## Weathersfield Select Board Minutes June 3, 2013

Present: C. Peter Cole

Norman John Arrison

Dan Boyer Dave Fuller

Richard Clattenburg

Others Present: Jim Mullen, Town Manager

Lisa Slade, Recording Secretary

Charles Horton Michael Todd Bette-Jo Esty Lynn Esty Wes Hazeltine Edith Stillson John Esty Chief Davies

- 1. Call to Order: Mr. Boyer called the meeting of the Weathersfield Select Board to order at 7:00 p.m. at Martin Memorial Hall.
- 2. Comments from Citizens and Select Board Members: None
- 3. Review Minutes from Previous Meetings: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the minutes dated May 20, 2013, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Corrections were noted. Motion passed 3 0 with one abstention.
- 4. Regular Business (Mr. Cole arrived) moved ahead to B.
  - B. Highway Department Vacancy
- 1. Approve job description for "Truck Driver/Laborer": Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the job description for a truck driver/laborer and to authorize the Town Manager to post the position, Mr. Cole seconded the motion. Mr. Arrison asked Mr. Hazeltine what the staffing level was like now. Mr. Hazeltine said basically they are down one man because when Gary Snide left they did not replace him. Mr. Fuller said he is ok with posting the position however he is not sure he is in favor of filling the position at this time. Motion carried unanimously.
- 2. Authorize Town Manager to post position of "Truck Driver/Laborer": discussed above.
- C. Approve Settlement Agreement: Willey Earthmoving Corp vs. Town: Mr. Boyer said the Town worked through mediation and Mr. Willey has agreed to accept payment of \$32,085.33 and then a final payment of \$26,000 and, he will provide a change order to specify why the additional cost.

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Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the settlement agreement and authorize the Select Board Chair to sign, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Fuller said he supports the agreement and noted the initial bid was for more than what the

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Town has paid, this isn't over and above the bid amount. Mr. Arrison asked if we have received the change order yet, Mr. Mullen said no. Mr. Arrison said we need to hold the payment until we do. **Motion carried unanimously.** 

## Back to #4 a -

A. Receive and act on recommendations regarding Police Department - Chief Davies: Chief Davies said he has spent time doing an assessment of the police service in Town and he thinks we need to strengthen the relationship with area police departments as well as with the fire departments, the school and the community. He said he wants to work on more presence in town, more enforcement and follow through with a timely response time. He said he recommends a full time Officer as well as a part-time Officer which would do some investigative work. He said he would like the weapons and all other police equipment owned by the Town and he would like them to be the same (he said this is a safety and liability factor).

Mr. Mullen said he has looked at the numbers and the above recommendations would mean a proposed increase in the budget of \$54,677. Mr. Fuller said looking at the current budget we are already over budget with another month to go. Mr. Mullen said one reason we are over is because there is an error in the insurance premium, that will be corrected. Mr. Davies said the budget may be over on uniforms because he has the part-time Officers wearing uniforms now.

Mr. Clattenburg said the Chief clearly has a vision for the direction he wants to go. Chief Davies said he wants to work to improve protection and interaction within the community.

Mr. Arrison questioned if the State Police coverage would decrease if we hire more Officer's and said it's not necessarily fair the taxpayers are forced to pay for more Town police coverage and the State Police cuts back on their services to us. Chief Davies said the State Police will help us as needed. Mr. Cole said the difference is the State Police is reactive whereas the Town police is proactive.

After discussion it was noted that this recommendation has not been budgeted for so the Board asked Chief Davies to come back to them with a recommendation that would work during a "transition phase" and not be as costly.

- 1. Approve job description for "Full-Time Police Officer: Chief Davies see above discussion
- 2. Authorize Town manger to post position of "Full-Time Police Officer" see above discussion
- D. Review Year-to-Date Budget Reports: Mr. Mullen said they look ok and he thinks while a few items are over budget we will end up in the black at year end.
- E. 5/13/13 letter regarding safe driving from Select Board Chair/Vice-Chair sent to Fire Departments: Mr. Boyer said he and Mr. Arrison sent a letter to both departments regarding concerns with department members driving town owned equipment as well as their personal vehicles carelessly. He said they have had complaints and they felt they needed to address these concerns immediately before a liability issue arises.

Mr. Arrison said he has heard a complaint that this did not originate from the Fire Commission. He also said the Ascutney fire department has sent an email with the names of drivers but only included the first names and he was disappointed in with their email.

Mr. Fuller said he supports the letter that was sent and he urged the Town Manager to obtain copies of all driver licenses. He said we do this for the drivers of the highway crew and we insure all of the fire trucks and we should have these on file.

Mr. Clattenburg wondered if there was a policy on red lights. Mr. Arrison said there is a policy and you need a permit to have one on your personal vehicle.

It was noted that this would be discussed further at the Fire Commission meeting on June 13th and then again at the joint meeting with the Select Board on the 17th.

5. Appointments: None

6. Sign Treasurer's Warrant: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the following:

General Fund Payroll	\$16,050.78
General Fund Operating Expense	\$48,639.64
Highway Fund Payroll	\$12,677.83
Highway Fund Operating Expense	\$85,889.59
Solid Waste Management Payroll	\$ 1,450.68
Solid Waste Management Operating Expense	\$ 4,542.22
Library	\$ 544.90
Grants	\$ 212.00

Mr. Fuller seconded the motion. Mr. Arrison asked if this would be the last of Branch Brook Road expenses. Mr. Mullen said we still have to pay Attorney fees. Motion passed unanimously.

- 7. Future Meeting Agenda Items: fire department services.
- 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 8:32 p.m.

Submitted by, Lisa Slade

Approved by the Weathersfield Select Board on June 17, 201

Peter Cole

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Norman John Arrison

Dave Fuller

Richard Chattenburg

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