Present: Wayne R. Walker, Heather M. Billings, and John F. Fairbanks

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at Town Hall. He announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- •Ms. Billings announced that the "Coaches vs. Cancer" event to benefit the American Cancer Society (gallbladder cancer) was being held tonight at Oakmont High School. Also there are t-shirts and window clings being sold for the event.
- •Mr. Fairbanks announced that Boy Scout Brian King who was awarded 'Eagle Scout Recognition' at a ceremony held yesterday at the First Congregational Church. Brian could not be at the Board's meeting as he had other commitments.
- •Mr. Walker announced that a public forum on the Town's updated open space and recreation plan was being held on March 4th at 7 p.m. at the Forbush Memorial Library Eloranta Room. Everyone is invited to learn; what the Town has for recreation facilities, open space land holdings, hiking trails, and new goals. To review a full draft of the Town's 2014 Open Space and Recreation plan go to the Town's website at www.westminster-ma.gov and click on the Open Space Committee page.

APPROVED MINUTES/WARRANTS

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board approve the minutes of January 6, and January 13, 2014 as printed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

January 29, 2014	Deduction #45D	\$ 156,833.44
February 3, 2014	Accounts Payable #47	\$1,170,914.36
February 10, 2014	Accounts Payable #48	\$ 43,772.06
February 10, 2014	Payroll #49	\$ 165,071.20
February 11, 2014	Deduction #49D	\$ 146,270.31

SCHEDULE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Mr. Walker explained that they were planning on scheduling a special town meeting on March 11th to bring forward an article that the DPW Commission had been working on regarding sewer enhancements in the Town but as it happens, the DPW Commissioners have conflicts in the next few weeks and they do not think they are sufficiently prepared to bring this article forward until the annual town meeting. They have asked to bring forward an article to a special town meeting within the annual town meeting scheduled for May 3.

SNOW AND ICE - AUTHORIZATION TO DEFICIT SPEND

Mr. Walker moved that the Board authorize under MGL Ch. 44, S. 31D, the DPW to deficit spend in their snow and ice budget for FY14. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA ZONING BYLAW – REFER TO PLANNING BOARD

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board refer the proposed Medical Marijuana Zoning Bylaw to the Planning Board to continue the zoning amendment process. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES UPDATE

State Representatives Kim Ferguson and Jonathan Zlotnik were on hand to update the Board on budget developments. The house budget is being released in April and they are concentrating on the Town's priorities; regional school, local aid, and Chapter 90.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

Senator Jen Flanagan presented the Board with a State Senate Citation in recognition of the Town's designation as 'a Purple Heart Community, honoring all those who made the ultimate sacrifice'.

State Representative Kim Ferguson presented the Board with the House of Representatives recognition 'Your designation as a Purple Heart Community, honoring those Military Personnel who were killed or injured in combat'.

Commander Leo Agnew was on hand to congratulate and present a certificate of acknowledgement to the Town on 'being designated as a Town in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be known as the Purple Heart community. Honoring all who made the ultimate sacrifice and shed their blood defending our country in all wars from Westminster, Massachusetts and honoring August Seven as Purple Heart Day.

6:21 P.M. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Walker moved that the Board enter into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to litigation; further that the Chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining and litigating positions of the body; and that the Board adjourn directly from executive session. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned from executive session at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Fairbanks, Clerk (Prepared by B. Kazan)