

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: John Snowdon, Bill McGahie and Mark Terry

1. The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by John Snowdon.
2. Approval of Minutes: May 20, 2025 Motion was made by Mark Terry, seconded by Bill McGahie to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guest - Harry Ackerman, Recycling Committee
 - Pay As You Throw (PAYT) program anticipated to begin mid-July
 - Bags in production now and will be sold at Jingles, Barn & Thistle and Market Basket.
 - Cages coming from Badger Company to use for sorting.
 - Committee working to establish a traffic pattern including parking for Share Shack to eliminate flow issues.
 - Looking to relocate Scrap-it bin so it can be monitored more easily.
 - Committee looking for volunteers to help separate the commingle and teach residents how to separate properly. Working on signage and handouts to help with the process. Plan to start the separation process as soon as possible.
4. Old Business
 - A. Makinen Road - Road Agent, Dave Poklemba, inspected road upgrade. All looks good except gravel thin in some areas. Poklemba suggested Dan Lang issue the Town a check for \$2,000 for additional gravel to be added by Town Road Crew in the fall after bulk of construction trucks are finished using the road during house construction. Selectmen agreed with the arrangement. Motion made by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie to accept and reclassify a portion of road beginning approx 550 feet from R15-48A and extending another approximate 550'. Section of road to be classified as Class V and maintained by the Town. Motion passed 3-0. The Planning Board will approve the proposed minor subdivision with road acceptance providing Class V frontage for the new lot and once driveway permits complete.
 - B. Park Hill Event - Received comments from both host and residents opposed to the event about how much they appreciate the time spent by Selectmen listening to concerns and researching what was needed to make the event a safe event for the Town. Selectboard agrees that residents need to work together to resolve their differences and that the Selectmen will not be involved in future events providing permits and safety measures are in place. Chief Nelson did a great job coordinating permits and working to ensure the event was run safely. Mr. Kats voluntarily did everything asked knowing there are no ordinances to force him to hire State Police and Cheshire County Emergency personnel to be onsite for safety and ending the event at 11pm in consideration of his neighbors. The 4 day event hosted 150-200 people at most per night and had no issues.
 - C. Dog Issues - The Town has had leash laws since 1975 and the State also has RSA's about restraining dogs. RSA 466:31a outlines penalties for owners who violate these laws
 - (a) \$25 for the 1st nuisance offense (excessive barking, wandering at large, getting into trash, excreting on property)
 - \$100 for the 2nd subsequent nuisance offense within 12 months.

- (b) \$50 for the 1st menace offense (growling or chasing people not on owners premises including bicycles and vehicles). \$200 for the 2nd offense committed within 12 months.
- (c) \$100 for the 1st vicious offense (bites, attacks, or preys on game animals, domestic animals, fowl or human beings) \$400 for the 2nd offense committed within 12 months.

Glebe Road - 1st vicious dog offense fine issued in April for dog biting a cyclist in April. 2nd vicious dog offense fine issued last week for the same dog as well as 3 others from the same household attacking neighbor's dog on neighbor's property. Both incidents involved State Police and were reported to the Selectmen's office. Police advised that if another incident occurs with the dog, the owners will be summoned to court. The town has reached the maximum penalty allowed by RSA.

Spofford Road - 1st vicious dog offence fine issued today for dog attacking neighbor's dog on neighbor's property. State Police were called and the incident was reported to the Selectman's office.

D. Hurricane Road/Crystal Drive - Tenant served eviction notice. Once the apartment is empty the Health Officer and Building Inspector will be able to inspect for code violation corrections. The Planning Board extended site plan review to the July 7th meeting to allow for more time.

E. Truck Traffic Route 63 - Driver feedback radar signs to be installed in an effort to slow traffic down through the village. John contacted Bill Lambert, Dept. of Safety and is waiting for information about the proposed 3 way stop at the Route 63 and South Village Road intersection.. Speeding has been an issue throughout Town and a 3rd radar sign that is portable will be moving around in an effort to help slow people down. A State Trooper has issued 3 tickets in recent weeks to drivers going over 60mph on South Village Road so the radar sign has been positioned there first.

F. Recreation Committee/WYSI

- Westmoreland Youth Sports will be discontinued and now that youth sports will be run through the Recreation Committee all money collected for fees will go through the Town's general account. Youth sports are funded by player fees and any expenses or purchases will be paid using the Town's account not to exceed money collected as there is no budget in place for youth sports at this time.
- Coach background checks will be done through the SAU going forward
- Youth sports are covered by Town insurance as part of the Recreation Committee

5. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by John Snowdon seconded by Mark Terry to approve Manifests for: General Fund \$409,268.03. Motion passed 3-0.

6. New Business

Signature Approval was given for the following

Payroll 5/27/2025	Tax Payment Agreement (1)	Retirement \$3019.92
Payroll Taxes 5/27/2025	Deed Waiver (1)	Home Depot \$147.18
Pistol Permit (1)	HealthTrust \$6463.92	Amazon \$81.58

A. Partridge Brook Erosion Issue - .Email received from Chip Huckins also in attendance regarding erosion occurring on his property after work done with grant money from the

Dept. of Agriculture several years ago. Huckins has tried to contact Cheshire County Conservation Commission to find ways to remediate the erosion which at this point is 10-12 feet deep by approx. 60 in length. Snowden to forward contact information for Jon Meadows, Acting District Conservationist.

- B. Changing Banks - Considering changing to Savings Bank of Walpole. Some questions about interest and fees. Mark Terry suggested a special meeting with Selectmen and SBW before deciding on change. Selectmen all agreed and will schedule.

9. 7:48pm Motion by John Snowden, seconded by Mark Terry to enter nonpublic session per RSA91-A:3 II(c). Motion passed 3-0.

10. 8:03pm Motion by Mark Terry, seconded by Bill McGahie to leave nonpublic session and return to public session. Motion passed 3-0

11. 8:05pm Motion by Mark Terry, seconded by Bill McGahie to adjourn meeting. Motion Passed 3-0. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Scanlan
Town Administrator

NEXT REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2025 1:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

John Snowden, Chairman

William McGahie

Mark Terry