

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, August 2, 2018

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Clayton Stalker, Russ Austin, Frank Reeder

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Stalker.
2. Approval of Minutes: July 19, 2018. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:
 - A. Ron Fish, Recycling Center Supervisor:

Ron would like to have an open-top container with a roof over it for the recycled paper as he believes it would hold more than the open-front one that we now use and would eliminate stacking. He would also like a concrete slab under the containers (3) to avoid issues during mud season and heavy rains. Ron has gotten an estimate of \$5,200 for the slab and is working on getting prices on the open-top container, roof, steps and tarps. The Selectmen will take up Ron's requests when the budget process starts.
 - B. Theresa Russell, Treasurer:

Theresa reported that she has requested backup (proof of overpayment) from the Tax Collector regarding a tax situation whereby money is possibly owed to a resident and she has not gotten a response from the Tax Collector. She is frustrated by the lack of cooperation and doesn't know what the next step should be and added that more checks and balances need to be in place to avoid mistakes. The Selectmen stated that they understood that she just wanted to do her job as Treasurer and that the same course of action could be taken as the recent Ellsworth case and a writ could be filed with the court to compel the Tax Collector to turn over the requested information. Theresa stated that this situation, along with others, would not have happened if the Tax Collector was using the tax software that was purchased by the town. The Selectmen and Theresa agreed that, in the future, requests made to the Tax Collector will be given a ten-day deadline. Following that, with no response, the town attorney will be called to proceed with a court filing based on the Right-To-Know Law. The Selectmen told Theresa that they appreciated her coming in and bringing this matter to their attention.
4. The Selectmen opened bids for the Town Hall exterior wall repair. Two bids were received: Bill Hatt Carpentry - \$10,560 and Target New England - \$43,760. Target NE had verbally stated that the drainage work was approximately \$10,000. Bill Hatt Carpentry did not include drainage work. To save money, the town's Highway Department will be doing the drainage work. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Frank Reeder to hire Bill Hatt Carpentry to do the repair work on the Town Hall exterior wall. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to approve a manifest of \$2,558.31 for the Highway Department and \$220,763.41 for all other bills for a total of \$223,321.72. Motion passed 3-0.
6. Old Business:
 - A. An operation plan that states how the town offices would function during an emergency is included in the Westmoreland Emergency Operations Plan.
 - B. Donation of land on Hyland Hill to town: A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin that the town will accept the property pending that all property taxes are paid up-to-date. Motion passed 3-0. The sale of the land will be included in the Warrant at town meeting in March of 2019.
 - C. Sale of town property: Per RSA 80:80, the Selectmen can convey by deed property acquired by tax collector's deeds. Selectmen established minimum bids on the five properties that will be advertised and put up for bid.

7. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

- Payroll Manifests: July 31, 2018
- Payroll Tax Payments: July 31, 2018
- Retirement Payments: July 31, 2018
- Health Insurance Payment: July 31, 2018
- State of NH – DMV: Return to Town Clerk 7/31/2018
- July Balance Sheet
- July Trial Balance

- A. The paving of NH State roads that include Route 63, Depot Road and the beginning of South Village Road will begin on August 6th by Lane Construction.
- B. Merger of town property: A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Clayton Stalker to merge the town hall property with the land recently purchased behind the town hall. Motion passed 3-0. This will enable, if anything will be built on the property, the elimination of the shared boundary in regard to setback restrictions.
- C. Appointment of Deputy Town Clerk: Per the request of the Selectmen to the Town Clerk to bring forth a name to them for approval for her to appoint a Deputy Town Clerk, the Town Clerk presented the name of her daughter, Kristin Adler. The Selectmen will request a resume.
- D. Jason Simino is requesting permission to work on Reynolds Road, which is a Class VI road. The town cannot do continual maintenance on a Class VI road. Selectmen approved Jason's request.
- E. Selectmen Austin and Reeder will not be available to meet on the next scheduled date of August 16th. The meeting will be rescheduled for Thursday, August 23rd at 6:00pm.

8. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen's office.*

- A. Tiffanie Hills sent an invitation to her son's Eagle Scout ceremony on the town common on Sunday, August 5. Selectmen Reeder will attend.
- B. A copy of a letter sent to Brian & Melissa Hoffman from the Conservation Commission in response to their request for information.

9. Public Business: None

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, August 23, 2018, 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

Russ Austin

Frank Reeder