

Members Present: Wayne R. Walker, Heather M. Billings, James A. DeLisle

Others Present: Karen Murphy, Stephanie Lahtinen, Keith Harding, Joseph Flanagan, Kelley Prendergast, Gary Mazzola, David Christianson, Dan Bartkus, Robin Holm, Don Frigoletto, Robert Sampson, Matthew Pearson, Janet Morrison, Steve Wallace

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 by Ashburnham/Westminster Community Access TV.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

W. Walker moved that the board enter into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining regarding the school department and that the chairman declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the town's bargaining position. H. Billings seconded the motion. Mr. Walker indicated that the meeting would reconvene directly following Executive Session. The motion was passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

W. Walker reconvened the open session of the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:34 p.m.

APPROVALS

MINUTES

J. DeLisle made a motion to approve the minutes of May 16, 2016 as presented. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

WARRANTS

H. Billings made a motion to approve the following warrants.

May 23, 2016	Accounts Payable 16-47A	\$155,130.72
May 30, 2016	Accounts Payable 16-48A	\$161,437.83
May 31, 2016	Payroll 16-48B	\$226,449.27
June 1, 2016	Deduction 16-48C	\$199,435.16
June 6, 2016	Accounts Payable 16-49A	\$19,665.93

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MONTACHUSETT OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL, INC. APPOINTMENT

H. Billings made a motion to appoint Kelley Prendergast as the Ashburnham/Westminster representative to the MOC, Inc. Board of Directors. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PAYROLL CHANGE – POLICE/DISPATCH

H. Billings made a motion to approve the payroll authorization for Kelly Young, as part time Dispatcher. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION – CROCKER POND

H. Billings made a motion to approve the payroll authorization to hire Lucas Curtis as a part time Crocker Pond attendant. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

FY2016-18 AUDITOR'S AGREEMENT

H. Billings made a motion to engage the services of Roselli, Clark and Associates auditing firm for FY2016-2018, to conduct the town's financial audits for a cost of \$24,000 a year. The firm has agreed to maintain their costs from previously contracted years. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS/OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

LAND GRANT APPLICATION/BRAGG HILL ROAD CONSERVATION RESTRICTION

S. Wallace and J. Morrison indicated that there has been conversation about the town purchasing a conservation restriction on a parcel of land comprising of approximately 123 acres and located off of Bragg Hill Road. This property belongs to Matt and Laurie Pearson, who are also interested in selling a portion of their land for conservation.

S. Wallace indicated that the Conservation Commission will be putting \$2000 towards the cost of the appraisal and the landowner will be contributing \$1000 towards the appraisal.

J. Morrison indicated that this is a strong grant application, and is likely to be funded. This property is also contiguous to another property with a conservation restriction. If the grant is awarded, it would require a town meeting vote to expend the money necessary to complete the project. The total net cost to the town is currently estimated at \$53,388.

The Board continued to discuss the LAND grant application with S. Wallace and J. Morrison.

W. Walker made a motion to authorize the Town Planner to apply for a Massachusetts, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, LAND grant, to help fund the Town's acquisition of a conservation restriction on approximately 123 acres of open land on Bragg Hill Road, owned by Matthew E. Pearson and Laurie M. Pearson; and to authorize the expenditure of \$2000 by the Conservation Commission of its funds to pay for an appraisal of said conservation restriction. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

FORWARD PRIVATE ROAD MAINTENANCE BYLAW TO LEGISLATURE

W. Walker made a motion to submit proposed legislation regarding private road maintenance in Westminster and request that our Senator and Representatives file "An Act Establishing a Private Road Maintenance Revolving Fund for the Town of Westminster". The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

W. Walker moved that the board enter into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss pending abatement and that the chairman declares that an open meeting may have an adverse impact on the town's position. J. DeLisle seconded the motion. Mr. Walker indicated that the meeting would adjourn directly following Executive Session. The motion was passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned directly from Executive Session at 7:33 p.m.

James A. DeLisle, Clerk
(Prepared by S. Lahtinen)