**TOWN OF WESTON**

**P.O. BOX 98**

**WESTON, VT 05161**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES**

November 14th 2023 7:30pm

**Present:** Dennis Benson, Annie Fuji’i and Lisa Yrsha

**Zoom:** N/A

**Public:** Shawna Batogowski, Kim Seymour, Donald Hart, Ken Hall and Christine Falango

1. **Road Foreman Almon Crandall**: Almon stated that he has a little to report. He says he hasn’t heard status reports on the new truck. He states that we have received the winter sand and salt. The grader is back from John Deere and has the wing attached and is ready for winter. He also stated that he thinks that the State of Vermont has been inspecting our Town bridges.
2. **Review and Approve Minutes**: The minutes were reviewed and there were a few grammar corrections to be made. Annie Fuji’i moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Lisa Yrsha, unanimously approved.
3. **Changes or Additions to the Agenda**: None
4. **Public Comment**: Ken Hall requested a few minutes to read a statement that he wrote to the board in reference to the ongoing problem of a records request for the Town of Weston Conservation Commission. Mr. Hall expressed his discontent with the handling of this request by the Selectboard of Weston. He stated that he repeatedly has attempted to receive a copy of these records and still has not received anything. Chairman of the Selectboard Denis Benson has asked Mr. Hall to attend a special meeting to discuss this subject in hopes of finding a resolution. The meeting will be on November 21, 2023 at 7:00pm. The Selectboard will also extend an invitation to the meeting to Mr. Andrew Harper by way of certified letter and an email.

Christine Falango was in attendance to speak about the Interlocal Recreation Director contract. She stated that she was here as a Weston resident and a parent of two children who participate in school sports. Mrs. Falango would like to understand the specifics as to why Weston has not followed suit and signed, the agreement like the 4 other towns. Chairman Dennis Benson says that the town at Town Meeting Day voted to accept the 1 year term and funding for that year. He would still like to see a financial summary from the committee. Annie Fuji’i stated that the Town had a couple of questions that still remain unanswered. Will West River Sports still have a presence in these five communities and will they be asking the Town for an allocation? She would like to know if the funding for this position is solely for the director or if it also funds things like uniforms, referees, equipment etc. Christine Falango has said that she would be willing to be the liaison between the Town and the Committee. She would like to have a list of questions and answers ready for the November 28th, 2023 Selectboard meeting. Mrs. Falango stated that it would be a shame if the children of Weston were left out of this opportunity. The Town will discuss this further at the November 28th, 2023 Selectboard meeting.

1. **Buyouts**: Unfortunately Ms. Fedele was unable to attend this meeting. Shawna Batogowski will be contacting Brian from the Vermont Emergency Mitigation Department and move forward with filling out the Town’s portion of the Paperwork. Lisa Yrsha asked Shawna Batogowski to inquire on the timeline to submit a request for a buyout. Lisa said that she might have another interested party. Shawna Batogowski will look into this.
2. **Ryan Palmer, Sheriff:** Ryan was unable to attend this meeting. Dennis Benson said that he did have a conversation with him and that the Town will not require his services at this moment. There will be a speed study done for the town. It was delayed due to the flood in July of this year. After the study, if the Town sees a need we will certainly give Mr. Palmer a call.
3. **Windham Regional Commission Assistance:** The Town of Weston gives it blessing to Windham Regional Commission. We look forward to advice/guidance that the Windham Reginal Commission in getting grant aid consistent with the best interests of the municipality and the people of Weston.
4. **Kim Seymour IT and Payroll Weeks:** Kim would like to the Selectboard to consider hiring an IT company to help with the fast growing need of computer assistance. Mrs. Seymour is currently doing as much as she can with IT problems as they come up but it is moving of her range of expertise. She has found companies that charge a monthly fee of around $300.00. She asked the Selectboard to consider this. The Selectboard agreed to talk about this more during budget time.

Mrs. Seymour requested to remove the third payroll week that happens in the months with five weeks. She said that even though it seems like a small task, the work and time that is required to make these special payrolls is substantial. She makes the request that we dissolve this outdated practice and absorb this extra payroll into the regular payroll. Again the Selectboard will consider this and have a decision for by new year.

1. **Northern Basement Quote, Vapor Barrier**: The Selectboard would like a bit more information on this quote. An explanation as to why the cost of a vapor barrier is around $19,000. Shawna Batogowski will contact Northern Basement and get more information.
2. **Delinquent Tax Report:** The Delinquent Tax Report was read and reviewed.
3. **VLCT Signature, UM/UIM Coverage:** The Selectboard would like to inquire whether there is a middle of the road policy. Shawna Batogowski will ask the VLCT and report back.
4. **SO#25 Payroll/SO #25 Vendors:** Lisa Yrsha moved to approve payroll SO#25 in the aggregated amount of $7,575.81 Seconded by Annie Fuji’i and unanimously approved. Annie Fuji’i moved to approve Vendor SO#25 in the aggregated amount of $993,037.14 Seconded by Lisa Yrsha and unanimously approved. Annie Fuji’i moved to approve SO#25B in the aggregated amount of $2,228.75 Seconded by Lisa Yrsha and unanimously approved.
5. **New and Old Business:** Annie Fuji’i stated that she will have a report ready for the next Selectboard meeting on the heat pumps. She has met with 3 vendors and will be working with them to move forward.

Meeting is adjourned by Chair Dennis Benson 9:07pm

Dennis Benson Jim Linville

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Annie Fuji’i Lisa Yrsha

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Charles Goodwin

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