

Board of Selectmen's Meeting

February 3, 2011

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller; Selectman Dan Gilbert; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito;

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. The tapes are available in the Selectmen's office.

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

Pledge of Allegiance- Rev. Bernard Wilson led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 7:35pm Mr. Muller made a motion to enter into executive session. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive Session- Library Director interview

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 7:36 pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Weinstein, with Selectmen Muller and Gilbert present. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Landry, Library Board Chair Amy Sanborn and Library Director applicant and finalist, Karen Tatarka.

DISCUSSION: The meeting was called so that the Board may interview Ms. Tatarka, the recommended candidate by the Board of Library Trustees. At 7:56, Ms. Tatarka and Ms. Sanborn left the meeting. No votes were taken.

ADJOURN: At 7:58 pm, a motion (David Muller, Dan Gilbert second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the hiring of the Library Director. – Karen Tatarka has a Masters of Library Science from Southern Connecticut State University. Ms. Weinstein said that Ms. Tatarka has a strong vision for our community and she is going to take our library in the direction that it needs to go in the 21st century. Mr. Gilbert said that he was impressed with Ms. Tatarka's strong sense of community outreach. Mr. Muller felt that Ms. Tatarka hit a couple of key points that he feels are relevant. They are: What is the role of the library today in a digital age; and what is the difference between a physical library and a digital library, and what should a library be in terms of the services it provides.

Karen Tatarka said that this is an exciting opportunity for her and we are moving into the digital age and it will be wonderful experience and a challenge to bring the library to be a center of the community.

Mr. Muller made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorizes the First Selectman to make an offer of hire to Karen V. Tatarka for the position of the Library Director. The offer is contingent upon completion of a satisfactory background check, physical examination, and reference checks. The pay rate shall be Grade 11 Step 1 of the Town pay and classification plan, and employment will include all benefits as contained in the Town's Policies and Practices Handbook dated June 26, 1997, or successor policy. Further, the effective date of this appointment shall be as mutually determined by the Library Board of Trustees and Ms. Tatarka. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

A copy of the motion made by the Library Board of Trustees is attached to the minutes.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation request for \$9,000 for virtual server conversion.- Sharon Shattuck . Eric Haakonsen, IT Director for the Weston Schools, and Sharon Shattuck, the Town Hall IT director, have been working together to see what they can combine for economical reasons and for usefulness measures. Eric has virtualized all of his servers and has approached us to use his servers for our vitalization. With virtual server you do not replace them as often so that is a savings. Eric explained that with the virtual servers they are reducing the physical amount of equipment. They have a way to keep the data replicated, safe and it allows for more up time. They do not have to replace equipment as frequently and when they do they are replacing a lot less equipment.

Currently The Town Hall owns their email server. The school outsources their email but now we will have one in house email server with two data bases. Ms. Weinstein said she was very pleased that Eric has included the Town.

Mr. Muller made a motion to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$9,000 for the Town to virtualize three servers on the school's server. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment Hal Mathews, Rev. Bernard Wilson, Bert Rosendahl, Betsy Peyreigne and Jane Young Anglim to the Veterans Affairs Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2012.

Hal Mathews said that we have a broken system regarding veteran's benefits. He is being a watchdog for the veterans and hopes to become a positive liaison in resolving certain issues. Ms. Weinstein said that there is some legislation at the State level that is currently being proposed to change veteran's exemptions and veteran status. She would be happy to look at the information and forwarding it on to Mr. Mathews.

Rev. Bernard was here earlier but left to go to another appointment and both Bert and Betsy had trouble getting to the meeting because of the weather. Jane Young Anglim met the Selectmen in November.

Mr. Gilbert made a motion to reappoint Hal Mathews, Rev. Bernard Wilson, Bert Rosendahl, Betsy Peyreigne and Jane Young Anglim to the Veterans Affairs Committee for a term to expire December 31, 2012. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Accept the resignation of Eric Tyson from Weston's Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee effective immediately. Mr. Gilbert made a motion to accept the resignation of Eric Tyson from Weston's Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee effective immediately. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Accept the resignation of Nancy McCormick from the Commission for Children and Youth effective immediately. Mr. Muller made a motion to accept the resignation of Nancy McCormick from the Commission for Children and Youth effective immediately. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation from the capital non recurring fund for \$15,966 for the fire department to purchase hoses and nozzles. Ms. Weinstein said that the fire department had come in at zero percent increase for next year's budget. There were a certain number of items which they felt were necessary which they could not fit into their operating budget. They approached the Capital Committee who decided that they were not comfortable with the request, since these items are normally in their operating budget.

