

**Board of Selectmen Meeting (Special)
December 22, 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 Margaret Wirtenberg

Discussion/decision to accept the resignation of Jeff Eglash from the Police Commission effective immediately. Mr. Spaulding made the motion, Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision to accept the resignation of David Levy from the Strategic Planning Committee effective immediately. Mr. Tracey made the motion, Mr. Spaulding seconded. There followed a discussion of whether the Selectmen should consider adding additional members to the Committee. It was agreed that there should be further discussion with Jane Connolly. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to appoint Walter Shanley and Carole Berg to the Bike & Pedestrian Committee for a term to end December 31, 2017. Mr. Spaulding made the motion, Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to appoint Shara Kolodney to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end December 31, 2018. Mr. Tracey made the motion, Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to appoint Sarah Schlechter to the Conservation Commission for a term to end December 31, 2019. Mr. Spaulding made the motion, Ms. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to appoint Catherine Revzon as our Westport/Weston Health District representative for a term to end December 31, 2018. Mr. Tracey made the motion, Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision to appoint Joy Peshkin to the Commission on Aging for a term to end December 31, 2017. Ms. Peshkin would like to keep the focus on seniors and give them an opportunity to enjoy living in town. Ms. Daniel made the motion, Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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Discussion/decision to appoint Leslie Riback as an Alternate on the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term to end December 31, 2019. Mr. Spaulding made the motion, Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding Legal Counsel. Mr. Tracey made a motion to appoint Ken Bernhard as Town Attorney and Patricia Sullivan as Assistant Town Attorney to specialize in Land Use. Mr. Spaulding seconded. In response to a question from Mr. Spaulding, Mr. Bernhard stated that he expects to make the resources of his entire law firm available to the Town. He will put our staff in touch with specialists as needed. Mr. Tracey added that we have had two legal review committees in town and both have written very positive reviews. Some recommendations were to not just solve problems, but to identify future risks and see the next legal step. Mr. Bernhard's agrees and will be planning to visit town hall weekly in order to make himself available to all staff. Mr. Bernhard was requested to prepare a current engagement letter. Mr. Tracey noted that the Town expects to go out with an RFP from time to time to seek competitive bids for Town Attorney. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding modifying the resolution of the Board of Selectmen, passed on October 15, 2015, which authorized a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$7,000 to obtain a schematic design for renovation within the footprint of the existing Police Department, to instead authorize a supplemental appropriation in the same amount to obtain a schematic design for renovation of the Police Department within its current footprint and such contiguous areas of Town Hall as may be appropriate. There followed a brief discussion of the Town's overall facilities plans. Ms. Daniel stated that it is premature to determine the long term plans, and that the Board sees this request as a first step. Mr. Tracey made the motion, Ms. Daniel seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Property Tax Refunds:

Cab East llc	1606.67
Toyota Motor Credit	397.2
Chase Auto Finance Corp	653.54
VW Credit Leasing	1172.35
Jill Lane	22.76
Honda lease trust	<u>157.8</u>
TOTAL	4010.32

Ms. Daniel made the motion to approve the Property Tax refunds in the amount of \$4010.32 as listed below. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

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Discussion/decision regarding the approval of minutes from the November 30, 2015 BOS meeting. Mr. Spaulding made a motion, Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

First Selectman's Update:

- 1- Our Registrar and a Deputy Registrar had resigned, but after further consideration they have rescinded their resignation. This goes through the Town Clerks' office, not the Selectman's office, so no motion is needed. It was noted that there was a salary and a stipend increase, which was passed at the October 15, 2015 BOS meeting.
- 2- FOI Training session was held on December 16th with Tom Hennick.
- 3- Annual Reports have all been submitted. We will be posting them online
- 4- WestCOG Update: Weston hosted the last monthly meeting, Dec 16th. Ms. Daniel found it to be an excellent meeting
- 5- Weston Food Pantry is in the process of reorganization. We had a celebration for 14 years of service for Betsy Peyreigne. Terry Gaberman was also thanked. There will be a transition in leadership to Anne Bigin and Margaret Krauss who will be working to revitalize the food pantry. January 4th there will be specific times for drop-offs and pick-ups posted, and the food pantry will be stocked.
- 6- Sidewalks: We are starting this discussion again. There was a walk-around to look at issues and locations of these potential sidewalks to make sure they are safe for our children. The goal is to have a path for the students to walk from the school to Town Center

Mr. Spaulding asked Ms. Daniel about the STEAP grants. Ms. Daniel said that a grant will become available next year for a study of pedestrian traffic. The application would be due middle of January. Mr. Landry stated we applied for this grant 3 years ago, but we were not funded.

Mr. Tracey made a motion to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried.

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Public Session ended: 8:23pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved: 1/20/16