

**Board of Selectmen
August 18, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room**

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

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. The tapes 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 Weston Boy Scouts

Discussion/decision regarding allocating funds from the FY 2016/17 Community Grants Line to Homes with Hope - Hal Shupack and Jeff Weiser. Homes with Hope is a mostly privately funded organization providing shelter/support/housing/food to residents who are suffering from mental health or economic issues. They recently merged with another organization called "Project Return" which provides shelter and counseling for 18-24 year old women. Referrals to these facilities are made through social services and the "211" system. Because our town budget reduced the Community Grants Line this year to 60% of last year's level, the Selectmen felt it would only be fair to reduce the requested amount of \$15,000 to \$9,000. Ms. Daniel made a motion to allocate funds from the FY 2016/17 Community Grants Line to Homes with Hope for the amount of \$9,000. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding allocating funds from the FY 2016/17 Community Grants Line to First Night Westport/Weston - Barbara Pierson Ms. Pierson spoke about all the First Night Westport/Weston has to offer, mainly it is an all-volunteer organization the provides a family friendly, drug and alcohol free event for New Year's Eve. The price of the button has stayed at the same price since their first year. They depend on donations to make this event go. To stay consistent with the amount allocated to Homes with Hope, the Selectmen allocated \$600.00 Mr. Spaulding made a motion to allocate funds from the FY 2016/17 Community Grants Line to First Night Westport/Weston for the amount of \$600.00. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Strategic Planning Committee Update – Dennis Tracey

Mr. Tracey reviewed the status of the SPC. This committee was established 9 months ago – the committee has a 2 year term. There are three subcommittees: Generation-X, Marketing and Communitons, and Elders and Empty Nesters. Each committee is to

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make recommendations on how to achieve community goals. They are gathering data and looking at how we can make changes – while also working collaboratively with Planning and Zoning. A few improvements that have already been made are : The Ambassador Program (residents who work with real estate agents to speak with possible future residents), a new website called “The Weston Way” as well as the Weston Business Initiative (how to make Weston a Home Based Business friendly town). In the next phase, there will be a limited number of priorities they will be focusing on such as development in town, community atmosphere, seniors and transportation issues. Mr. Spaulding asked what were the top surprises that came out of the data they collected, both negative and positive. Mr. Tracey replied that a negative surprise was how little people know about the town of Weston. The positive surprise was how much people who live here in Weston love Weston.

Discussion / decision to approve the Property Tax Refunds, as listed below, for the total amount of \$4,360.82. Mr. Tracey made a motion to approve the Property Tax Refunds, as listed on the August 18th Board of Selectmen agenda, for the total amount of \$4,360.82. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to approve the Board of Selectmen minutes from June 30th, July 7th, 21st and 28th (special) Mr. Spaulding made a motion to approve the minutes from June 30th, July 7th and July 21st. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tracey made the motion to approve the minutes from July 28th. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Mr. Spaulding abstained from the vote. Motion carried.

First Selectman’s Update – Security issues before school starts

Ms. Daniel spoke about the safety issues with the Norfield Road tree. There are safety and traffic issues with this tree. The tree warden is looking into this issue.

Resident Joe Parson spoke – his home is next to the tree – he would like to know what the protocol and policy is for the removal of the tree. He does not support the removal of this tree. Ms. Daniel explained the procedure – the tree warden decides if the tree needs to be taken down. If so, he posts the tree. Then the public has 10 days to appeal and has the right to a public hearing. . The tree warden has been in touch with the police, the schools, Eversource etc.

Ms. Wirtenberg reminded the Selectmen that this was looked at back in 1998. The removal of the tree was not approved, but there were supposed to be other safety measures put in place, such as signage and mirrors.

Any other business to come properly before this meeting:

Ms. Daniel made a motion to add an item to the agenda regarding an agreement between the Department of Transportation and the Town of Weston. It was decided that more time was needed to read through and understand the purpose of this agreement. This agenda item will be postponed until a future meeting.

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Executive Session: Town Administrator Recruitment Process
Mr. Spaulding moved to go into Executive Session to discuss the Town Administrator recruitment process. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Session Adjourned: 9:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant

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ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 9:18 pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Daniel with Selectmen Tracey, Spaulding and Town Administrator Landry present.

DISCUSSION: The Board reviewed and discussed applications received to date for Town Administrator.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 10:19 pm, a motion (CS, DT second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: A motion (CS, DT second) to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously at 10:01 pm.

Minutes take by Tom Landry, Town Administrator

Approved: September 26, 2016

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<u>PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS</u>	
REENA CHIRNOMULA	\$25.05
SHARA KOLODNEY	\$77.26
RICHARD GOLDENBERG	\$3.17
JOSEPH VENO	\$20.28
GARY WEIST	\$46.98
ROBERT RIVERA	\$129.90
RONALD PERCIVAL	\$27.48
JOSEPH TASSITANO	\$40.56
KAREN SITNEY	\$42.06
STEPHEN DIFORIO	\$61.46
KATHERINE LANG	\$110.41
LINDA MATTHEWS	\$296.37
CAB EAST	\$298.17
CAB EAST	\$449.55
CHASE AUTO FINANCE	\$379.01
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT	\$471.25
VAULT TRUST	\$64.79
USB LEASING LT	\$297.51
HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$183.47
HONDA LEASE TRUST	\$569.77
DAIMLER TRUST	\$671.73
DAIMLER TRUST	\$94.59
TOTAL	\$4,360.82