

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

Others Present: Karen Murphy, Stephanie Lahtinen, Steve Wallace, Gary Mazzola

CALL TO ORDER

H. Billings called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in room 205 of the Town Hall. She announced that the meeting was being recorded by Ashburnham/Westminster Community Access TV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

H. Billings announced that the 2016 Annual Town Report won first place in its category at the Massachusetts Municipal Association Annual Meeting.

There is a vacancy on the Advisory Board, if you are interested in serving on this Board please contact John Bowen, Town Moderator at bowen.law@gmail.com

APPROVALS

WARRANTS

W. Walker made a motion to approve the following warrants.

01/11/2018	Accounts Payable 18-26A	\$54,351.77
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The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF JANUARY 8, 2018

W. Walker made a motion to approve the minutes of January 8, 2018. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT SPENDING APPROVAL

W. Walker made a motion to authorize the deficit spending of the Snow and Ice budgets in 2018 as requested by the DPW Director. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

FIRE TRUCK CONTRACT

W. Walker made a motion to execute a contract with Bulldog Fire & Emergency Apparatus Inc. in the amount of \$570,938 for the purchase of a new Fire Pumper/Tanker, as authorized at the November 28, 2017 Fall Town Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

TOWN HALL INSULATION CONTRACT

W. Walker made a motion to execute a contract with Quality Insulation for the installation of insulation in the front hallway of the Town Hall to prevent further freezing and related issues. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS/OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT BUDGET

Gary Mazzola presented the current school budget projections, the School Committee budget timeline, capital improvements plan, among others. Mr. Mazzola indicated that the largest unknown for the budget process this year is the health insurance rates. He is hoping for a small increase, but at this time the amount is unknown.

NEW BUSINESS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board will meet on the following dates:

February 5, 2018

February 12, 2018

February 26, 2018

March 12, 2018

March 26, 2018

April 9, 2018

April 30, 2018

May 14, 2018

SET DATE TO CLOSE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

W. Walker made a motion to close the warrant for the May 5, 2018 Annual Town Meeting at the close of business on Thursday February 1st. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Wayne R. Walker, Clerk
(Prepared by S. Lahtinen)