

Board of Selectmen's meeting  
June 23, 2014

**Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; Department heads; residents and members of the press.**

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

**Discussion/decision regarding determining the wording regarding the Charter Revision Ballot Question-** Mr. Tracey moved that the Board add the following question to the ballot. "Shall the Weston Town Charter as amended and restated by the Charter Revision Commission be approved?" Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding Grey Fox Lane- Pat Sullivan-** Attorney Sullivan said in December 2011 with the Town Engineers confirmation the Board of Selectmen accepted Grey Fox Lane. Unknown to the parties a small section of the lane was not included in the transfer to the Town. The parties have presented deeds which once recorded will correct the oversight.

Mr. Muller moved to accept the Affidavit of Facts and the accompanying deeds for Grey Fox Lane. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion regarding the reappointment of William Proceller and David Coprio to the Building Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2016-** Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint William Proceller and David Coprio to the Building Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Robert Pickholtz; Harry Spencer; Larry Cass and Eric Bell to the Insurance Advisory Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2016.** Mr. Muller moved to reappoint Robert Pickholtz, Harry Spencer, Larry Cass, Michael O'Brien and Eric Bell to Insurance Advisory Committee for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Paul Levin; Keith Brooks and Jordan Fenster to the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2016.** Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Paul Levin, Keith Brooks and Jordan Fenster to the Commission for the Arts for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Lynne Barrelle as the Town Historian for a term to expire June 30, 2016.** Mr. Muller moved to reappoint Lynne Barrelle as the Town Historian for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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**Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Father Michael Dunn as the Weston's Police Chaplin for a term to expire June 30, 2016.** Mr. Tracey moved to reappoint Father Michael Dunn as the Weston's Police Chaplin for a term to expire June 30, 2016. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously

**Discussion/decision regarding a request from Homes with Hope-** This item was tabled to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting

**Discussion/decision regarding expanding the Lachat Town Farm Commission to nine members.** Since we established the Commission, Ellen McCormick has said they have other people that are interested in joining the Commission. She feels that the more people on the Commission the more she can divide up the various responsibilities. Ms. Weinstein is asking the Selectmen to expand the Commission to nine members. Mr. Tracey moved to expand the Lachat Town Farm Commission from seven members to nine members. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding Building Committee recommended change order for the High School doors and windows project.** Dr. Palmer said that the updated financial sheet for the project indicated the additional funds of \$60,000 that were reallocated by the Board of Finance at their last meeting. There was a Building Committee Meeting held on June 20<sup>th</sup> and if the infrastructure is not put in, the construction that will happen in those classrooms will mandate that we will have to deconstruct some of what is done and go back in and put the infrastructure at a future point and time.

The Building Committee approved the project to move forward with not air conditioning any room fully at this time, but to build the infrastructure for all 12 classrooms. At the next round of Capital requests she anticipates that the Board of Education would seek additional funding to put the units into those classrooms.

Dr. Palmer said the best figure she could give right now to purchase and install the actual units is about \$150,000 plus or minus 10,000.. They are bringing on a new Facilities Director who is a mechanical engineer and they want to see if they can use some in house services to help with the second phase of this.

Mr. Muller moved that the Board authorize the First Selectman to approve change order #3 to add air conditioning infrastructure work for the High School Window and Doors Project. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously

**Discussion/decision regarding a Memorandum of Understanding for the Senior Center between the Board of Education and the Town of Weston-** Mr. Tracey said his concern is that in the proposal the Board of Education determine what security requirements there are and the Board of Education and the Town pay for them and that is not a good balance of authority. Ms. Weinstein said she offered several compromises, all of which were rejected.

Lewis Brey said the overriding issue has to do with who's responsible for managing the properties. Under Connecticut State Statutes the Board of Education has control of the building

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at the school. Security is the much bigger issue so the issue is whether the Board of Education is willing to surrender that responsible to the police department, the Selectmen or anyone else.

Under the Statute and the MOU the Board of Education has jurisdiction over the Senior Center building property. Given its proximity to Hurlbutt, the Board felt that that was the reason to control the security there. The issue is who makes the final decision and the second part is who pays for it. The school system has to have the final decision.

Dr. Palmer said in terms of security that there is a very reasonable standard put in place. If the one issue is who pays for it in the end, there really is one budget in the Town. If that comes down to be the real issue maybe there is other language we can use to address that. If there has to be some adjustment in the funding she doesn't feel that should be the deal breaker.

