

Board of Selectmen
August 2, 2012

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; David Ungar, Park & Recreation Director.

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 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance-

Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Father Dunn as Weston's Police Chaplin for a term to expire June 30, 2014- Father Dunn said that anyway he could help the Police Department and the Town he is happy to do so. He had anticipated more calls to serve as the Chaplin but in a sense that is a good thing that he is not needed. Ms. Weinstein said that if we did have a storm in a magnitude that was discussed at the Statewide Emergency Management exercise we would need to bring in people to help with psychological issues and the one piece that was not put into place during the last storm was outreach to the churches. Father Dunn can work with the police department if we have those kinds of emotional emergencies.

Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Father Michael Dunn as Weston's Police Chaplin for a term to expire June 30, 2014. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding request for access to the vehicle sinking fund in the amount of \$22,320 for the purchase of a field maintenance tractor and related equipment.- Dave Ungar, Park and Recreation Director. They are looking for a small tractor with a front bucket to move materials such as clay, topsoil, mulch, beach sand etc., with a rear landscape rake to drag behind it to work on the infields at the parks. He also had a request for a tiller, but in conversations with Dan Clarke and Rocky, they have a similar tiller so what he would be looking for is a rear tine aerator so they can aerate the lawns. The Board of Education would be very interested as well because they could swap the two attachments back and forth.

Ms. Weinstein said she was not aware of the request for the landscape rake or aerator. If they do approve the request tonight, she would make it contingent on a conversation that she would have with Mr. Ungar and the schools regarding what's really needed. She wants to make sure going forward that we are not purchasing equipment when we may not need it.

The Board of Education tractor is not compatible with the work needed on the baseball fields. There is also a difference in size of the tractor; The Board of Education Tractor is too big.

Eric Albert Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission said they are investing a lot in Bisceglie Field and it is very important that we maintain the fields properly so we

don't have to keep pouring in additional capital. It's critical because our manpower maintenance crew went from 1 ½ people down to one so we need the machinery to some degree to make up for the lack of manpower. He feels we need full time access to the equipment to take proper care of the fields.

Mr. Tracey asked how frequently they are used. Mr. Ungar said once or twice a week. Potentially, the tractor could be used in the winter time to move snow.

Mr. Muller moved to approve a request to allocate from the vehicle sinking fund the amount of \$22,320 for the purchase of a field maintenance tractor and related equipment subject to further discussion between the First Selectman, the Board of Education and Parks and Recreation. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding request for access to the vehicle sinking fund in the amount of \$24,890 for the purchase of a medium duty pickup truck. Dave Ungar. Mr. Ungar said they are requesting the funds to replace a 2001 pick-up truck that they have in their service right now. They received the truck from the Board of Education with 19,000 miles in 2003. They have had serious breakdowns in the last year.

Ms. Weinstein said they are requesting an F250 truck because they can attach a plow when needed so that they can plow the driveway at Jarvis. Purchasing an F150 truck saves about \$3,600. Mr. Ungar said they have plow responsibilities for Jarvis, opening up the parks and the F150 truck is not built for plowing.

Mr. Tracey asked why Mr. Ungar was responsible for plowing Parks and Recreation, why weren't the other plows doing it. Mr. Ungar said the highway crews have been plowing out the Town roads and keeping the roads clear. Also getting a plow through the pillars at Jarvis is not easy. Mr. Landry said it is a timing issue.

Mr. Muller said that he would like to preserve the capability to do what needs to be done and if it is a difference of \$3,600 over a normal life cycle that is \$300 a year and he thinks that makes sense.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve a request to allocate from the vehicle sinking fund an amount of \$24,890 for the purchase of a medium duty pickup truck. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Request for property tax refunds

BMW Financial Services	\$1,419.35
Jack M. Dodick	\$461.43
Mercedes Benz	\$524.37
Honda Lease	\$347.47
Fifth Third Auto	\$346.17
Cyrus Damato	\$170.51
John Wiethoff	<u>\$13.76</u>
Total	\$3,283.06

Mr. Muller moved to approve property tax refunds in the amount of \$3,283.06. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Open Items

Updates

Grants- Gayle Weinstein- Ms. Weinstein said she met with Tracey Kulikowski and John Conte and they are moving forward with two grants. One is the Safe Routes to School grant and the Main Street Investment grant both of which are to get sidewalks hopefully down School Road and connecting the schools to Town center and the whole Town Hall complex and perhaps extending it to Norfield Church. She thinks that the Main Street Investment grant is a long shot, because what they need to show is by making these infrastructure improvements you are going to help economic development. She said our schools are our number one employer and anything we can do to make it easier for the teachers and students to go down and support our Center makes for a healthier economic climate in Weston.

Safe Routes to School grant provides funding for sidewalks. The schools are very much on board with that. We are going to start in September, because we have to start by putting together focus groups and committees comprised of parents, teachers, administrators and town officials. Mr. Muller suggested that we include someone from the school wellness committee because part of their mission is to get people outside walking and exercising.

Regionalization- Talks are ongoing. Ms. Weinstein will be meeting with First Selectman Bill Brennan to continue those conversations. In the meantime we did start conversations with the schools to see what we can work on cooperatively as we start our next budgets.

Windows and Doors project at Weston Middle School- The Building Committee met last night and feel that they are on time with the project so far. Tom Landry said to date we have paid the contractor about 1 million on a contract of just over 2 million, requisition #4 came in yesterday for an addition \$400,000+. The windows are reported to be 75% installed, the soil remediation is 50%. One of the big issues for this project is that it is a very tight schedule. They have not seen any change orders as of yet.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting- Mr. Tracey moved to add Old Mill Road to the agenda. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein said that Chief Troxell and John Conte went out and identified the 29 trees that they felt needed to be removed. John Conte met with several contractors and got three bids back. The bids will go to the police commission to be discussed because what she wants to know when they come to the meeting is from a public safety viewpoint is this what we should be doing? Ms. Weinstein said the road will have to be closed and

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there will be cost to hire police officers. Once the police commission vets the process then it will come back to the Board of Selectmen and then the Board of Finance. She did give Board of Finance a heads up about this.

Mr. Tracey asked if it would be possible to have Chief Troxell come in and give us an update on the safety issues as the road is now. Ms. Weinstein said we could arrange to have the chief come to our next meeting.

Discussion/approval of the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes of June 21, 2012 and Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of July 5, 2012 and July 23, 2012. Mr. Tracey moved to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2012 Board of Selectmen's meeting and the July 5, 2012 Special Board of Selectmen's meeting as submitted. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Muller moved to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of July 23, 2012. Ms. Weinstein seconded. The vote was Mr. Muller, Ms. Weinstein yes; Mr. Tracey abstained since he did not attend the meeting.

At 8:11pm Mr. Muller moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito
Administrative Assistant
Approved 8/16/12