

Board of Selectmen's Meeting (Special)
Thursday, October 29th, 2015, 7:30pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman David Muller, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, Weston Residents

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. Copies are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at: 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Ms. Weinstein led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Weinstein presented David Muller with a Proclamation in honor of his service to the Town as a Selectman. Ms. Weinstein stated that she truly feels they made a dynamic team. Mr. Tracey also added that David was his role model when he first took the Selectman seat. He is always thoughtful, careful and balanced. His decisions are guided by compassion. See copy of Proclamation attached
Mr. Muller thanked everyone. See attached.

Discussion/decision regarding allocating funds from the FY 15/16 Community Grants Line to First Night Westport for the amount of \$1000.00: Barbara Pearson. The actual name is First Night Westport/Weston. It has been around for 22 years, originally created to bring families together on New Year's Eve in a safe drug free, alcohol free environment. There are venues and entertainment for all ages. The challenge is that they do not want to raise the money for the buttons (admission), but all of the other costs have gone up. It is a volunteer organization so the only costs are for the production of the event. In the past Westport and Weston were partners for this event. She is here tonight looking for sponsorship. They also donate buttons to families in need through Social Services (she will look into whether or not they give to Weston Social Services). She thinks that about roughly 20% of people that attend First Night are from Weston, but it is very hard to track this.
Ms. Weinstein reminded all that we used to give money to this program, but when the recession hit they decided to make a priority of funding Weston social service related needs first so we have not given to First Night for a few years. But this year she feels we could allocate \$1000 from our Community Grants Line to go towards this event. Mr. Tracey moved to approve the allocation of funds from the FY 15/16 Community Grants Line to First Night Westport for the amount of \$1000. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Officer Joe Miceli as the Emergency Management Director and the appointment of Detective Chris Powers as the acting Emergency Management Director, both for a 2 year term to expire July 1, 2017. Ms. Weinstein reminded us that a few months ago we did appoint Officer Miceli as the Acting Emergency Management Director. Since that time, Sgt. Mike Ferullo has retired so she is asking that we make Officer Miceli the official EMD with Det. Chris Powers as his back up. Mr. Muller moved to appoint Officer Joe Miceli as the Emergency Management Director for a 2 year term to expire July 1, 2017. Mr Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Muller moved to appoint Detective Chris Powers as the acting Emergency Management Director for a 2 year term to expire July 1, 2017. Mr Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Brian Collins to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019. Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Brian Collins to the Parks and Recreation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion /decision regarding the reappointment of Jim Smith to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019. Mr. Muller moved to reappoint Jim Smith to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Bob Machson to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire November 7, 2017. Mr. Machson has lived in Weston since 2002 and is a Commercial Real Estate attorney and advisor. He would like to help property owners / residents when it comes to zoning laws. Mr. Tracey moved to appoint Bob Machson to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire November 7, 2017. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the review/acceptance of the Town Personnel Policy and Handbook (tentative) Mr. Landry stated that we started this process back in 2007 or 2006. We haven't approved it yet, but we are close to finalizing. We have been following the policy from 1997. Mr. Tracey said he will email some final questions. Ms. Daniel asked if she is able to view this policy. Mr. Landry said he can't release the draft but he will give her a copy of the current policy.

Discussion/decision regarding the approval of BOS minutes from 10/1, and 10/9 of 2015. Mr. Muller moved to approve the BOS minutes from the 10/1 and 10/9 Board of Selectmen meetings. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Item: First Selectman's Update

- Ms. Weinstein shared that Weston won an award at the Clean Energy Program. We won in part because of our Solarize Weston program.
- Today, Ray Rauth completed his walk of every road in Weston.
- Westport Weston Health District celebrated their 50th anniversary today.
- DOT Commissioner Redekker visited the new Cobb's Mill Bridge. The bridge was constructed with new technology, precast concrete portions and new plastic technology under the bridge. Utilization of the new technology allowed for this project to take a much shorter time for construction. She also thanked him for expanding the local bridge program which allowed us to get a grant to cover 1/3 the cost of the Godfrey Road Bridge.

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Executive Session: Potential Land Acquisition Ms. Weinstein asked to go into executive session for the purpose to discuss a potential land acquisition. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn: 8:09pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant

Minutes Approved 11-19-15

Proclamation

Whereas, David Muller moved to Weston in 1998 with his wife, Diana, and three children Daniel, Julia and Benjamin; and

Whereas, David Muller was and is a very involved dad, coaching baseball until the children needed to be coached by someone who knew what they were doing, and chaperoning school field trips including a trip to Washington DC with a bus full of children infected with the Swine Flu; and

Whereas, David Muller served the Town in various appointed capacities, including service on the Library Board from 2000-2002 and the Sister City Committee exchange program established after Hurricane Katrina from 2005-2006; and

Whereas, David Muller was elected to three different Town Boards: the Planning and Zoning Commission from 2001-2005 where he served as its Vice Chair for two years, the Board of Finance from 2005-2009, and the Board of Selectman from 2009 to present; and

Whereas, David Muller made many contributions to the Board of Selectmen, including spearheading an ordinance aimed at reducing unnecessary bulky waste, playing an active role in our storm response, vigorously advocating for stricter gun control, and chairing the Lights Oversight Committee for the football field; and

Whereas, David Muller cleared the way for hundreds of residents to receive tax refunds by making a motion to issue property tax refunds at every meeting; and

Whereas, David Muller was an outstanding Selectman who balanced the needs of our community with our fiscal reality and was a true partner and calming influence on the First Selectman; and

Whereas, David Muller would like to retire from Town Government and pursue other passions such as presiding over the Board of the Greater Bridgeport Youth Orchestra and playing the bassoon in the Westport Community Band.

Now, Therefore, I, Gayle Weinstein, First Selectman of the Town of Weston, Connecticut do hereby proclaim October 30, 2015 as

David Muller Appreciation Day

In Weston, Connecticut, and call upon our families, schools, businesses, and institutions to join me in recognizing and thanking him for his many contributions to our community.

Witness my hand and the seal of the Town of Weston, this Thursday, October 29, 2015

Gayle Weinstein, First Selectman