

**Town of Woodstock
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 19, 2017
7:00pm – Room A**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Michael Alberts, Frank Olah, Chandler Paquette

OTHERS PRESENT: Marla Butts, Delia Fey, David Fortin, Jeffrey Gordon,
Megan Bard Morse and Jordan Stern.

1. Call to Order:

First Selectman Michael Alberts called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Approve the Minutes of the April 5, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting and March 29, 2018 and April 11, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen's Meetings:

Paquette moved to accept the minutes of the April 5, 2018 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting and the minutes of the March 29, 2018 and the April 11, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen's meetings as presented.

Voting in favor of accepting the April 5, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented: **In Favor:** Mr. Alberts and Mr. Paquette. **Abstaining:** Mr. Olah. **Motion passed.**

Voting in favor of accepting the minutes for the Special Selectmen's Meeting for March 29, 2018 as presented: **In favor:** Mr. Alberts and Mr. Paquette. **Abstaining:** Mr. Olah. **Motion passed.**

Motion to accept the meeting minutes for the April 11, 2018 Special Board of Selectmen's meeting as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Alberts moved to move agenda item **#7 Discussion Regarding Temporary Health Care Structures** to agenda item #3, and to move agenda item **#3 Consider the Appointment of Jordan Stern as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission for the Term of April 19, 2018 through March 31, 2022** to item agenda #7. **Motion passed unanimously.**

3. Discussion Regarding Temporary Health Care Structures.

Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission Dr. Jeffrey Gordon and Town Planner Delia Fey explained to the Board of Selectmen that this was a new law that had been passed by the State of Connecticut. This law allows for temporary structures to be placed on a lot zoned for single-family detached dwellings. The detached dwelling would be owned by the caregiver or mentally or physically impaired person. The physically or mentally impaired person would live in these structures. Dr. Gordon explained that the Planning & Zoning Commission could vote to opt out

of this program. However, if the Town decided not to opt out the Zoning application would have to be approved within 15 days of the application being submitted and the abutters to be notified within three days of filing the application. The applicant must apply every year. Ms. Fey has been working on a draft application and a fee schedule, which she has sent to the Town Attorney for approval. As well as a Zoning fee the Town can require a bond up to the amount of \$50,000.00 to assure that the structure is removed once the health care situation has been resolved.

The Board of Selectmen thanked Dr. Gordon and Ms. Fey for their information on this subject, and would like to meet with them again in the future.

4. Consider the Reappointments of Lisa Davidson and Jean Pillo as Full Members of the Conservation Commission for the Term of April 19, 2018 through March 31, 2022.

Due to the absence of Lisa Davidson and Jean Pillo **Mr. Alberts moved** to table this agenda item until the May 3, 2018 Regular Board of Selectmen's meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

5. Discussion Regarding Inland Wetlands & Watercourses.

Mark Parker, chair of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Agency, and IWWA commission member Marla Butts stated their concerns with the changes occurring in the office of the Building Official, which also handles Zoning Board of Appeals applications, Wetland applications, Zoning applications and Historic District applications. Mr. Parker and Ms. Butts are concerned with the reduction in hours and staffing that the work in that office will not be done in a timely manner.

They also stated their concerns with the quality of the engineering services at NECOGG.

The Board of Selectmen thanked Mr. Parker and Ms. Butts for their input.

6. Consider Hiring a Surveyor to Measure the Length of the Bull Hill Road.

Mr. Alberts would like to meet with Mr. Olah, Mr. Paquette and Highway Foreman John Navarro to try to determine where the Town road ends. He asks the other Board members if they would consider hiring a surveyor to determine this.

Mr. Paquette stated that he recently spoke to Surveyor Jeffrey Stefanik, of Guerriere & Hanlon who has done a lot of surveying work in the Bull Hill area. Mr. Stefanik stated that he can tell the Board where exactly the Town road ends. Mr. Olah and Mr. Alberts agreed that Mr. Stefanik would be a good person to discuss this with. Mr. Paquette agreed to contact him.

7. Consider the Appointment of Jordan Stern as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission for the Term of April 19, 2018 through March 21, 2022.

Mr. Jordan explained to the Board of Selectmen that he had been active in the Conservation Commission in East Hampton and that he spent his career promoting energy efficient products to

companies. Now that he is retired he would like to be a member of the Conservation commission. He was recently informed that there will be a vacancy in the full board and he would like to be considered for that position, instead of an alternate member of the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Paquette moved to table this motion until it can be confirmed that there will be a full term position available on the Conservation Commission. **Motion passed unanimously.**

The Board of Selectmen thanked Mr. Stern for his patience this evening and for his willingness to serve.

8. Discuss Building Official Update.

Mr. Alberts explained that he has been having discussions with Building Official Terry Bellman and Matthew Beauregard. He stated that he has presented Mr. Bellman with two options. Between July 1 and December 31 Mr. Bellman would work 15 hours a week, with \$700.00 a month for six months towards benefits. On January 1, 2019, Mr. Beauregard would take over as building inspector, if he has become certified. Option 2 is that Mr. Bellman would retire as of July 1st. Mr. Alberts has not received a written decision from Mr. Bellman.

He has received an unsolicited application from John LaBossiere who is the currently the Director of Planning and Building Services for the Town of Vernon. He and Mr. Paquette recently met with him, and Mr. Paquette feels that he would bring a lot of expertise to the job.

Mr. Alberts stated that he would keep the Board members up to date on this situation.

