

TOWN OF WESTFORD
TOWN BOARD MEETING
JULY 2, 2015

At 7:00 p.m., the Town Board reviewed and signed the following bills for payment:

General Fund #102 - #112 = \$3,434.59, as set forth in Abstract 7G.

Highway Fund #59 - #65 = \$6,954.12, as set forth in Abstract 7H.

Supervisor Davis called the regular meeting of the Westford Town Board to order at 7:15 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

Town Board members present: Supervisor Brad Davis; Councilpeople Ralph Ritton, Delphine Kerzick, Phillip Strong, Robert Huntington.

Absent: none.

Other Town Officials Present: Highway Superintendent Martin Peeters, Assessor/Land Use Officer Douglas Gohde, Judge Michael Fay, Town Clerk Louisa Platt.

Guests: Town of Maryland Supervisor Peter Oberacker and Councilmen Scott Gaston, Chris DiDonna. Sign in sheet on file at Town Clerk Office.

Minutes of the June 5, 2015 Town Board meeting were read. Correction to New Business #1 from CDPH to read CDPHP. Correction to last paragraph, time to adjourn from 8:045 p.m. to read 8:05 p.m. Motion by Councilman Huntington to accept as amended. Seconded by Councilwoman Kerzick. All in favor. Carried.

At this time, Peter Oberacker, Town of Maryland Supervisor presented a NYS municipal update explaining towns need to come up with a tax freeze plan that would equal a 1% savings in addition to the 2% tax cap. Discussion followed concerning various ways to determine savings. It was noted, as an example of efficiency purposes, Westford and the surrounding towns do help each other with their Highway trucks. It was suggested to consider the possibility of sharing a Dog Control Officer for both Westford and Maryland. Following discussion, Mr. Oberacker explained he is a member of the Town of Maryland Steering Committee and attended this meeting long with committee members Mr. Gaston and Mr. DiDonna for the purpose of asking the Westford Town Board to also consider appointing a Steering Committee for Westford. This would show NYS that both towns are discussing shared services. Should a Steering Committee be appointed, the Maryland Committee members would like to hold meetings with Westford Committee members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. To compensate the Dog Control Officer for time spent on the dangerous dog incident in addition to normal Dog Control Officer duties was discussed. Motion by Councilman Ritton to compensate Dog Control Officer Becky Sears \$50.00 plus mileage for time up to the next court appearance. If time goes beyond the next appearance, then can consider further compensation. Seconded by Councilman Huntington. All in favor. Carried.

2. The renovation work to the Town Hall Hallway should be completed by July 19th. Table storage will be located on the other side of the new wall, by the stairwell. The town safe is also located in that area. Safety issues concerning the weight of the safe was discussed and will need to be addressed.
3. CHIPS update was given by Highway Superintendent Peeters. He is planning to do paving on July 15th, contingent upon the weather.
4. A bill for road dust control was sent to the State Park authority.
5. Supervisor Davis signed the necessary form for the Scout Leaders so that Patrick Salisbury can build 2 dugouts at Gopher Field for his Eagle Scout project.
6. Supervisor Davis left messages on Dennis Martindale's answering machine and will follow-up with a personal visit to discuss the Town Barn roof issue.
7. Councilman Huntington mentioned the possibility of a single axel truck located in Whitesboro, NY. When their town board makes it available for sale, he and Highway Superintendent Peeters will look at it. Supervisor Davis discussed the possibility of getting a cab sweeper for the town. Superintendent Peeters is looking into prices and what, if any, are available. Councilman Strong advised that they did look at one plow at a cost just over \$10,000.00, however per the town's procurement policy, they will need to look at others. Councilman Huntington noted that a new Mac Chassis with plow, etc. costs \$ 170,000.00. From the floor, Mr. Oberacker stated that the town of Maryland is leasing 2 trucks with a 10% reduction. Councilman Huntington will meet with him to review lease details. He will also contact Worcester Highway Superintendent Roger Butler about a grant they are working on for their Highway trucks.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. A letter was received from the State Department of Public Service concerning a study on the state of telecommunications in NYS. Several information sessions and public statement hearings will be held between July 8, 2015 & August 5, 2015. A copy of the letter and schedule is on file at the Town Clerk's Office.
2. The Town Clerk-Tax Collector printer is not printing properly. Per trouble shooting advice, all of the ink cartridges have been replaced at a cost of \$102.99. The problem was not solved. Town Clerk asked if she should follow up with the next step of replacing the two printer heads at a cost of \$64.99 each or look into another printer. Discussion followed. Motion by Councilman Strong to purchase a new printer. Seconded by Councilwoman Kerzick. All in favor. Carried.
3. Town Clerk will advertise the following for bids to purchase 2,000 yards road sand: No blow sand is to be included in any delivery. Bid price is to include delivery to the Town Highway Department in 2015 with payment made January, 2016. Sealed bids to be opened at the August 7, 2015 Town Board meeting. The Town Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids and accept any bids which they deem most favorable to the interest of the Town of Westford.

4. Councilman Strong mentioned that the Town Board will need to replace Zoning Board of Appeals positions due to the fact that one member will be relocating to another area and another member has not participated in ZBA affairs.
5. It was noted that the Town Planning Board has not been holding meetings. Supervisor Davis will invite Planning Board Chairman Lyle Morrison to next month's Town Board Meeting.
6. Town Clerk received notification from NYS Department of Transportation that they are using traffic counters to collect traffic data on public roads in all municipalities. Westford was originally scheduled for the week of June 24th.
7. Councilman Ritton reported the Fire Departments of Westford, Worcester, East Worcester and Schenevus may be receiving a \$234,000.00 grant to use towards resolving radio problems in the four towns. He also noted that 50 children have registered to attend the Westford Junior Fire Fighter's program which is scheduled to be held July 27-28, 2015 with a graduation ceremony and community cookout on July 29th.

Since there was no further business to come before this meeting. motion by Councilwoman Kerzick to adjourn, Seconded by Councilman Huntington. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Louisa Platt,
Town Clerk