

**Board of Selectmen's meeting  
October 2, 2008**

Present: First Selectman Woody Bliss; Selectman W. Glenn Major; Selectwoman Gayle Weinstein; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito.

**This meeting was recorded and video taped and the tapes are available in the Selectmen's office.**

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Accept the resignation of Cory Attra from the Conservation Commission effective immediately.** Ms. Weinstein made a motion to accept the resignation of Cory Attra from the Conservation Commission effective immediately. Mr. Major seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding interviews for the Cemetery Committee- Pamela Bochinski, Debbie Dannenbaum, Mark Harper and Richard Wolf.** Moved to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

**Discussion/decision regarding Town of Weston Policy on Memorial or Honorary Gifts for the Landscape Memorials – Claudia Hahn.** Moved to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting

**Discussion/decision regarding the Food Pantry – Teri Gaberman and Betsy Peyreigne.** Teri Gaberman and Betsy Peyreigne said that they were at the Board of Selectmen's meeting to ask the Selectmen to grant permission for them to raise the money and purchase a pre fabricated shed to be placed on Town property to house non-perishable food items for the citizens of Weston that are in need.

Ms. Weinstein said that her first choice was to be able to utilize an existing building. She said there were several locations that she and Betsy had looked at, but when they brought them to the Fire Marshal, they did not work. Mr. Bliss said that he had also spent time looking at spaces and the most cost effective solution is to get a pre-fab building.

Mr. Major said that this needed to go to the Historic District Commission. Ms. Peyreigne said everything start to finish should come in under \$12,000 which they are going to raise. They will ask the Town to assume maintenance costs and the utility bill, which is just electricity. Mr. Major said that this also needed an 8-24.

Ms. Weinstein said that she was concerned with liability and wanted this to be under a 501c3. Mr. Major said that there was a group called Tsunami Mommies that has served its purpose, but the entity and 501c3 classification still exists. The way it was setup is that they can actually use their structure, revive it accordingly and incorporate the Food Pantry into their corporate structure.

Mr. Bliss said that if it is on Town property it would be covered by the Town insurance. Mr. Major said that the Town does not want to be the one running it.

Mr. Major made a motion to authorize the Food Pantry to occupy the space on the Fire Department parking lot in the vicinity where the old Parks and Recreation trailer was, further that the Town would be responsible for the maintenance of the building, which is to be supplied, and the ongoing utility cost associated with it, provided that the Food Pantry and its entity obtain an 8-24 approval from Planning and Zoning, Historic District Commission approval, if necessary, and to identify and become part of a valid 501c3 corporation. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein said she wanted to assure people that if it did not happen by the deadline that there was an alternative location, so that there would not be an interruption to the operation of the Food Pantry.

**Discussion/decision regarding Policy Criteria for Culvert Replacement.- Woody Bliss** – Mr. Bliss explained the two documents that were in the packet. The first document is a recommendation and criteria that came from some of the neighbors on Deepwood Road, he had met with them a couple of times and had discussions and made a few modifications. The second document was guidelines developed by John Conte.

Mr. Major said that the guidelines that are there, we are going to be changing every culvert in Town. Mr. Bliss said that all of the criteria have to be met. Mr. Conte said to develop an ordinance, you cannot take a cookbook approach. He said you have to be careful about just coming up with a quick set of guidelines.

Mr. Bliss said the Town Attorney said that we were under no legal obligation to replace culverts unless they break or collapse. We do have to maintain them and we do have to repair them. Mr. Major said this should be more like a variance, where it should be on a case by case basis.

After some discussion, Mr. Bliss thought that we should bring Attorney Bernhard in because he had expressed concern about the Town taking the first step of choosing to spend the money to fix a problem that we were not legally bound to fix. Mr. Bernhard had suggested that we establish criteria for making the decision to spend town money to replace a culvert. Mr. Major suggested that we find out how other Towns address the issue.

Ms. Weinstein said she would continue to work on the policy with John Conte and go over it with Ken Bernhard. She will have it back to the Selectmen for the next meeting.