Ms. Weinstein said that she wanted to thank Dr. Palmer because she has been incredibly supportive of the Senior Center. But there have been many instances in the past where the Town has not been consulted on security decisions that impact the Senior Center. Ms. Weinstein asked what do we do the sixth time a security decision is made at the school and the Board of Selectmen is not notified. Phil Schaeffer said those were decisions that were made on the fly and shouldn't have happened. Ms. Weinstein asked what procedures we have in place to ensure that it doesn't happen again?

Mr. Muller said what he understood that this agreement is to cover things like we need additional cameras, windows checked twice a day, more ongoing issues. Ms. Weinstein said this covers both and that is the problem. She said if it was the infrastructure aspect of it she would have no problem turning over all of the infrastructure control and cost to the Board of Education. Her concern is the operational aspect.

Mr. Tracey said that he thought that we could come up with language for this agreement that defines a situation that so extenuating that you might overrule the Board of Selectmen. After more discussion Mr. Tracey offered to work on the wording. This will be on the agenda for the next Selectmen's meeting.

**Discussion/decision regarding authorizing the First Selectman to apply for Conservation Commission or administrative approval for the installation of a sound system on the stadium field.** Dan Clarke said that trenching may be required to pick up the junction boxes on the 40 yard line on the east side of the field. This may need Conservation Commission or administrative approval. Ms. Weinstein said that there is wetlands back there but the feeling is that the Conservation Planner would be able to approve this administratively.

Mr. Tracey moved to authorize the First Selectman to apply for Conservation Commission or administrative approval for the installation of a sound system on the stadium field. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding the Memorandum of Understanding for the Stadium Lights between the Town of Weston, Board of Education and Youth Sports.** Ellen Uzenoff said if Weston High School goes forward into a championship season it is possible that they would say

you have to have these two games on a Saturday night. If we qualified we would not be able to do what the league would require them to do because they wouldn't have permission. She said it is a "what if" possibility.

Ms. Weinstein said that youth football has already lost playtime and losing another Saturday night wasn't fair to them. Ms. Uzenoff said when they were talking about this the three things that came out was the **CIAC** tournament play, the second was the cheerleading and third one is the second night of Rosh Hashana.

Mr. Tracey said that if those situations come up and there needs to be a discussion he presumes there will be flexibility on both sides. Everyone needs to understand that the MOU that they are signing is supposed to be the most that the neighbors are going to have deal with. If there has to be more things then there needs to be other compromises so that the neighbors aren't more disadvantaged. Ellen said this was a "what if" and this was a response. She wanted to clarify the response that it could impact the program in a way that would mean it would be eliminated as it is now. She wanted to be up front about it. Ms. Weinstein said that her concern is with BOE adding usage that is currently not there. The cheerleaders have not been on the field for at least the past four years.

Ms. Weinstein went through the changes to the Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Tracey said he has an issue with regard to screening section of the MOU and made some changes to the wording. Mr. Tracey also felt that there should be a Statement of Intent in the MOU. A copy of the MOU with changes is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Muller moved to approve an amended MOU for the stadium lights between the Town of Weston, Board of Education and Youth Sports as amended dated June 23, 2104. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Discussion/decision regarding execution of a Memorandum of Understanding for the 2016 Pre-disaster mitigation plan update.** Ms. Weinstein said that this is something that we pass every year and this is the regional plan to plan for disasters. We have to have a plan in place by state law and this is our updated plan. Mr. Tracey moved to authorize the First Selectman to execute an MOU for the 2016 Pre-disaster mitigation plan update. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Open Item**

**First Selectman's update-** COG- Seven out of eight Towns in the Southwestern Regions have passed there ordinances to convert from an RPA to a COG. The HEVCO region has started the process of ordinance review as well but none of their Towns have actually passed yet.

There are some issues regarding the MPO status because Stamford does not want to merge the MPO with HEVCO and they actually have veto power.

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We are moving forward with the space needs study with the lower level of the Town Hall Building to relocate land use and human services and potentially Parks and Recreation to the bottom of the building. We don't have to ask for money because two years ago we put in \$40,000 for space needs study and we have money left over.

**Any other business to come properly before the meeting- None**

**Approval of the Minutes of the May 1st and May 15<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen's meeting.** Mr. Muller moved to approve the minutes of the May 1st and May 15<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen's meetings. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

At 9:30pm Mr. Muller moved to enter into executive session. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session- Employee Contracts-**

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito  
Administrative Assistant  
Approved 8/7/14