

Board of Selectmen's Meeting: Special
September 30, 2014

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein, Selectman David Muller, Town Administrator Tom Landry, Animal Control Mark Harper, School Director of Finance and Operations Dr. JoAnn Keating, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, and Weston residents.

Selectman Dennis Tracey participated telephonically.

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.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at: 7:33pm

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

Discussion/decision regarding the re-appointment of Don Kendall as the Towns C-Med Southwest representative with term ending June 30th, 2015 -

This is the organization that does our ambulance callouts for us. Don was appointed to fill a vacancy when Sandy Dadik retired. Ms. Weinstein would like to reappoint Mr. Kendall for a one year term ending June 30th, 2015.

Mr. Muller moved that the Board of Selectman reappoint Don Kendall as the town C-Med Southwest representative for a term ending June 30th, 2015. , Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding expanding permission to hunt deer on additional town owned properties: Mark Harper

Ms. Weinstein stated that at our last meeting Mr. Harper had asked for permission to hunt at the Landfill, the Moore property, the back field of Lachat, the northwest side of Bisceglie, Morehouse Park after it is closed and the property between Hedgerow Commons and Norfield Farm Rd.

Mr. Harper and Ms. Weinstein met and went over these properties. They eliminated two of these properties; the property between Hedgerow and Norfield Farm Rd is too close to the schools and Morehouse Park is not ideal as children still go to the park to play after hours. So the two remaining properties that are up for discussion are the back field of Lachat and northwest field of Bisceglie.

Ms. Weinstein referred to a map of Weston and Mr. Harper pointed out the location of each property. Mr. Tracey asked where the hunting area is in relation to the baseball fields. Mr. Harper confirmed it is far away from the parks and the trails, on the other side of the stream. There are approximately 20 acres of land. There will also be signs posted that there are hunters in the area. Mr. Harper will go door to door and speak to abutting home owners.

Mr. Muller moved that the Board approves the bow and arrow hunting on the following town owned properties: the back field of Lachat and northwest side across the river at Bisceglie Park. No more than 2 hunters at Lachat and 1 hunter at Bisceglie will be allowed at 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 to the controlled hunt. Appropriate signage will be posted at all properties. Mr. Tracey seconds this motion but asks if there will be signs posted? He thinks signs should be posted at Bisceglie Park and at the lower level of the Lachat property. Ms. Weinstein confirms that appropriate signage should be posted at all properties. A Weston resident asked when his hunt will begin. Mr. Harper responded sometime in October through the end of January 2015. Letters will be sent out. No further discussion, motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding authorizing the First Selectman to sign a technology lease with TD Equipment Finance for the purpose of purchasing technology equipment for the Weston Board of Education. - Dr. JoAnn Keating

Dr. Keating is presenting their annual request to have the Board of Selectmen approve a tax exempt lease for their technology needs. It needs to be co-signed by the town and the BOE in order to receive the tax exempt rates. Bruce Chudwick and Rick Darling reviewed last year's document and suggested they stay with TD Bank. Rates are very good. It is now 1.79%, last year it was 1.67%.

Dr. Keating's Assistant went through the entire document compared to last years to make sure everything was the same as last year. The document also went to Pat Sullivan for review. Her suggestions from last year were incorporated. Ms. Weinstein said two documents are missing: a tax form and the quick bill of sale form. She has asked Bruce Chudwick if we need them and is waiting for a response.

Ms. Weinstein inquired why we should pay \$10,000 a year in interest when we have the town's approval for the money for the purchase of the equipment. Dr. Keating replied saying the lease made sense when they had a large need for technology a few years back, and it was a way for them to get up to speed and be where they needed to be. As they retire a lease after one year, we bring on another lease. Ms. Weinstein asked if we think it is worth continuing the lease as opposed to funding the purchase of new equipment. Dr. Keating said the lease payments are roughly \$400,000 which includes 4 different leases. In order to keep budget flat, you would have to retire them after the next lease period and not purchase. Or, Ms. Weinstein suggests, purchase less, or take a big hit in next year's budget and add the additional equipment cost to the budget. Ms. Weinstein asks Mr. Muller if there is a preference of buying vs. leasing. Mr. Muller is fine with leasing; he thinks the financials make sense. He's not sure what the hurdle is that would cause us to change. Dr. Keating stated this is conversation for the town to have at budget time

Mr. Muller moved that the Board authorizes the First Selectman to sign a lease with TD Equipment Finance for the purchase of technology for the Board of Education and approve the Board of Selectmen's resolution as outlined in exhibit E of the materials supplied for tonight's meeting. Mr. Tracey seconded, motion carried unanimously.

Request for property tax refunds

Matthew Salem	\$25,139.25
Siobhan M. Boyle	\$74.42
Robert S. Levene	\$314.31
Andrew McGrade	\$300.33
BMW Financial Services	\$1,198.90
Chase Auto Finance	\$473.37
Honda Financial Services	\$278.39
Mercedes Benz Financial Services	\$448.85
Toyota Financial Services	\$507.55
Putnam Leasing Co. LLC	\$201.57
UB Leasing	\$449.72
VW Credit	\$101.44
TOTAL	\$29,488.10

Mr. Muller moved that the Board approves the property tax refunds in the amount of \$29,488.10 as outlined on the September 30, 2014 agenda. Mr. Tracey seconded and motion carried unanimously.

Open Items:

First Selectman's Update:

BOE and the Building Committee shared very good news about High School windows project. They believe they have enough money left over, if they receive all of the state reimbursements, to do the AC units now and finish the project. Ms. Weinstein just needs confirmation from the Board of Education that the state reimbursements are in place and that the BOE acknowledges that this is still within the parameters of the MOU for this project and any funds that are not obtained by the state would be their responsibility. Ms. Weinstein commended the Building Committee and the Board of Education on a project well done.

Ms. Weinstein and Mr. Harper met with neighbors concerned about coyotes. There is an area in town by Hunt Lane and Thorp Drive where the coyotes are behaving abnormally, according to Mr. Harper. Ms. Weinstein had conversations with DEEP as to what our options are. If DEEP comes to help, they will remove the animals and they will euthanize them. If Mr. Harper feels they are a nuisance, then he would have the ability to handle this as he sees appropriate. Ms. Weinstein reached out to Aspetuck Land Trust to ask for permission for Mr. Harper to hunt the coyotes. Ms. Weinstein made it clear that we are only going after coyotes because they are impacting the safety of our residents. They are acting abnormally, stalking children at bus stops, barking, growling, and chasing neighbors on those roads mentioned earlier. Mr. Muller asked how many coyotes we are talking about. Mr. Harper responded about a half a dozen. Mr. Tracey then asked specifically what area this is. Ms. Weinstein replied it is the area

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that abuts the Taylor Woods Preserve, behind Thorp Drive, Aspetuck Glenn, Hunt Lane and the border of the Stonybrook Development.

Ms. Weinstein announced that we got approval for the 8-24 for the Lachat property. The commission will now be able to move forward with plans to renovate landscape and put in the parking lot.

Approval of the minutes of the Board of Selectman's meeting of September 17, 2014.

Mr. Muller moves that the Board approves the minutes of the September 17th BOS meeting. Mr. Tracey seconded and motion approved.

Meeting adjourned: 7:56pm

Respectfully submitted,
Randi Derene
Administrative Assistant

Approved 10/22/14