

**TOWN OF WESTON**

**P.O. BOX 98**

**WESTON, VT 05161**

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**October 26, 2021 at 7:30 PM**

**Present:** Denis Benson, Jim Linville, Charles Goodwin, Bruce Downer, and Ann Fuji'i.

**Absent:** None

**Public:** Kim Seymour, Peter Dernier, Donald Hart and Natalie Boston

**Chairman Denis Benson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.**

- 1. Changes or Additions to the Agenda:** Denis Benson notes the addition of the Listers, will address later in New/Old Business.
- 2. Public Comment:** None
- 3. Peter Dernier: Contesting Late Filing Homestead Penalty Fee:** Peter Dernier begins by explaining he was one of 4 residents penalized for filing their homestead Tax late, requests the board to consider changing the policy moving forward and to make retroactive to this year. He goes on to explain the way the statute is written is that the town may penalize, not shall penalize. Discussion. From his understanding the board chose to wave the penalty last year. Denis Benson explains the decision to do that was due to Covid. Discussion. Peter notes that he isn't bringing this to the board for himself alone but for all residents. Denis Benson says that they will look into it and get back to him.
- 4. The Little School:** Natalie Boston explains that they had hoped to have a quote for the electrical panel update but they did not get it yet. With that quote they will also have a second quote to have the same electrician install the generator. Natalie Boston goes on to say that she did receive a quote from Tyrell Enterprises to repair the slate roof for \$2,760. Charles Goodwin moves to accept and have them repair the roof as soon as they can, Bruce Downer 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.* Natalie Boston goes on to say she also spoke with a fire marshal and found out that the generator needs to be 10 ft from the building or have some type of flame resistant barrier. Closer with a barrier would have some specific requirements that he can find out as well. Discussion.
- 5. Coughlin Purchase and Sale Agreement:** Jim Linville says was just wanting to give an update. The Friends of Weston Community are ready to move forward. Have a draft of purchase in sale, confident they will accept and will hopefully happen by the end of the year. Notes one possible issue of do they tear down the house right away. Discussion. Donald Hart notes that they should be aware of the hazardous waste in that building (Asbestos or lead paint for example). Jim Linville says that he believes that has been considered but will be sure someone is aware. Charles Goodwin raised the question if that property has some zoning grandfathered in as far as setback from the river. Discussion.

6. **Redistricting of Weston:** Jim Linville moves to say the Selectboard supports the BCA's recommendation for the new district that would have Weston with Londonderry, Peru, Winhall and Landgrove, Annie Fuji'i 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*
7. **Speed Sign:** Discussion on Charles Goodwin's conversation with the Barnard Town Clerk as well as the received resident's surveys on a LED Speed sign. Will discuss at the next meeting. Denis Benson notes that it's strange that the library received more responses for their survey than the town did for this matter.
8. **Delinquent Tax Report:** Discussion. The selectboard accepted and will review.
9. **Review and Approve Minutes:** One spelling error noted. Bruce Downer moves to approve the minutes with one correction, Charles Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*
10. **SO #23 Payroll/ SO #23 Vendors:** Jim Linville moves to approve SO #23 Payroll for the amount of \$10,871.77, Annie Fuji'i 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
Bruce Downer moves to approve SO #23 Vendors for the amount of \$567,908.35, Jim Linville 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*
11. **New/Old Business:** Denis Benson notes the listers request to sign off on a Errors and Omissions. Jim Linville moves to have Denis Benson sign, Charles Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
Denis Benson notes that when the SB selected Cota and Cota for this seasons fuel, did not discuss opting in for their service plan. Jim Linville moves to opt in to Cota and Cota's service plan, Bruce Downer 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
Charles Goodwin brings up the board had the intent of appointing Betty Currie to be Weston's liaison for Senior Solutions. Jim Linville moves to Appoint Betty Currie to liaison for Senior Solutions, Charles Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
DVFiber: Jim Linville notes received annual report. Jim spoke to Rusty Davis, received a substantial grant in October but the predicted total cost to get fiber in all towns in region is approximately \$14,000,000. Expecting to get a surprising amount of work done by 2023. Jim explains moving forward the way they plan on covering costs is with state authorized financial tax exempt bonds. After grants, borrow money and repay with user fees. Discussion.  
Jim Linville moves to authorize Denis Benson to sign the EQUIPMENT PURCHASE GRANT for a hay baler, Charles Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
Jim Linville notes the Grant the Planning commission is applying for to redo zoning bylaws. One thing that will help is letters from community organizations. Jim Linville reads a letter and moves to have the board sign, Charles Goodwin 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*  
Discussion on the Oppoid Settlement, Jim Linville notes it is not a small amount of money and by his calculations Weston is looking at receiving about \$41,000.

**Bruce Downer moves to go into executive session 1 VSA 313(a)(2) – Personnel. Jim Linville 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.***

**Into executive session at 8:18 PM.**

**Out of executive session at 8:24 PM**

**No Motion.**

Charles Goodwin moves to adjourn, Bruce Downer 2<sup>nd</sup>. *Unanimously approved.*

**Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM**

DRAFT