

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman David Muller, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Director of Public Works Joe Lametta, Planning & Zoning Vice Chairman Jane Connelly, 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. 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 a request to access the vehicle sinking fund to purchase a snow plow and a back hoe – Joe Lametta

Mr. Lametta stated that they are sticking to their program of replacing a truck every 10 years. They have a snow plow from 2005 that needs to be replaced. This would allow the Town to have a total of 10 snow plows with 2 spares. One old truck was given to the Board of Education and one was going to auction (with proceeds going back to the vehicle sinking fund). The towns back hoe is also in need of replacing. They will replace with the same model. Ms. Weinstein asked Mr. Lametta to make sure he gets a better price than the state bid before making the purchase. Mr. Muller made a motion to approve the request to access the vehicle sinking fund in the amount of \$165,201.00 for the purchase of a truck, sander/plow and radio, and \$116,800.77 for a 2015 John Deere 410L Backhoe Loader. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Dan McNeill to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end June 30, 2018.

Mr. McNeill was formerly a teacher in Weston. He took a leave of absence to go back to school and raise his children. He volunteers as the PTO president of Hurlbutt and the incoming PTO president for the Weston Intermediate School. Charlene Monn approached him to see if he would be interested in joining this commission. Ms. Weinstein asked him if there would be a timing conflict serving on this Commission, should he be elected to the Board of Education. Specifically the BOE meets on the same evening as Children & Youth, and executive sessions can begin as early as 6 pm. Mr. McNeill feels the conflict will be minimal since he would not be taking a leadership role on the Children & Youth Committee. Mr. Tracey made a motion to approve the

appointment of Dan McNeill to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end June 30, 2018. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Patricia Goodrich to the Commission for the Arts for term to end June 30, 2017.

Ms. Goodrich says she has been involved with the arts in the school district for 6 years. She also works with the Westport Playhouse. She feels there is a need to utilize all the arts available to them. She spoke with Paul Levin and has had several conversations about ideas to bring more of the arts to Weston. Mr. Muller moved to approve the appointment of Patricia Goodrich to the Commission for the Arts for a term to end June 30, 2017. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Gary Betsworth to the Commission for the Arts for a term to end June 30, 2017.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the reappointment of Gary Betsworth to the Commission for the Arts for a term to end June 30, 2017. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Mark Harper as our Animal Control officer for term to end December 31, 2015.

Mr. Muller moved to approve the reappointment of Mark Harper as our Animal Control officer for term to end December 31, 2015. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Lynn Phillips to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end December 31, 2017.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the reappointment of Lynn Phillips to the Children & Youth Commission for a term to end December 31, 2017. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision on accepting Diane Renaud's resignation from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, effective immediately.

Ms. Weinstein said she has done an outstanding job on this Commission, in particular, designing the beautiful Lachat Farm sign and organizing the community garden.

Mr. Muller moved to accept the resignation of Diane Renuad from the Lachat Town Farm Commission, effective immediately. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Interviews for potential members of the Strategic Planning Committee: Justin Donovan, David Weber, Christine Lomuscio, Richard Frisch, Michael Imber, Jaya Daptardar, Lisa Luft, David Levy, John Loeser, Lucy Bowden, Kerry Brock, Keisha Biggs Fink, Nina Daniel, and Glenn Major - Jane Connelly, Vice Chair of P&Z

Justin Donovan: Mr. Donovan has lived in Weston since 2012. The school system was a big draw. He is vested in this community, and wants to help shape Weston for future.

Walkability is something he would love to see more of. He also feels the town needs to advertise more.

David Weber: Mr. Weber is a longtime resident and has been involved in school system. He is a realtor and would like to make the town more viable. He would love to see some videos of the town made to offer to real estate agents. Ms. Weinstein said it is a great idea, and has actually done a video in the past with Dr. Palmer for one of the real estate companies.

Christine Lomuscio: She moved to Weston 26 years ago because of its affordability. She has taught at schools, worked in public relations, served on Arts Commission so she understands how a municipality works. She is an empty nester, but doesn't want to leave Weston. She recognizes a problem where young professionals aren't able to afford Weston. She also sees that other empty nesters are staying in Weston because they can't sell their house.

Richard Frisch: He's passionate about Weston and has lived here for 28 years. He broadcasts town meetings so he is a very informed resident. Mr. Frisch is an analytical, numbers guy. He has experience in market research and online polling. Mr. Frisch feels that the town can make improvement in the area of communication and improving cell coverage, especially for people who have home based businesses. He also stated that 60% of residents in town do not have children in the school system, so maybe our tax structure needs to be looked at.

Michael Imber: Lived in Weston 18 years, two sons graduated from Weston high school. He works as a government consultant. Mr. Imber notices that towns that fail are not looking in to the future. And that is where preventative maintenance comes in, looking into future problems and issues, anticipating changes.

Jaya Daptardar: She is on a strategy planning committee for a non-profit company. Ms. Daptardar is well experienced on how to achieve goals while working with a small budget. She is aware that the town is not marketed. She feels people are moving to neighboring towns because they are not aware of what Weston has to offer; beautiful houses, schools, security.

Lisa Luft: Resident of Weston for 22 years. Her children attended school here, and involved in sports and voting. Wants to maintain the warm and caring family centered "village". Ms. Luft is heavily involved in education as she is currently a school principal in NYC and has worked for the NYC Dept. of Education for 24 years. Ms. Luft is well experienced in working collaboratively within a community. She wants to maintain social values and culture of Weston.

David Levy: He has lived in Weston for 11 years with 2 children in school system. His wife's family raised their children here too. Mr. Levy is involved with sports, Weston Basketball Assoc. Mr. Levy runs a home based marketing/consulting business. Currently works with Western Connecticut Economic Development Agency. He feels we have untapped resources here in Weston. Perhaps create an innovation center, a place for home based business people to congregate.

John Loeser: Mr. Loeser has been living in Weston for 20 years. He has a background in Mathematics, Business management, mergers and acquisitions. What we have is good here in town and wants to keep it that way. Mr. Loeser also served as a co-chair for youth sports and is an active member of the veterans committee.

Lucy Bowden: She is a 34 year resident of Weston. They settled in Weston since it was affordable and had a good school system. Ms. Bowden is involved with the League of Women Voters as well as the Senior Center.

Kerry Brock: A 14 year resident of Weston. They moved here thinking they were sending their child to private school, but were convinced to send him to public, and they are thankful they did. They are empty nesters now and are choosing to stay in town. She is a journalist, and it is her profession to ask questions, gather facts and tell stories.

Keisha Biggs: Ms. Biggs has lived here for one month! She moved here with her husband and two children because of the school system. Her background is in city planning, land use and development. She also has a real estate license. Ms. Biggs is excited to be part of this community and would like to help make it more viable.

Nina Daniel: Ms. Daniel has 50 years of family history in Weston. Her father was First Selectman of Weston, so she is very familiar with town issues, similar to issues today. Ms. Daniel feels that people of all ages should feel they have a place here in town. She understands that change needs to happen, but wants to make sure that we don't destroy what is good.

Glenn Major: He has been in Weston for 56 years. Mr. Major experienced the schools himself and through his children. His wife sits on the BOE. He has served the town through many organizations such as historical society, sports, as well as serving on the BOS. His professional experience in law makes him familiar with land use and is accustomed to working within regulations.

In summary, Ms. Weinstein feels all candidates are outstanding. Mr. Muller and Mr. Tracey concurred. Ms. Connelly stated that she would like to see the interview process go into September as many people are on vacation during July/August. The meeting on September 3rd could be the final opportunity to conduct interviews.

Discussion/decision regarding screening of abutting neighbor's property from the Weston stadium field. - David Muller

Mr. Muller said the last Lights Oversight Committee was couple of weeks ago. They said they have received zero complaints. The neighbors feel that things are going well. The use of the lights was adhering to the memorandum of understanding. There was a second walk around the property and had a "0" readout of light spillage. Screening now needs to be addressed in order to shield the direct view of the illuminated field from the neighbors. Ms. Weinstein stated they have already walked through some properties, but there is still more that need to be walked through to decide which ones need screening and which ones don't. Also, the committee needs to decide who makes the decision about what types of trees are planted. Ms. Weinstein suggests having a meeting with the neighbors and walk through properties together when the lights are on.

Discussion/decision regarding authorizing the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents pertaining to the Local Bridge Program Grant Agreement for Godfrey Road West over the West Branch Saugatuck River, Bridge No 157007, State Project No. 9157-0007. Ms. Weinstein stated that this grant was sent to us after the project was already started. The Town Attorney did reviewed the grant and will send a letter that

states we have gone through all our processes in an appropriate way. Ms. Weinstein is asking for authorization to sign all the documents. Mr. Tracey moved to authorize authorizing the First Selectman to sign all necessary documents pertaining to the Local Bridge Program Grant Agreement for Godfrey Road West over the West Branch Saugatuck River, Bridge No 157007, State Project No. 9157-0007. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

***Ms. Weinstein makes a motion to add an item to the agenda.** It is a Resolution to allow the First Selectman to enter into contracts with the CT Dept. of Agriculture. This resolution is needed to receive an agriculture viability grant for the Lachat Farmhouse in the amount of \$17,000 to build a greenhouse. Mr. Muller moved to add this item to the agenda. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Tracey moved to authorize the First Selectman to enter into contracts with the CT Dept. of Agriculture. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the approval of the Board of Selectmen minutes from May 21st and June 15th 2015. Mr. Muller moved to approve the Board of Selectmen minutes from May 21st and June 15th, 2015. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Items:

- a. **First Selectman Updates:** (add update from Gayle)
The State Legislator update –Regarding the Budget Implementer Bill for FY 16, it looks like we get about \$1000 less in State Aid, so pretty close to level funded. In FY 17 and 18, if the state collects the sales tax revenue that they anticipate, we will receive an additional \$304,000. On the corporate side, the unitary tax is getting pushed off for one year. Other taxes, such as internet sales, are getting eliminated.
Ms. Weinstein is looking into the CT Gig program to bring high broadband access to Weston. She is working with Craig Tunks, our new IT Director, on this project.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting: None

Executive Session : Ms. Weinstein moved to enter executive session. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn Open Session: 9:12pm

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 30, 2015, 7:30pm
Town Hall Meeting Room

Executive Session Meeting Minutes, submitted by Tom Landry

June 30, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened at 9:15 pm in the First Selectman's Office by Chairman Weinstein, with Selectmen Muller and Tracey present. Also attending was Town Administrator Landry. For a portion of the meeting, Police Commissioner Gralnick was in attendance.

DISCUSSION: The Board discussed the request by the Commission to approve the tentative agreement it negotiated with the Police bargaining unit. Commissioner Gralnick left the meeting at 9:40 pm. Members then discussed the status and next steps in the Stones Trail and Lafayette lawsuits. No votes were taken.

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 10:00 pm, a motion (DM, DT second) to adjourn executive session and resume in open session passed unanimously.

ADJOURN: At 10:01 pm a motion to adjourn the meeting (DT motion, DM second) passed by unanimous vote.

**Respectfully Submitted by,
Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant**

Minutes approved 7/30/15