

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

Others Present: Karen Murphy, Stephanie Lahtinen, Julie Belliveau, Melody Smith, Ellen Sheehan, Kevin Nivala, Lisa Rocheleau; Paul Bartkus, Dan Bartkus (Bean Porridge Conservation Restriction); Jeff Aveni, Counsel

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 and the Gardner News.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVALS

WARRANTS

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

02/24/2018 Accounts Payable 36A \$106,552.04

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 12 AND 26, 2018

W. Walker made a motion to approve minutes of February 12, 2018. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

J. DeLisle made a motion to approve the minutes of February 26, 2018. The motion was seconded and passed with W. Walker abstaining.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONSERVATION RESTRICTION

W. Walker made a motion to accept the Open Space Restriction at 90 Bean Porridge Hill Road pursuant to the Subdivision Control Plan. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

IN-LINE SEWER PROJECT BAN RENEWAL

Melody Smith was present to request the approval of a Bond Anticipation Note in the amount of \$2,500,000 for the inline sewer project with Greenfield Cooperative Bank at an interest rate of 1.58%.

W. Walker made a motion to execute the Bond Anticipation Note Renewal, in the amount of \$2,500,000 for a term to run 4/11/2018-4/11/2019 with Greenfield Bank at an interest rate of 1.58%. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION – PART TIME DISPATCHER

W. Walker made a motion to approve the hiring of Zachary Rouisse as part time dispatcher. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

AMBULANCE FEE SCHEDULE

Chief Nivala was present at the meeting to request several increases in the Ambulance Fee Schedule, which will bring the Town's rates more in line with the surrounding communities.

W. Walker made a motion to approve the increase to the ambulance fees as presented by the Fire Chief. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS/OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

FY19 HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

Ken Lombardi, health insurance consultant from NFP Corp., was present and explained an option we have available to reduce the cost of health insurance premiums in FY2019. Adopting this plan would require the Board's approval to make some plan design changes that would introduce deductibles and higher co-pays to the plan. If the Town stays with the current HMO Blue New England and Blue Choice New England plans, we would experience a 6.92% increase in the rates; the new plan would reduce our current rate for the HMO plan by -3.45% and increase the Blue Choice plan by 1.53%.

The Board indicated that they would wait until there was a formal recommendation from the Town's Insurance Advisory Committee, and will take this item up at the next meeting.

ONGOING BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA

The Board agreed to place the following two non-binding questions on the ballot for the Annual Town Election:

Question 1: Should the Town of Westminster allow the retail sale of recreational (non-medical) marijuana within the Town?

Yes ____ No ____

Question 2: Should the Town of Westminster allow the commercial cultivation, manufacture, and processing of recreational (non-medical) marijuana within the Town?

Yes ____ No ____

EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no executive session at this meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

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