

Members Present: Wayne R. Walker, James A. DeLisle

Members Absent: Heather M. Billings

Others Present: Stephanie Lahtinen, Mike McDonald, Kyle Butterfield, Nick Langhart, Keith Harding, Christian McMahan, Brian Marchetti, Al Witorski

CALL TO ORDER

W. Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in room 205 of the Town Hall. He announced that the meeting was being recorded and broadcast live by Ashburnham/Westminster Community Access TV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVALS

WARRANTS

J. DeLisle made a motion to approve the following warrant.

September 27, 2019 Accounts Payable 20-15A \$56,643.49

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2019

J. DeLisle made a motion to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019 as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

STATE GRANT AGREEMENT - CULTURAL COUNCIL

W. Walker indicated that the local Cultural Council is in receipt of \$5900 in grant funding from Massachusetts Cultural Council.

J. DeLisle made a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the agreement with MA Cultural Council for the grant amount of \$5900. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION APPOINTMENT

J. DeLisle made a motion to appoint Nick Langhart to the Historical Commission, for a term to end on June 30, 2022. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS/OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

CIVIL FINGERPRINTING BYLAW

Chief McDonald indicated he would like to place a Civil Fingerprinting Bylaw on the warrant for the Special Town Meeting. This bylaw would require those applying for peddler/hawker, and other door to door sales permits to submit their fingerprints to the Westminster Police Department for a state and national fingerprint-based criminal history check. The Chief indicated that this practice is in place in many other cities and towns in Massachusetts and is working on getting the exact parameters from our Town Counsel.

The Board discussed this potential bylaw and indicated that they are conceptually in favor of it and the increased level of safety it brings to the residents.

ACCEPTANCE OF MGL CH. 147 S. 13A RESERVE POLICE OFFICERS

Chief McDonald explained that it is the current practice of the Westminster Police Department to appoint Reserve Officers and Full Time Officers. The acceptance of this General Law would make it official in the eyes of the state, and all Reserve Officers would have the same powers and duties of the general force when on duty.

ONGOING BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

WACHUSETT BREWERY – PARKING AGREEMENT

Representatives from Wachusett Brewery discussed their MassDOT Access Permit Application with the Board, which they will be submitting on behalf of the Town.

The Selectmen indicated that they were advised by the DPW Commission, Police and Fire Chiefs the application needed to include the request for push button activated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB).

J. DeLisle made a motion to sign the MassDOT Access Permit Application for the parking area across from Wachusett Brewery on State Road East, including the request for push button activated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB). The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

SURPLUS PROPERTY DECLARATION – STATE ROAD EAST

J. DeLisle made a motion to declare the property at State Road East, a portion of Assessors Map 76, Lot 16 consisting of 2.439 +/- acres as surplus. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

J. DeLisle made a motion to set a minimum bid price for the property (listed above) at \$125,000 to encourage economic development and to place the following restrictions on its sale:

- *Restrict use to parking only*
- *Property to remain in natural state, with possible exception of permeable pavers and pavement of entrance*
- *Town easement over entrance*
- *Fencing around perimeter (style of fencing to be approved by Public Works Department)*
- *The access over the town sewer shall be paved with bituminous pavement and not pavers to town specifications;*
 - *Include proposed 15' wide easement as shown on the draft plan;*
 - *Include language that allows the town the right of first refusal if the property were to be sold at a later date.*

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

WAIVE BUILDING PERMIT FEES – SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT

Steve Wallace is requesting the Board consider waiving the Building Department Permit Fees for the upcoming Senior Housing project, doing so would count as an in-kind services match and could increase the likelihood of the grant application being approved.

J. DeLisle made a motion to waive the building permit fees for the upcoming Senior Housing project to take place behind the Senior Community Center. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

REVIEW NOVEMBER 19, 2019 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DRAFT ARTICLES

The Board reviewed the list of articles for the upcoming Special Town Meeting to be held on Tuesday November 19, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Westminster Elementary School.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

James A. DeLisle, Clerk

(Prepared by S. Lahtinen)