

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting  
Thursday, May 3, 2018

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

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Stalker.
2. Approval of Minutes: April 19, 2018. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Clayton Stalker to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Guests (those who have asked to be on the Agenda):
  - A. Reggie and Shannon Goodnow, Route 63 were present in answer to an email received from the Department of Environmental Services regarding rodents on their property. DES was contacted by Jackie Romero on Route 63. Reggie stated that he has lived there for 18 years and it has never been a problem and he has taken some preventative measures. Clayton Stalker stated that, as with all rodent issues, the prevention needs to be ongoing and using pest control and proper storage of grain will help. The Selectmen will be taking no further action on this issue at this time. Having livestock in the village is allowed.
  - B. Bernie Schatz of Great Meadow Ferry Road was present to express his displeasure with the road crew for using the grader to make the road wider, thereby digging up his lawn. He added that this has been happening to only his side of the road for several years. The Road Agent is aware of the situation. The Selectmen will look into it. Bernie also added that a tree at the North Cemetery should be taken down due to its condition. The Cemetery Trustees will look at it.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Frank Reeder to approve a manifest of \$6,851.89 for the Highway Department and \$334,817.72 for all other bills for a total of \$341,669.61. Motion passed 2-0.
5. Old Business:
  - A. Communication Advisory Committee: four people have expressed an interest in serving on the committee. Kathy Cox was present and related her experience in working on the *Westmorelander* newsletter several years ago. Mailing to everyone in town on a regular basis is costly. The Selectmen are looking for ideas and recommendations for effective ways to communicate information from Boards/Committees and other town information to residents.
  - B. Alternative Energy Advisory Committee: Selectmen are waiting for recommendations from the Planning Board.
  - C. Four people have expressed an interest in the two Alternate member openings on the Zoning Board. A recommendation was made by ZBA Chair Peter Remy. A motion was made by Clayton Stalker, second by Frank Reeder, to appoint John Harris and Mark Terry as Alternates on the Zoning Board. Motion passed 2-0.
  - D. Town Hall Survey: In talking further with Mann Survey, the cost to have the survey completed will be \$525±. The Selectmen signed the agreement to have the work done.
  - E. Paving of the State portion of River Road will not be done this year when Route 63 is paved. The State is going to be replacing a culvert in that section and they want to wait a year for settling to occur before paving. Scheduling and cost was also a factor in their decision.
  - F. The owner of 1054 River Road has to get an after-the-fact shoreland permit from the State for a barn that was recently built. Following that permit, he will need a building permit from the town.
  - G. Due to what the Selectmen believe are discrepancies in the Annual Meeting minutes of what was talked about versus what was written in the minutes, a tape of the meeting was requested of the Town Clerk. Alleged discrepancies include omissions, misquotes and adding comments that were not recognized by the Moderator or stated publicly to those in attendance. Following a letter received on April 26 from the Town Clerk stating that “the recorder did not work at the meeting”,

the Selectmen requested a copy of the 'raw' minutes taken by her at the meeting. Eleven pages of hand-written minutes were received on May 2 and were verbatim what the typed minutes stated. As the minutes will not be approved until the March 2019 Town Meeting, the Selectmen are concerned that inaccurate minutes will be published in the 2018 Town Report and elsewhere and will become a permanent public record of the town. The Selectmen will get advice from the town attorney with a goal to have the minutes corrected.

6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll Manifests: April 21 and 30, 2018

General Journal Entries: #643,644,645

Payroll Tax Payments: April 26 & 30, 2018

NH Retirement System Payment: April 30, 2018

Healthtrust Payment: April 30, 2018

Timber Tax Warrant: Porter, Burt, Hillier/Clapp

Petition & Pole License: Eversource Energy/Consolidated Communications

The Town Clerk has submitted a charge for reimbursement of mileage for making deposits to the State of NH for those who get their plates/stickers in town. This will have to be looked into, as mileage has never been paid for serving as State Municipal Agent in the past.

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

A. Cindi & Bruce Adler sent a letter to have their address changed from a Post Office Box to their street address.

B. Joy Fletcher sent a thank you for the road agent's help in working on a solution to a drainage issue on their property.

C. Joy & Dave Fletcher sent an email regarding a perpetual problem with gravel being directed into their field. The Road Agent will meet with the Fletchers to determine a course of action.

8. Public Business: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre  
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Russ Austin

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

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, May 17, 2018, 6:00PM  
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED  
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES