

West Windsor Selectboard
Draft Minutes
November 4, 2016

Present: Dick Beatty, Tom Kenyon, Win Johnson, Martha Harrison, Cathy Archibald, Annie Burke

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Dick Beatty called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.
- 2) Changes or additions to the agenda – Librarian, tax sale, tree removal, Sheddsville Cemetery, water update, sewer receivables, move executive session to the end of the meeting
- 3) Announcements/Public Comment – Annie Burke suggested clarifying the minutes of October 24, 2016. The Selectboard agreed.
- 4) Approve contract with Daniels Construction for school sewer repair – **Win moved to approve the contract with Daniels Construction for repair of the school sewer connection this weekend at a cost of \$21,600. Tom seconded the motion.** Win said he had hoped to negotiate with Daniels on the price but A+E didn't think such a negotiation would be successful. Dick said A+E contacted a number of contractors and Daniels seems to be the only game in town. **Dick called for a vote on the motion, which passed unanimously.** Tom said he shared the news with the School Principal, who was delighted and agreed to make sure there were no cars around over the weekend.
- 5) Sign Town Clerk's orders – **Tom moved to sign orders. Win seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** There was discussion about tax payer pre-bates.
- 6) Other Business – Librarian: Tom said, at a recent Library Trustees meeting, John Cocke suggested advertising the Librarian position but the Trustees didn't have the financial information they should have had before taking action. Win asked if the Library is a separate entity. Tom said it's under the auspices of the town. Win asked if the Selectboard has delegated the authority to run the Library to the Library Board. Tom said no. Tom said the Library Trustees made a decision about advertising this position but there isn't enough money to pay a full-blown Librarian with an assistant, which is what John Cocke wants to do. Tom said the Library has \$14,000 but \$10,000 is committed to the restroom and the rest has to last until Town Meeting. Tom said Mary Jane Wentworth offered to work at the same rate of pay as Jennifer Rathburn until the end of March at least. In addition, Tom said, nobody knows how old the Library furnace is and, even though it's working fine, we could suddenly need \$7,000 or \$8,000 for a furnace. Dick said it was his understanding, as a member of the Library Board, that the Library was going to offer 8 hours per week at \$17 per hour, which is the current Librarian's rate of pay. Tom said subsequently John Cocke said we should offer more and consider hiring an assistant. Dick said he doesn't recall that; his recollection is that the Trustees agreed to the current rate and the current number of hours. Tom was concerned that, if the town advertises the job, Mary Jane will no longer be willing to take it. Win said he's going to abstain from involvement with this issue. Dick suggested that he and Tom talk to John. Tom said he's concerned that the hiring process will take too long and, in the meantime, Mary Jane will withdraw her offer to take the position. Dick said he thinks it's premature for the Selectboard to get involved. Win asked what authority the Library Trustees have to make these decisions. Win asked if the town owns the Library and runs it through delegation to the trustees. Tom said that's how it was set up. Win said if there are issues, those issues come back to the Selectboard for a decision. Tom said that's correct. Martha said John asked her to advertise the job on the website. Martha asked the Selectboard to let John know if they don't want to do that. Tree removal: Tom said there are 3 or 4 large trees on Morrison Road that need to come down. There are also some trees on Queen Victoria Road that need to come down. Tom asked for \$4,000 for

four days of tree work. Cathy said the funds could come out of Reserve, if necessary. **Win moved to approve four additional days of tree work at \$1,000 per day. Dick seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** Water update: Tom said Mountainside's hydrant is being installed today. The contractor is still waiting for the control panel for the booster pumps, but the project is going well and is under budget. With regard to the net metering agreement, Dick noted that we have no usage history for our new electric line. Martha said the water will be shut off on Monday from 10:00 AM until 1:00 PM for the installation of two new hydrants. Tom said the Village Lane hydrant has also been installed. Win said the Mountainside line is insulated and safe but it's been suggested that the town add more fill to smooth out where the contractor bermed over ledge.

- 7) Anticipated Executive Session per 1 V.S.A. §313(a)(1) to discuss net metering contract – **Tom moved to go into executive session. Win seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** After discussion, **Win moved to come out of executive session. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**
- 8) Other Business – Upcoming meetings: The Selectboard will meet again on Monday at 11:00 AM to confer with counsel regarding the net metering agreement. There is also a Selectboard meeting on Monday night at 6:30 PM. A water project meeting will be held on Tuesday at 1:00 PM. Win volunteered to answer questions about the draft utility financial statements at the next Utility Committee meeting. Tom said the Selectboard can discuss the upcoming condominium tax sale and the cemetery issue on Monday night. Dick said it's his understanding that Mike Spackman is going to have some cost information on the improvement of the access to the warming hut and water system. Win suggested putting a gate across the other access. Win noted that Ascutney Outdoors has agreed to transport water system personnel up to the reservoir as needed in the winter. Dick said he doesn't think Ascutney Outdoors should be permitted to park in the warming hut area.
- 9) Adjourn – **Win moved to adjourn at 11:27 AM. Tom seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison