

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting  
Thursday, January 3, 2019

**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: December 20, 2018 and December 28, 2018. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests:
  - A. Marshall Patmos asked if there was a plan to expand the town hall when and if there are changes in the fire station. Selectmen responded that nothing about adding on to the town hall has been discussed.
  - B. Tax Collector Melissa Bonito stated that there is no storm window in the Town Clerk/Tax Collector office and asked if one could be put in. The custodian will be asked to take care of it.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to approve two manifests for December 31, 2018: \$5,148.51 for the highway department and \$3,033.27 for all other bills for a total of \$8,181.78 and for January 3, 2019: \$0 for the highway department and \$237,655.44 for all other bills for a total of \$237,655.44. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
  - A. Tobacco 21 Proposal to raise the age from 18 to 21 to purchase tobacco products. Clayton talked to the owner of the Village Store and was told that they no longer sell tobacco products. A letter had been sent to Mac's with no reply yet. No action will be taken by the Selectmen at this time.
  - B. Highway Garage Roof bids: Bids will be opened at the January 17<sup>th</sup> Selectmen's meeting.
6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:  
Bank Statements (checking & conservation): December

Selectmen signed a letter of abatement to the Tax Collector for \$20,444.71 in tax adjustments to reconcile lien discrepancies.
7. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen's office.*  
Thank you notes from CASA and Maplewood for town appropriations of service agency funds.
8. Public Business: None
9. Budget: Selectmen worked on the 2019 budget. A report of calls will be requested from Keene for ambulance calls. There is a 19.4% increase in the standby fees for the town in 2019 at a cost of \$64,862.69.

10. The Fire Department Facility Advisory Committee entered the meeting to inform the Selectmen about the results of the recent feasibility study by SVE Associates of the land behind the town hall. After the study was done and a meeting was held with the NH Department of Environmental Sciences, it was determined where on the land that a new building could be built. Using the standard construction standard, a preliminary draft cost of \$94,000 will be needed to have an architectural design done. This design would cover six aspects, but would not cover all of the design work that would need to be done, including civil and underground engineering. After further discussion, it was determined that more information is needed before presenting this step to the voters at town meeting. The Selectmen decided to hold an informational meeting on January 23 at 7pm in the town hall to educate the public and get some idea of how the townspeople feel about proceeding with plans for a new fire department facility. The Committee will gather more information prior to the meeting and be ready to answer questions from the public. The Selectmen stated that they are committed to the project and want the townspeople to have an idea of what this project will entail, both beneficially and financially. The Selectmen thanked the committee for all of the time and effort that they have put in.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre  
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

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Russ Austin

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Frank Reeder

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, January 17, 2019, 6:00PM  
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED  
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES