

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting
September 4, 2014**

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Selectman David Muller; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; Department Heads; 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: 7:35pm

Pledge of Allegiance- Ms. Weinstein led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion/decision regarding Chapter 79 Firearms of the town code and a potential change to the ordinance – Ms. Weinstein stated she was recently looking at the Weston Town Code and discovered that Chapter 79, Section 3D(1) states “any state or federal officer authorized to enforce criminal law”. We need to include “local”. Ms. Weinstein would like to schedule a public hearing so we can make this change in our ordinance so our local officers are protected by the firearms ordinance. Mr. Tracey moved to schedule a public hearing for November 6th in the Town meeting Room at 7 pm to hear public comment on revising Chapter 79, section 3D of the Firearms of the Weston Town Code to include local police officers. Mr. Muller seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding an 8-24 referral to Planning and Zoning Commission for speed humps located in the Weston High School Senior parking area off School Road – Jo-Ann Keating, Director of Finance and Operations for the School District, stated that they had planned to put in speed humps in the high school parking lot. Dr. Keating and Mr. Olenik (Director of School Facilities) spoke to John Conte about a week before the speed humps were installed to make sure there were no issues with regard to signage or location. They did not realize that an 8-24 was necessary.

Dr. Keating stated that traffic conditions have gotten dangerous in that area and the speed humps will assist in slowing cars down and reduce cut through traffic. Mr. Muller moved that the board authorize the First Selectman to request an 8-24 referral for the installation of speed humps in the Weston High School Senior Parking lot. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion carried.

Discussion/decision regarding an 8-24 referral to Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the use of the Lachat Farmhouse – Ed Parker and Ellen McCormick representing the commission appeared before the Board. Mr. Parker presented the proposed floor plan of the Lachat House. They were asked to come up with a list of uses for the property, which will include education programs, art related programs, and cultural uses for seniors and children inside and outside the house. It is proposed that a farmer will live on the upper floor, with the lower level used for education classes for seniors and children, etc. Ms. Weinstein stated that they tried to go to P& Z before for parking approval but was told they first had to present what types of programs would be held at the farmhouse, so they could be given a sense of what type of

parking spots would be needed. Mr. Parker has presented a plan with more than 28 parking spaces so there would be twice as many parking spaces as they would need at one time. They are not planning on school buses or larger vehicles needing parking spaces, instead they envision smaller groups visiting.

Mr. Tracey asked about the timing of the construction. Ms. McCormick stated that they are now working on the shingling, and next is the roof. Then internal work will start. Heating also needs to be put in. They still need to get proposals for the heating and are hoping to have that installed before the cold season. Mr. Muller asked about making sure the approvals for any decisions on the heating are taken care of before the weather turns cold. Ms. Weinstein then stated that since the funds are coming from the Friends of Lachat, these decisions did not need to be approved by the BOS.

Ms. Weinstein expressed a concern about a change in the drawing of fence placement. Two maps were showing two different plans for the fence. Mr. Parker and Ms. McCormick will bring it back to the Commission for more discussion. There will be trees removed with the funds from the Connecticut Agricultural Farmland Restoration Grant. There is another grant that is going to be used for irrigation. Pokorny is going to be giving an estimate, approximately \$4,000-\$6,000.

Ms. Weinstein expressed that she is very pleased with the way this project is turning out. Ms. McCormick told us that out of the 42 beds that were available to rent, only 3 are left. There is a very positive buzz in town about this project.

Ms. Weinstein stated that they do not need an 8-24 for the fence placement. They need to request the 8-24 for the parking and the use of the house.

Mr. Tracey moved that the Board authorize the First Selectman to request an 8-24 referral for the revised use of the farmhouse on the Lachat property and associated parking. Mr. Muller seconded and motion approved.

Open Item

First Selectman's Update:

Ms. Weinstein reported that we have enough municipalities to create a COG. We have petitioned OPM for that to become official. We needed 11 out of 18 municipalities to get this approved.

Ms. Weinstein thanked Mr. Landry for working with the Library Board on applying for a huge grant that looks very promising for new windows, upgrading the electrical system and other work. Mr. Landry stated that the notification for this grant will be ready late November. The decision was to apply for as much as we possibly could. Library might end up needing to match the grant...to be decided.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting: none

Approval of the minutes of the Board of Selectman's meeting of August 18, 2014.

Mr. Muller moved to approve the minutes of the BOS meeting of August 18th, 2014. Mr. Tracey seconded and motion approved.

Meeting adjourned: 8:03pm

Respectfully submitted

Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant
Approved 9-17-14