

WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes
January 18, 2010

Present: Bruce Boedtger, Tom Kenyon, Phil Arvidson, Cathy Archibald, Martha Harrison

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Phil Arvidson called the meeting to order at the highway garage at 3:15 PM.
- 2) Discuss Highway Matters – At the request of the highway employees, the full Selectboard met with all of the Highway Department employees. There was discussion of there being no highway department raises budgeted for the year 2010. There was also discussion of the Town Clerk’s raise. It was explained that this was because she is an elected official and the Selectboard had no power to give her a bonus for 2009, which we did for the highway employees; also that it reflected the amount of fees she brought in during that year. It was clarified that the highway bonuses given were for 2009, although paid in January 2010. The tenor of the meeting was friendly.
- 3) Adjourn to Town Hall – Following discussion with highway department employees, the Selectboard recessed the meeting and adjourned to the Town Hall, where the meeting was reconvened at 3:45 PM.
- 4) Changes or additions to the agenda – Town Attorney Correspondence: Phil noted that the Selectboard received correspondence from Town Attorney Matt Birmingham, which they will consider during Executive Session. Tax Sale: Bruce said Matt Birmingham offered to contact the bank that holds the mortgage on the talc plant to alert them about the upcoming tax sale. **Bruce made a motion to authorize Matt to contact the appropriate bank officials about the tax sale on behalf of the town. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Phil said he will let Matt know that he is authorized to proceed. Phil also reported that Delinquent Tax Collector Ralph Johnson has discouraged the Selectboard from contacting commercial real estate brokers about the tax sale because, if the property sells, the brokers will want a percentage of the sales price. Martha said she had a call today from a salesperson at Loopnet who said the listing service charges a monthly membership fee rather than a commission and the town would not have to have a broker to post the sale on the website. The Selectboard members agreed that they would probably have better success contacting the bank.
- 5) Finalize 2010 Town & Highway Budgets – Highway Budget: Cathy said the highway budget has not changed since the Selectboard discussed it at their last meeting. The total budgeted highway expenditures for 2010 are \$512,625. Town Budget: Cathy said, since the last meeting, she added the \$4,000 allocation for the Conservation Commission so the total budgeted town expenditures for 2010 are \$821 higher than the total budgeted town expenditures for 2009.
- 6) Sign Town Meeting Warning – **Tom made a motion to approve Article 5, which states “Shall the town approve the expenditure of \$376,611 for General, \$512,625 for Highway (Combined \$889,236) for the year 2010, of which \$677,871 shall be raised by taxes and \$211,365 by non-tax revenues.” Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** The Selectboard members signed the warning. Cathy said she faxed the warning to Matt and he approved it.

- 7) Other Business – Grange Hall lift: Cathy asked Tom about paying Always Accessible the \$11,348 due on the lift. Tom said not to pay the bill until the lift is installed tomorrow. Bonuses: Bruce asked the minutes to reflect that the bonuses recently paid to town employees were for 2009, even though they were paid in 2010. Tom and Phil agreed. Silver Hill intersection site visit: **Tom made a motion to notice a public hearing on alterations to the intersection of Silver Hill Road and Brownsville-Hartland Road for Monday, February 22, 2010, with a site inspection at 3:00 PM and a public hearing immediately following at the town hall. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Conservation Commission: Cathy informed the Selectboard that Klaus Lubbe has declined the appointment to the Conservation Commission. Bruce suggested addressing the issue at the Selectboard's next regular meeting. Tom and Phil agreed.
- 8) Sign Town Clerk's Orders – Cathy Archibald had three orders for the Selectboard to sign.
- 9) Executive Session – **Tom made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal matters. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** After discussion, **Tom made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 10) Adjourn – **Tom made a motion to adjourn at 4:25 PM. Bruce seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison