

Board of Selectmen's Meeting: Minutes  
Monday, December 15, 2014  
Town Hall Meeting Room

**Present:** First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Selectman David Muller, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, Chairman of the Commission on Aging Helen deKeijzer, Weston Residents

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

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

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

**Discussion/decision regarding acceptance of a gift of \$2,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Steinschneider**

Mr. and Mrs. Steinschneider would like to make a gift of \$2000 to be used for the Weston Police Department. Chief Troxell and Bill Brady, Chairman of the Police Commission, were notified so that they can determine how they would like to spend this money.

Mr. Muller moves that we accept a gift of \$2000 from Mr. and Mrs. Steinschneider. Mr. Tracey seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

**Executive Session:** Litigation Update

Mr. Muller moved that the BOS adjourn to executive session. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein made a motion to enter back into public session. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Helen deKeijzer to the Commission on Aging for a term to end 12/31/16**

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Helen deKeijzer to the Commission on Aging for a term to end December 31, 2016. Mr. Tracey asked about a timing issue with regard to two other members, Nina Daniel and Bruce Lorentzen. Ms Weinstein stated that she was contacted by Britta Lerner, RTC Chair to add these reappointments to the agenda, but it was too late to add to the agenda. Mr. Tracey's concern is having the members reappointed before they have their vote for the new Chair. It was agreed that a special meeting will be scheduled to reappoint these two members before the vote. Mr. Muller seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Margarita Shapiro to the Commission on Aging for a term to end 12/31/16**

Mr. Muller moved to reappoint Margarita Shapiro to the Commission on Aging for a term to end December 31, 2016. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/decision of the gift acceptance from the Friends of the Senior Center for \$20,000, Woody Bliss**

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The Friends of the Senior Center Board voted to provide up to \$20,000 for furniture for the newly expanded senior center. Money that goes to the senior center needs to be recommended by the head of the senior center (Wendy Petty). Once the Board approves the spend, they will write the check directly to the Senior Center. Mr. Tracey doesn't see any problem with this process as it is still a contribution of cash to the town. Ms. Weinstein stated that Dr. Palmer brought to her attention at the Facilities meeting that BoE is thinking of changing the location of the senior center to North House. Ms. Petty and Ms. Weinstein discussed whether it made sense to go ahead and make any more purchases until this decision is made. Mr. Bliss asked when this decision will be made; Ms. Weinstein replied she didn't know. Ms. Weinstein is very pleased with the renovations made to date and she is looking forward to the ribbon cutting in January so everyone can see all the improvements.

Mr. Tracey moved that the town accept a gift from the Friends of the Senior Center for up to \$20,000 of funds to match similar contributions from the Morehouse Elderly Assistance Fund for purchase of furniture and other items for the Senior Center, pending Friends of the Senior Center approval. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion/decision on giving the Senior Center a nickname:** Helen deKeijzer

Mrs. deKeijzer stated that many seniors are resistant to go to a "senior" center for cultural reasons. They hope to change the culture around aging. People felt it would be good for the center to have a nickname indicative of an important center in town that provides fun activities. They asked for contributions/suggestions from members of the center. The name that seemed the most appropriate was "The HUB". The HUB by definition is a "center of activities, of learning". Ms. Weinstein is supportive of the nickname, but wants to make sure the center is still being referred to as the Senior Activities Center as well so our senior residents are not confused. "The Hub at the Weston Senior Center." Mrs. deKeijzer is going to be asking a professional designer to come up with a logo for them. She wanted to make sure that the Board of Selectmen does not object in any way before moving forward.

**Discussion/decision regarding a request to install a News 12 Connecticut weather camera on Weston Town Hall,**

Ms. Weinstein stated that we don't know exactly yet where this camera would be placed. The conversation started where they were trying to put the camera on the cell tower. The owners of the tower went back and forth with News 12 and finally asked if the camera could be placed on Town Hall. The purpose of the camera would be to have a shot of Weston when the weather is reported. Mr. Tracey would like to tweak the language in the letter from News 12. Ms. Weinstein will inform News 12 that we can move forward with the contracts once they have been amended.

**Discussion/decision regarding a change in benefits for the Town Administrator**

The Board has been working on tweaking Mr. Landry's benefits. One of the items that we have agreed on was a car allowance of up to \$4800.00/yr. to replace the use of a town vehicle. The car allowance was becoming a complicated calculation, so the Town Attorney suggested simplifying this process, finding an amount that is cost neutral to the town and offering that amount for an increase in compensation. So instead of the \$4800 vehicle allowance, she would

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like to increase Tom's salary by \$4200. They will update the benefits letter to reflect this change and that there will be no reimbursement for car allowance beyond that.

Mr. Tracey moves to make the following change in benefits to the Town Administrator to eliminate the proposed \$4800 car allowance that we discussed at our prior meeting and instead substitute a \$4200 increase in salary and the associated benefit payments associated with that.

Mr. Muller seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Request for Property Tax Refunds:**

First County Bank	\$4,598.83
UB Bank	\$554.69
Mercedez Benz	\$501.65
Chase Auto Finance	\$214.82
Rodney Jones	\$146.99
Nissan Infinity	\$107.86

Total \$6,124.84

Mr. Muller moves to approve the property tax refunds in the amount of \$6124.84 as listed on the agenda for the Monday, December 15 Special Selectmen's Meeting. Mr. Tracey seconds. Motion carried unanimously

### **Open Item:**

First Selectman's update

Ms. Weinstein wanted to thank Mr. Landry for putting together the STEAP Grant application for the Lachat house. Hopefully we will get 50% of the cost for preparing that house, which will be matched by money from the Friends of Lachat.

COG update: Ms. Weinstein stated they had their first executive directors meeting and at the end of this meeting, our new executive director resigned. He was there for one month. There is an emergency meeting planned for tomorrow afternoon where they will put a plan in place for the January 22<sup>nd</sup> COG meeting to that they can vote on their next steps. Ms. Weinstein will keep us informed. SWRPA staff will continue to move forward and function without an executive director until the January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The merger of the COG is still moving forward as well with Patty Payne heading the HR functions.

Ms. Weinstein also mentioned that on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, she will be up in Hartford all day for the MS4 Stormwater Permitting Public Hearing. She will be giving testimony along with approximately 80 other communities in CT that are objecting.

### **Approval of the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's' meetings of October 22<sup>nd</sup>, November 4<sup>th</sup>, and November 20<sup>th</sup> 2014**

Ms. Weinstein makes a motion to approve the BOS meeting minutes of October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Muller seconds. Motion carried unanimously

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Ms. Weinstein makes a motion to approve the BOS meeting minutes of November 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Tracey seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein makes a motion to approve the BOS meeting minutes of November 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Tracey seconds. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned: 8:03pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Randi Derene  
Administrative Assistant

**Minutes Approved: 3/5/15**