The Board of Finance has created a Capital Non Recurring Fund. Funds that are transferred from Capital items once we close them out will now go to this fund. This is the first year money has gone into the fund. Requests from this fund will go through the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.

Attached to the minutes is a Capital Budget Justification report from the fire department explaining the need for the purchase of the hoses and nozzles.

Mr. Gilbert made a motion to approve a supplemental appropriation for \$15,966 from the capital non recurring fund for the fire department to purchase hoses and nozzles. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the Annual Town Budget meeting referendum vote. Ms. Weinstein said that she and Town Attorney Pat Sullivan discussed the referendum vote. Because of Connecticut General Statute Section 7-7 we can make the decision now to vote on what items would be removed from the call of the meeting. We have to honor the charter provisions, so on voting so the machine vote has to take place between seven and fourteen days after the ATBM.

Mr. Muller said that it was crucial that the message get out that we will have a referendum and a machine ballot, but also that you are voting yea or nay. If you want

input and want to have an impact on what that number is, it is crucial that you attend the ATBM.

On Saturday April 9th absentee voting will be available at Town Hall from 9:00 to 12:00 and Monday April 11, through Wednesday April 13, absentee voting will be available in Town Hall from 9:00am to 4:30pm. The machine vote is Thursday April 14, in the Town Hall Meeting Room instead of the Middle School Gym to save money. Anyone wanting to vote absentee must appear at Town Hall and fill out an absentee ballot themselves. We will not be mailing absentee ballots. We will deal with special circumstances, like a disabled voter, on a case by case basis.

Mr. Gilbert made a make a motion that we approve the following items to be removed from the call of the Annual Town Budget Meeting and put forth as a machine ballot vote on April 14, 2011.

Question 1. Shall the Town Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 as recommended by the Board of Finance or as amended at the Annual Town Budget Meeting be approved?

Question 2. Shall the Board of Education Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2012 as recommended by the Board of Finance or as amended at the annual Town Budget Meeting be approved?

Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Woody Bliss as the moderator for the Annual Town Budget Meeting. Mr. Muller made a motion to appoint Woody Bliss as the moderator for the Annual Town Budget meeting held April 2011. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Open Items

Ongoing updates

Valley Forge Bridge- Tom Landry- No new news.

Grants- Gayle Weinstein- Ms. Weinstein received an email from the State Director of Emergency Management today. Because the storm of January 11 & 12 reached a certain threshold for county and statewide costs, FEMA will be conducting a preliminary damage assessment to verify those costs and we should be able to receive reimbursement for some overtime and materials from that storm.

We are looking to apply for a "Safe Route to School grant." This is a state grant that has to be pursued by a school organization. Ms. Weinstein is working with the Middle School PTO and potentially the other PTO's. They will work in conjunction with the Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee.

Tickler File, Discuss as updated

Reimbursement from State for school projects- Tom Landry

Ms. Weinstein is meeting with Tracy Kulikowski tomorrow to discuss this.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting. Ms. Weinstein made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion/decision regarding a resolution for the STEAP Grant for Revson Field. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein said with any state grants we need to have a resolution of the Municipal Legislative body to pursue it.

Mr. Muller made a motion to approve a resolution to authorize the First Selectman to execute on behalf of the Town of Weston a grant agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance to make improvements to Revson Field (STEAP # 2011-03) and authorize the First Selectman to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously

Discussion/approval of the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of January 6, 2011 and the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of January 20, 2011. Mr. Gilbert made a motion to approve the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of the January 6, 2011 and the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes and the January 20, 2011 as presented. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously

At 8:50pm Mr. Muller made a motion to enter into executive session. Mr. Gilbert seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Executive session- Police Chief Contract

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 8:52 pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Weinstein, with Selectmen Muller and Gilbert present. Also in attendance was Town Administrator Landry.

DISCUSSION: The meeting was called so that the Board could review the proposed Police Chief contract extension. Chairman Weinstein discussed with the Board, the proposed items for change in the contract. No votes were taken.

ADJOURN: At 9:02 pm, a motion (David Muller, Dan Gilbert second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

OPEN SESSION: At 9:03 pm, a motion to add the item of approving the Police Chief's contract was passed by unanimous vote (Dan Gilbert motion, David Muller second).

POLICE CHIEF CONTRACT: A motion (David Muller, Dan Gilbert second) to approve the proposed Police Chief contract dated January 1, 2011, and authorize the First Selectman to sign the contract on behalf of the Board passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: At 9:05 pm, a motion (Dan Gilbert, David Muller second) to adjourn the meeting passed by unanimous vote.

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Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito
Administrative Assistant
Approved 02/17/11