

Board of Selectmen's Meeting (Special)
Wednesday, September 16th, 2015, 7:30pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

Minutes Approved: 10/1/15

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman David Muller, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Planning & Zoning Vice-Chairman Jane Connelly, Animal Control Officer Mark Harper, 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.

Discussion/decision regarding accepting the resignation of Jamie Kapel from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, effective September 16, 2015. Mr. Tracey moved to accept the resignation of Jamie Kapel from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, effective September 16, 2015. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Elizabeth Zeppernick to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end September 16, 2018. Ms. Zeppernick is a local business owner and works with special needs children. She first came across Lachat Farm when she signed her son up for a program. She took to it instantly as she grew up on a farm. Mr. Muller moved to appoint Elizabeth Zeppernick to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end September 16, 2018. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Kat McConnaughey to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end September 16, 2018. Ms. McConnaughey calls herself a farm "groupy". She grew up in a rural environment and has history in farming. She would like to help the farm grow and bring some soul to our environment. Mr. Tracey moved to appoint Kat McConnaughey to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end September 16, 2018. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding permission to hunt deer on additional Town owned properties: Mark Harper Mr. Harper would like permission to hunt at the Transfer station which continues to be a problem with poaching. He has 4 more deer to take from the Moore Property. He would also like to hunt at Lachat. Mr. Harper is trying to get a handle on what wildlife is living in that general vicinity. The goal from the state is to have 9 deer per square mile. Mr. Harper plans on asking some private property owners for permission do some hunting in those areas as well. Proper signage will get posted. Mr. Harper would like to allow 2 hunters at Lachat, 3 hunters at the Transfer station, and maximum of 2 hunters at Moore Property. Mr. Muller moved that the Board approves the bow and arrow hunting on the following Town owned properties: the Moore Property on Davis Hill Road, the Transfer Station on Godfrey Road and the back field of the Lachat Property. No more than 2 hunters will be allowed at the Moore Property, 3 at the Transfer Station and no more than 2 at the Lachat property will be allowed at any one time. This hunt will be carefully administered by the Animal Control Officer. All permits will be signed by the First Selectman. Abutting property owners will be notified by mail at least 5 days prior

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to the controlled hunt. Appropriate signage will be posted at all properties. Ms. Ellen McCormick asked about the actual hunting dates. Mr. Harper replied the season started on September 15 and goes through January 31, 2016. He also confirmed he will not be Sunday hunting on any town property. Ms. Weinstein seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding an update from the Lights Committee: David Muller

To date, only one of the abutting neighbors has expressed interest in having screening installed on his property. Ms. Weinstein said she is meeting tomorrow with a landscaper to walk the property and get input and cost. She will report her findings back to the Lights Committee.

Discussion/decision regarding selection of members for the Strategic Planning Committee.

Planning and Zoning Vice-Chair Jane Connolly joined the Selectmen.

Ms. Weinstein explained that everyone received a rating from the 3 Selectman and Jane Connolly. There were 17 people that received a score of 37 or better. Ms. Weinstein made it very clear that she would like everyone who applied to play a role on this committee. The plan is to form sub committees. It was a difficult decision/process to make sure this committee is demographically and politically balanced. Ms. Connolly added that it was a very non-partisan decision. She was looking for a broad group that could work together. Mr. Tracey agreed it was a difficult process as he would have liked everyone on the list to be part of the [formal] committee. This committee has brought to Town Hall a number of people who haven't participated before in town committees, so he wants to thank everyone who applied. Ms. Weinstein asked if there is anyone who received a lower score that should be considered for any reason. No additions were requested. Ms. Weinstein stated that out of the 17 candidates there are 6 Republican Candidates, 8 Democratic Candidates, and 3 Unaffiliated. According to the Mission Statement, the committee shall have 15 members, so we need to eliminate 2 candidates. Mr. Muller said he would be very comfortable with a committee of 17 members rather than removing two names. Mr. Tracey agreed, especially since they plan on breaking the group into sub- committees. Ms. Weinstein announced the committee members:

Lucy Bowden
Kerry Brock
Michael Carter
Anita Dinwoodie
Bill Douglass
Keisha Biggs Fink
Richard Frisch
Thomas Glass
Michael Imber
Marc Karasu
David Levy
Glenn Major
Jonathan Moffly
Barbara Reynolds
Larry Roberts
Charlie Shipman
Christopher Spaulding

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Mr. Muller moved to amend the mission statement for the Town of Weston Strategic Planning Committee to alter the number from 15 to 17 for the maximum number of members. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Muller asked if we have confirmation that all of these people are still interested in joining the committee. Ms. Weinstein said she did not reach out, but hasn't heard otherwise. Mr. Muller then asked if someone drops out, would we ask the next person on the list if they want to join? Ms. Weinstein said we could have that discussion if they get to that point.

Mr. Tracey moved to appoint the following people to the Strategic Planning Committee for a term to end September 16, 2018: Lucy Bowden, Kerry Brock, Michael Carter, Anita Dinwoodie, Bill Douglass, Keisha Biggs Fink, Richard Frisch, Thomas Glass, Michael Imber, Marc Karasu, David Levy, Glenn Major, Jonathan Moffly, Barbara Reynolds, Larry Roberts, Charlie Shipman, Christopher Spaulding
Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Item: First Selectman's Update Ms. Weinstein says she has been working on putting together a facilities reports and collecting documents. She is hoping to have it ready by late next week. Once reviewed there will be a discussion with the architect with additional questions. She has also made more recommendations on how to cut square footage, so she is waiting to hear back from Chief Troxell if those ideas are acceptable. Also, the BOE came before the BOF to ask for funding to do a study on a wing of the middle school. They indicated that they would not approve a plan that involves relocation of space on school property until that study is complete.

Update regarding the Cobb's Mill Bridge- Ms. Weinstein stated that she is trying to push the State and contractors to get the bridge open sooner rather than later. She is working to at least get two way traffic flowing from Old Mill Rd. to Georgetown Rd..

Mr. Landry announced that due to the hard work of Harvey Bellin and Don Saltzman, the Town has received a grant from Cable Council 9 for Cable TV.

Executive Session: Potential Land Acquisition

Mr. Muller made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Session adjourned: 8:07pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant

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Board of Selectmen
Executive Session Meeting Minutes
September 16, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 8:09 pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Weinstein, with Selectmen Tracey and Muller present. Also attending was Town Administrator Landry, Carolyn Mulcahey, and Emerson and Connie Phillips..

DISCUSSION: The Board discussed any potential interest the Town might have in purchasing a piece of real property. Ms. Mulcahey and the Phillips' left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 8:34 pm, a motion (DM, DT second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: A motion (DM, DT second) to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously at 8:35pm.

TOWN OF WESTON STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

This committee is intended to be Phase II of "Crafting a Strategic Plan for Weston's Future." The committee shall consist of up to 15 members, with a term to expire in 2 years, unless the committee is terminated earlier by the Board of Selectmen. Said committee can be renewed for additional one year periods as deemed necessary or appropriate by the Board of Selectmen. A Selectman and a representative of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall act as co-Chairs. The committee shall report on its progress to the Board of Selectmen and to the Planning and Zoning Commission quarterly. The mission of the committee is to:

1. Assess the views of residents, prospective residents and stakeholders with regard to future planning for the Town of Weston, including any changes in to Weston's Planning and Zoning Regulations, so as to achieve its long term goal to be an attractive, affordable and sustainable community; and
2. Working collaboratively with the Planning and Zoning Commission and other pertinent town boards, commissions and committees, make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen and to the Planning and Zoning Commission with regard to a strategic plan, including a marketing plan, to achieve the Town's goals.

This committee should consider:

1. Conducting public meetings to discuss the Report, dated May 7, 2015, entitled "Crafting a Strategic Plan for Weston's Future", to gain feedback and modify/fine-tune next steps towards achieving Weston's long term goals;
2. Conducting discussions to gauge the desirability of available options and to collect data. Key initial groups will be:
 - i. Representative town residents
 - ii. Individuals who have recently moved into town
 - iii. Real estate professionals who work in area
 - iv. Parents of High-School seniors and parents of recent High-School graduates
 - v. Leaders of comparable towns and other knowledgeable individuals from outside of Weston.
3. Conduct survey market research to better understand (among other topics):
 - i. Why people may be moving to Weston?
 - ii. Why people chose to leave or stay in Weston?
 - iii. What amenities are missing and desired in Weston?
 - iv. Desirability of commercial expansion around town center.
 - v. Opinions /concerns around senior/cluster/alternative housing

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