**Update on the Bleachers and Booster Barn- Judy DeVito.**

Ms. DeVito said that she had spoken to Joanne Keating who said after the Selectmen and the Board of Finance approved the Bleachers and Booster Barn, Rick Darling issued the purchase order for the bleachers and she signed the contract. The bleacher company did a shop drawing which was received yesterday.

Kaestle Boos presented to the Building Committee last night with suggestions for the Booster Barn. They gave them three options, two under the bleachers and one about 10 feet on the outside of the bleachers. The Building Committee wanted some design

modifications, one to the exterior of the building, and the other to the location of where to place the Booster Barn under the bleachers. This should only set the schedule back about one week.

**Discussion/decision regarding legal services from Cohen and Wolf.** Mr. Landry said at the last Selectmen's meeting the Board had asked that we compare to the previous letter, a copy was in their packet, and to make sure that the bullet points on the report from the Legal Review Committee was covered in the new letter which it is.

Mr. Major made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to enter into the agreement with Cohen and Wolf for legal services dated September 3, 2008. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding MOA between the State of CT. Dept. of Emergency Management & Homeland Security and the Town of Weston, located in DEMHS Region 1, regarding State use of funding granted by the Department of Homeland Security.**

Mr. Bliss said that the Federal Government has changed to a degree the way they give us our emergency management money for Homeland Security. All the federal money now goes to the State and the State will now flow that to the various FEMA districts instead of directly to the Towns. Mike Ferullo does not feel that this will make a change in the money that we get, but rather that is how they are going to administer it and account for it.

Mr. Major asked if it comes into the district, who was the decision maker. Mr. Bliss said Richard Fournier is the director of the district. He has a committee that does this.

Mr. Major made a motion to authorize Woody Bliss as First Selectman to execute the resolution as attached here to, making one change in the agreement to reflect that it is Michael Ferullo and not Patrick Daubert as the correct contact. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding Sterling Planet Sales Agreement- Woody Bliss**

Mr. Bliss said that we had voted to approve an agreement to buy green certificates. The contract had never been signed and because the cost of energy had gone up so much they withdrew the offer and have come to us with a new offer which has an expiration date. This new agreement will cost about \$2,000 more than the last agreement.

After some discussion it was decided that the Board wanted to know exactly what they were signing on for and this item should be tabled until the first meeting in November.

**Update on Solid Waste and Recycling- Woody Bliss**

Moved to the next meeting.

**Request for property tax refunds:**

<b>BMW Financial</b>	<b>\$2,522.62</b>
<b>BMW Financial Services</b>	<b>\$729.08</b>
<b>BMW Financial Services</b>	<b>\$624.56</b>
<b>Chase Auto Finance</b>	<b>\$1,327.21</b>

<b>Chase Manhattan Auto Fin. Corp.</b>	<b>\$284.82</b>
<b>Chase Auto Finance</b>	<b>\$175.16</b>
<b>Daimler Chrysler Financial Services</b>	<b>\$519.69</b>
<b>Honda Lease Trust</b>	<b>\$300.68</b>
<b>Honda Lease Trust</b>	<b>\$97.33</b>
<b>Toyota Financial Services</b>	<b>\$1,031.82</b>
<b>VW Credit Leasing LTD</b>	<b><u>\$851.97</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,464.94</b>

Mr. Major made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign off on property tax refunds totaling \$8,464.94 in accordance with our agenda for tonight's meeting. Ms. Weinstein seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Any other business to come properly before the meeting-** Ms Weinstein made a motion to add to the agenda a discussion of the current financial environment and how it affect our Town. Mr. Major seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Weinstein said she was concerned about how it was going to impact Weston. She said that we need to start being aware of what peoples priorities are and what they can and cannot pay. She said it would behoove us to look at this year's budget and see if there are any changes that we could make to help make sure that going into next year that we are in good financial shape.

She felt it would be helpful if they met with the Board of Finance and the Board of Education again and let the Board of Education know that they are concerned about the budget. She said maybe we could get some advice from the Board of Finance about what they can do about the Town budget as well.

Mr. Major said he felt that was prudent regardless of what is going on. Mr. Major suggested a separate meeting with the other boards be scheduled.

**Executive Session- None**

**Adjournment-** At 10:52pm Ms. Weinstein made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Major seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito  
 Administrative Assistant  
 Approved 11/06/08