

Board of Selectmen Meeting (Special)

November 30, 2015 at 7:30pm

Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: First Selectman Nina Daniel, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Selectman Chris Spaulding, Town Administrator Tom Landry, and Administrative Assistant Randi Derene

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. Daniel called the meeting to order at: 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Karen Tatarka

Ms. Daniel asked for a moment of silence in observance of the passing of Captain William Gluck.

Weston Historical Society request for a community grant to support the Schindel exhibit

Dallas Kersey provided background on the Weston Historical Society's Schindel exhibit, including efforts to publicize the exhibit within and outside Weston. The exhibit will be open 6 Sundays between now and February, including a literacy caravan each Sunday showing classic children's movies. Fran Sheff-Mauer discussed the effort to make this exhibit a family focused exhibit.

Ms. Daniel stated that the community grant fund has approximately \$25,000 a year for community grants. To date, \$14,500 was given to Homes with Hope and \$1000 was donated to First Night. There is about \$9,500 remaining in the fund for the current fiscal year.

Ms. Daniel stated that the Historical Society is requesting \$3000, and that earlier this year the town granted them \$2500. Mr. Spaulding praised the Historical Society and feels this is a good application for this spending. Mr. Tracey agrees but is concerned about the amount and suggested a number closer to \$1500 or \$2000. Ms. Daniel agreed.

Ms. Daniel made a motion to donate \$2000 from the Community Grant Fund to support the Weston Historical Society's Mort Schindel exhibit. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed, with Mr. Tracey and Mr. Spaulding voting in favor. Ms. Daniel abstained.

Excursion bus for the senior activities center

Bruce Lorentzen, representing the Friends of the Senior Center, and also a member of the Commission on Aging, explained that the bus currently owned by the Senior Center is old, frequently breaks down, and is at the end of its useful life. The option of renting a bus per event is very expensive and would require a higher charge to seniors to cover the expense. The better option was to help raise money to replace the bus. The Friends have said that they will fund \$40,000 towards the new bus which would cost around \$80,000. A further \$20,000 was expected from the Heady Fund, which has a current

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balance of \$116,000. The life expectancy of the bus is about 15 years assuming moderate use. Mr. Lorentzen stated that the town would be able to salvage very little from the current bus.

Ms. Daniel stated that this bus would belong to the town of Weston, and would require an investment of \$20,000 from public funds. Mr. Spaulding suggested considering crowd funding for future projects.

Mr. Ferguson (Board of Finance) asked if the board could use funds from the Vehicle Sinking Fund. Mr. Landry answered that there were three options: (1) the Vehicle Sinking Fund; (2) the undesignated fund balance; and (3) the general fund balance.

Mr. Tracey made a motion to accept the gift of \$40,000 from the Friends of Weston Senior Activities Center for the purpose of purchasing a Senior Center excursion bus contingent on two things: 1) a vote by the BOF to appropriate \$20,000 for the same purpose from the Vehicle Sinking Fund and 2) a recommendation of the Commission on Aging for an appropriation of \$20,000 from the Heady Fund for the same purpose. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried with Mr. Tracey and Mr. Spaulding voting in favor. Ms. Daniel abstained.

Gift of up to \$25,000 from Helen C. Greene to the Weston Public Library.

Karen Tatarka stated that a gift had been received in the form of stock from a regular patron of the library, Ms. Helen C. Greene. Mr. Spaulding made a motion to accept a gift of up to \$25,000 from Helen C. Greene to the Weston Public Library. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Authorizing the First Selectman to sign a contract with the State of CT accepting a grant for library renovations

Karen Tatarka stated that a grant had been received to assist with code compliance issues in connection with the library renovation. This contract needs to be in place before the Town can receive the funds. Ms. Daniel said this was reduced from original amount because the generator was taken out of the plans. Ms. Daniel stated that before she signs the contract she would like it reviewed by the Town Attorney. Mr. Tracey made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign a contract with the State of CT to accept a grant for library renovations. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Acceptance of the resignation of Chris Spaulding from the Children & Youth Commission

Acceptance of the resignation of Chris Spaulding from the Strategic Planning Committee

Acceptance of the resignation of Chris Spaulding from the Conservation Commission

Mr. Tracey made a motion to accept the resignation of Chris Spaulding from the Children & Youth Commission, Strategic Planning Committee and the Conservation Commission, effective immediately.

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Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion passed with Ms. Daniel and Mr. Tracey voting in favor. Mr. Spaulding abstained.

Appointment of Harvey Bellin to the Commission on Aging.

Mr. Spaulding made a motion to appoint Harvey Bellin to the Commission on Aging for a term to begin January 1, 2016 and end December 31, 2017. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Reappointment of Ken Whitman as our Town Assessor for a term to expire December 31, 2019

Reappointment of Mark Harper as our Town Animal Control Officer for a term to expire December 31, 2016

Reappointment of Edward Schwarz to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019

Reappointment of John Albright to the Board of Ethics for a term to expire December 31, 2017

Reappointment of John Pokorny as Town Fire Marshal for a term to expire December 31, 2017

Reappointment of Larry Roberts as Town Deputy Fire Marshal for a term to expire December 31, 2017

Reappointment of Roland Poirier to the Historic District Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2020

Reappointment of Harriette Heller to the Library Board for a term to expire December 31, 2019

Reappointment of Susan Moch and Barbara Reynolds to the Panel of Moderators for a term to expire December 31, 2019

Reappointment of Carl Bernstein & Marc Butlein to the Parks & Recreation Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2019

Mr. Tracey made a motion to approve the above. Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Board of Selectman Minutes from November 19th

Mr. Tracey made a motion to approve the minutes from November 19, 2015. Ms. Daniel seconded.

Motion carried, with Ms. Daniel and Mr. Tracey voting in favor. Mr. Spaulding abstained.

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Property Tax Refunds

JOAN DELUCA	13.87
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ALLY FINANCIAL/VAULT TRUST	297.22
TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	156.19
RON CAVALIER	32.40
FITZJOHN TROPNAS	57.44
FITZJOHN TROPNAS	195.71
JP MORGAN CHASE	90.60
Total	\$917.40

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the property tax refunds as listed on the agenda for a total of \$917.40.

Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

First Selectman's Update:

-Two Board of Selectmen meeting dates have been moved: one is this evening and the other was moved to December 22nd. These meetings become "special" meetings since it is a change from the original calendar.

-Annual Reports are due December 15th. As of today, only 2 are pending

-First Selectman salary: still under investigation regarding finding a record of how this vote was made. Ms. Daniel said because of the lack of growth in our economy, she will not accept any increase in the First Selectman's salary at this time.

Mr. Spaulding made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 8:26pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved: 12/22/15