

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, January 2, 2020

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Russ Austin.
2. Approval of Minutes: December 19, 2019 and December 31, 2019. Motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests: None
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Clayton Stalker to approve a manifest of \$7,029.38 for the highway department and \$2,471.54 for all other bills for a total of \$9,500.92 and a manifest of \$0 for the highway department and \$288,200.99 for all other bills for a total of \$288,200.99. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
 - A. The next meeting of the Fire Station team will be held January 9th at 3:00pm in the town hall.
 - B. Broadband: The town attorney has sent his comments regarding the initial Consolidated Communications (CCI) contract and CCI has responded. Changes will be reflected in an updated contract.
 - C. Library trees: Money will be put in the 2020 budget to have five trees behind the library taken down due to their proximity to the library.
6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll: 12/31/2019
EFTPS - Payroll taxes: 12/31/2019
Healthtrust – insurance: 12/31/2019
NH Retirement: 12/31/2019

 - A. Selectmen reviewed a report from Primex (insurance) following a safety inspection of the highway garage. There are five recommendations for improvements. The report is available in the Selectmen's office.
 - B. Selectmen received the 2019 Groundwater Monitoring Report for testing done at the old landfill site. The report is available in the Selectmen's office.
7. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen's office.*

A thank-you letter was received from Community Kitchen for the 2019 appropriation given to them by the town and from Maplewood for Starkey/Cobb money given to them at Christmas.
8. Selectmen worked on the 2020 Budget
 - A. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Clayton Stalker to encumber \$8,000 from the Fire Department Thermal Camera grant warrant article. Motion passes 3-0. If approved by FEMA, the funds may be used for fire department needs.

- B. The Town Clerk reviewed the costs for purchasing a counting machine for elections. A refurbished machine will cost \$3,500 with a yearly \$250 maintenance fee. With the lack of people to count ballots by hand and the time it takes, the Selectmen believe the counter would be a benefit to the town. They will present a warrant article to propose using money from the 2019 surplus to purchase the counter.
- C. Selectmen discussed opening a new Capital Reserve Fund for town hall repairs. The Town Administrator and Town Clerk are working towards getting a grant to have a study done of the town hall. The CR Fund would be used for the matching grant dollars for the study and a start for future work that will be needed, including the preservation of the windows. A design for a septic system will also be done for a much-needed septic system. Grant money is available for town hall repairs and can be applied for once a study of the building is done.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Frank Reeder

Clayton R. Stalker

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, January 16, 2020, 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED -
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES