

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

Others Present: Karen Murphy, Stephanie Lahtinen; Keith Harding, Lorraine Emerson, Joshua Hall, Vance Butterfield, Ned LaFortune and Christian McMahan, Wachusett Brewing Co; Ross Barber, Doneen Durling, the Gardner News; Mina Corpuz, Sentinel and Enterprise

CALL TO ORDER

J. DeLisle 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 and the Gardner News.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

J. DeLisle announced that the Town Government Study Committee will be holding public information sessions at the Community/Senior Center on the following dates:

Tuesday, August 21st, 2:00 - 4:00 PM

Tuesday, August 21st, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Saturday, August 25th, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

APPROVALS

WARRANTS

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

August 5, 2018	Accounts Payable	19-07A	\$1,093,405.92
August 10, 2018	Payroll	19-07B	\$184,436.35
August 10, 2018	Deduction	19-07C	\$97,266.22

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2018

W. Walker made a motion to approve the minutes of August 6, 2018. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

LIBRARY CONTRACT EXTENSIONS – BOOKS AND MATERIALS

W. Walker made a motion amend the following contracts with Baker & Taylor, LLC for \$75,000; Ingram Library Services for \$75,000; and Midwest Tape for \$75,000. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION – POLICE MATRON

W. Walker made a motion to approve the payroll authorization for a Police Matron, filling a vacancy. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

PAYROLL AUTHORIZATION – PART TIME POLICE OFFICER

W. Walker made a motion to approve the payroll authorization for a part time Police Officer. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

SOLAR PILOT AGREEMENTS

26 Theodore Drive Solar NG, LLC

W. Walker made a motion to execute the PILOT agreement with 26 Theodore Drive Solar NG, LLC, which included a payment schedule of \$7,000/MW-AC, with a 1% escalator each year for a term of 20 years, as negotiated by the Board of Assessors and approved at the May 5, 2018 Town Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Westminster CC Solar, LLC

W. Walker made a motion to execute the PILOT agreement with Westminster CC Solar, LLC, which included a payment schedule of \$15,000/MW-DC, with a 2% escalator each year for a term of 20 years, as negotiated by the Board of Assessors and approved at the November 29, 2016 Town Meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MART AGREEMENT - REIMBURSEMENTS

W. Walker made a motion to execute the agreement with MART for transportation services through the Council on Aging for the towns' senior and disabled citizens. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

HEARINGS/OTHER SCHEDULED MATTERS

WACHUSETT BREWING COMPANY PARKING LICENSE AGREEMENT

The Board had to postpone a decision on this item pending review of the zoning requirements associated with this agreement.

HOLMES PARK WATER DISTRICT

The Board, the DPW Commission and representatives from the Holmes Park Water District discussed the option of the Town taking over the billing, operation and maintenance of the water system at Holmes Park. Town Counsel has advised that this can be done through an Intermunicipal Agreement (IMA).

The Board requested that the Town Administrator contact Town Counsel to draft an IMA with the Holmes Park Water District.

ONGOING BUSINESS/MISCELLANEOUS

FIRE CHIEF SCREENING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Fire Chief Screening Committee has presented the three following finalists for the Fire Chief position (listed in alphabetical order):

Kyle Butterfield, Westminster MA (currently acting Fire Chief, Westminster)

Timothy Johnston, Ayer MA (currently Senior Fire Captain, Ayer)

Mark Tetreault, Peabody MA (currently Fire Chief, Lynnfield)

POLICE CHIEF SCREENING COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Police Chief Screening Committee will hold its first meeting on Wednesday August 22.

NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSS REESTABLISHMENT OF ASSISTANT DPW DIRECTOR POSITION

Josh Hall and the DPW Commission discussed the reestablishment of the Assistant DPW Director position with the Board. Will Ahearn, Highway Superintendent will be retiring after 40 years, and the Commission would like to not fill his position.

W. Walker made a motion to refer the position of Assistant DPW Director to the Personnel Board for review. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

APPOINT PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING FEASIBILITY STUDY COMMITTEE

W. Walker made a motion to appoint the following individuals to the Public Safety Building Feasibility Study Committee:

Acting Police Chief Michael McDonald, Acting Fire Chief Kyle Butterfield, Fire Lt. David Monty, Building Commissioner Paul Blanchard, Town Administrator Karen Murphy, Von Salmi, Kerry Koskinen and David Turcotte. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

J. DeLisle moved that the board enter into Executive Session at 6:41 p.m. to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property and declare that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body. W. Walker 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

The meeting was adjourned directly from Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

Heather M. Billings, Clerk
(Prepared by S. Lahtinen)