10-20 years ahead and ask themselves, “what do we want for the town?” Ms. Main said she wanted to see more youth-centered programs; Mrs. Esty said she wanted to see a long-term paving plan; Mr. Boyer said he wanted more economic development. Mr. Morris also asked the Board for some general guidance going into the budget season. He proposed getting deeper into a strategic planning program after the first of the year. It was suggested that a survey be made available to townspeople on voting day in November to help provide guidance.

**14. Cascade Falls Road Agreement (Cont. from 7/1/2016)**

(See above)

**15. Errors and Omissions/08-02-38.1**

**Motion:** To make the following change to the 2016 Grand List Book:

Parcel 08-02-38.1, McNaughton, Nathan & Marina

Real Value – from \$275,300 to \$255,600

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Housesite Value – from \$270,500 to \$250,800

Homestead Value – from \$275,300 to \$255,600

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**16. VLCT Town Fair Discussion**

**Motion:** To allow the Town Manager to close the office for the day on Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup> so the Town Staff can attend municipal training.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**Motion:** To appoint Mr. Morris as Town Delegate.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**17. Appointments**

**Motion:** To appoint Susan Boyer, Bill Brink and Carol Orth to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to appoint Dave Gulbrandsen to the Zoning Board.

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

**Vote:** Unanimous in favor

**18. Approve Warrants**

**Motion:** To approve the warrants for September 6, 2016 as follow:

General Funds	Operating Expenses	\$75,676.38
	Payroll	\$19,563.25
Highway Fund	Operating Expenses	\$26,868.54
	Payroll	\$25,911.27
Solid Waste Management Fund		
	Operating Expenses	\$5,957.98
	Payroll	\$1,718.85
Library	Operating Expenses	\$1,919.19
Grants	Operating Expenses	\$51,114.13
Agency Monies	Operating Expenses	\$883.70
Reserves		\$860.00
Grand Totals	Operating Expenses	\$163,279.92

