

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting  
Thursday, August 23, 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: August 2, 2018. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:
  - A. Tamara Keshecki of Stonewall Circle was present to discuss the dead-end portion of Stonewall Circle. John Snowden was present as the President of the Homeowners Association of the Adams Farm Development. He stated that neighbors do not feel safe with inappropriate activity occurring in the area beyond the road where there is no visibility, including an arrest on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Stonewall Circle was never completed by the developer. While the town cannot block the road because it is a Class V road, Tamara had done research and asked if that portion of the road could be reclassified to a Class VI road. Class VI roads are still town roads, but are not maintained and can be subject to gates and bars. According to both Tamara and John, the road has not been maintained for more than five years beyond a field driveway that John has on his property, which is one way to reclassify the road. Selectmen will review the process for reclassifying a road and report their findings at the next meeting.
  - B. Kate McNally, Program Manager for the Cheshire Coalition for Tobacco Free Communities: The Coalition's goal is to raise the legal minimum age of the sale and possession of all tobacco and nicotine products from 18 to 21. Ms. McNally would like the Town of Westmoreland to consider initiating an ordinance that the products not be sold in stores in town to people under 21. She gave many statistics of studies that have been (reports available in Selectmen's office). If an ordinance passed in town, the Coalition would work to educate both retailers and the public. The goal of the Coalition is to get towns to join in their cause and hopefully the State will follow. The Selectmen see no downsides to presenting this to the town, but need to speak with the town attorney as to how an ordinance could be passed. The only ordinances the town currently has are for zoning.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to approve a manifest of \$6,197.90 for the Highway Department and \$13,084.81 for all other bills for a total of \$19,282.71. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
  - A. Appointment of Deputy Town Clerk: The Selectmen received a resume from Kristin Adler for the position of Deputy Town Clerk. Her name was presented by Town Clerk, Cindi Adler, for appointment with the approval by the Selectmen. The Selectmen believe it would not be in the best interest of the town to have direct relatives in the same position. The Selectmen have an obligation to improve the current adverse situation in the town hall and considering recent and current issues and a lack of cooperation in the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors office with town employees and officials, believe that appointing the candidate will not be moving in a positive direction. Chairman Stalker called for a vote and a vote of 3-0 was taken to deny the appointment. The Town Clerk will be asked to submit another name for approval.

- B. The roof of the Corner Schoolhouse on Poocham Road has been cleaned.
- C. Donation of land on Hyland Hill to town: The tax collector has informed the selectmen that taxes are paid up-to-date and the property owner has stated that no conditions will be made regarding the land. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Frank Reeder to accept the property owned by EMRI, LLLP as a gift to the town. Motion passed 3-0. The sale of the land will be included in the Warrant at town meeting in March of 2019.
- D. Steel beams located on Makinen Road that were used on the bridge will be picked up by the road crew.
- E. As Planning Board representative, Frank Reeder made a correction to the July 19 minutes that the Alternative Energy Advisory Committee would go before the Planning Board with any questions that they had.

6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

- Payroll Manifests: August 11, 2018
- Payroll Tax Payments: August 15, 2018
- AVG Virus Protection: \$67.99
- NHES – 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter: \$25.00
- Mahoney Overpayment of Property Tax: \$4583.00
- GJ Entry #652: void check #15003
- TD Bank name change authorization
- MS-535 revision

- A. Advisory Committee procedure changes:
  - 1. Regulation #3 was changed from five (5) members to seven (7).
  - 2. Added: A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum.
- B. Susan Finnegan has resigned from the Town Common Advisory Committee. The remaining members will present name(s) for the Selectmen’s review and appointment.
- C. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Russ Austin to appoint Jean Rudolph to the Agricultural Advisory Committee. Motion passed 3-0.
- D. The Trustees of Trust Funds have requested the Selectmen to appoint William Franzen as an Alternate member on their board. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Russ Austin to appoint William Franzen as a Alternate Trustee of Trust Funds. Motion passed 3-0.
- E. River Road North Bridge: Silt, debris and gravel have built up under the bridge and have greatly decreased the water flow area. Jo Ann is talking to DES to get an emergency permit to excavate the material from under the bridge. Funds from the 2017 excess Highway Block money from the State can be used to fund the project.
- F. Adams Road Culvert: property owner Donald Brehm has given the town permission to have water channeled into a ravine on his property from a culvert that the road crew will install. This will prevent road damage that is occurring during heavy rains.
- G. Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program: there are federal funds available for mitigation projects. Emergency Management Director Tom Finnegan will be submitting in Intent to apply. Projects could include mitigation at the River Road North Bridge or Harvey Pond dam.

7. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen’s office.*  
None

8. Public Business: None

9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre  
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

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Russ Austin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Frank Reeder

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