9. Warn Annual Town Meeting.

Mr. Paquette moved to warn the Annual Town Meeting as stated:

NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF WOODSTOCK May 8, 2018

The Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, will be held on Tuesday, May 8, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169 in Woodstock. The Annual Town Meeting will be held to consider the following actions and to vote on the following resolutions:

- 1) To elect a Moderator;
- 2) To approve the proposed budget of the Town of Woodstock for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 in the amount of \$23,560,650.00 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance and to appropriate said sum to meet the recommended expenditures;
- 3) To adopt a Capital Improvement Plan for a five-year period ending 2022-2023 as has been recommended by the Board of Finance; RESOLVED, that the Town of Woodstock's local capital improvement projects of \$7,620,872.00 and capital improvement plan as defined in Section 7-535 through 7-538, a copy of which plan is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk and available for public inspection during normal business hours, is hereby ratified and approved;
- 4) To consider and act on a resolution approving an expenditure not to exceed \$140,000 from the Woodstock Agricultural Land Preservation and Land Acquisition Fund as the town's

contribution towards the purchase price and associated costs of the development rights of approximately 129+/- acre parcel currently owned by Timothy, Wendy, Lucas and Angela Young situated on the generally northern side of Child Hill Road, in the town of Woodstock, Connecticut known as Valleyside Farm, being a portion of a certain piece or parcel shown and designated by the Woodstock Tax Assessor as Map 7280, Block 29, and Lot 09 and described at Volume 305 page 29 in the Woodstock Land Records. The town's contribution toward the purchase price will be in addition to the funding provided by the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

- 5) To authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for the State and Federal Grants;
- 6) To transact such other business as may properly come before said meeting; and
- 7) To adjourn.

Please Note: Pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Woodstock Board of Selectmen have on their own initiative removed the foregoing Item #2 and Item #4 for submission to the voters of the Town of Woodstock by referendum to be held on May 15, 2018 from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall. Voters approving the questions will vote "Yes" and those opposing the questions will vote "No." Absentee ballots will be available at the Office of the Town Clerk. Dated at Woodstock, Connecticut, this 19th day of April, 2018. Michael L. Alberts, First Selectman, Chandler Paquette, Selectman, Frank Olah, Selectman

Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk

RECEIPTS	ESTIMATED 2017-18	PROPOSED 2018-19
Cash Available for Appropriation	\$ 351,062	\$ 573,970
Prior Taxes, Interest & Liens, MVS	\$ 360,000	\$ 420,000
State Grants:		
Education	\$ 4,344,361	\$ 4,672,381
Tax Relief for Elderly	\$ 46,000	\$ -
Other State Money	\$ 290,915	\$ 120,407
Other Income	\$ 460,691	\$ 528,420
Total Cash Balances & Receipts	\$ 5,853,029	\$ 6,315,178
EXPENDITURES		
Ordinary Expenditures:		
General Government	\$ 2,046,657	\$ 1,871,491
Public Safety	\$ 857,448	\$ 855,302
Highways	\$ 1,533,197	\$ 1,505,517
Health, Recreation & Welfare	\$ 518,321	\$ 510,373
Contingency	\$ 50,000	\$ 75,000
Redemption of Debt	\$ 386,268	\$ 548,614
Board of Education Budget	\$ 17,282,923	\$ 18,194,353
Total Expenditures	\$ 22,674,814	\$ 23,560,650
Less Cash Balances & Receipts	\$ 5,853,029	\$ 6,315,178
TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION	\$ 16,821,785	\$ 17,245,472
*SUBJECT TO CHANGE		

2018-2019	Proposed Mill Rate	24.7
2017-2018	Current Mill Rate	24.3
	Increase in Mill Rate	0.4

Motion passed unanimously.

10. Tax Rebates:

Mr. Paquette moved to approve the following tax rebates to
VW Credit Leasing LTD in the amount of \$218.70 and to
VW Credit Leasing LTD in the amount of \$185.90.

Motion passed unanimously.

11. Correspondence and Announcements:

A letter has been received from Recreation Director Crystal Adams in regards to the 38th Annual Memorial Day Road Race as well a copy of the Highway Use Permit from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation.

A Thank You from the Thames Valley Council for Community Action Inc for the contribution of \$3500.00 to the Senior Nutrition Program for the fiscal year of 2017-2018.

A letter has been received from Frontier Communications with the contact information for the Operations Director for Eastern Connecticut.

A response has been received from Pat Boyd's office in regards to the legality of a Municipal Admission Surcharge. The answer to this question was that the State of Connecticut allows a Municipality to charge an admission surcharge on fairs and similar events up to 5% of the admission price, by ordinance. Mr. Alberts would like to do some more research on this topic.

The PTO has sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen thanking them for their support in their fundraising efforts for the WMS playground, especially in their willingness to participate in the Kiss the Goat fundraiser.

Mr. Alberts announced that as of April 16, 2018 Joni Cullan started her new position as office manager, and she is also training to help the Tax Collector's office staff. The position of the Executive Secretary will become a part-time position and it should be posted by the end of April. Barbara Rich has offered to work in the Office of the Selectmen until someone is hired. Christine French will start doing the minutes for the Board of Selectmen and helping Mrs. Cullan with other duties.

Mr. Alberts has received word that the Town has been granted a LOCIP grant in the amount of \$153,549.00 for the Phase II of the Roseland Park Road project. The money should arrive by April 20th.

Mrs. Cullan has been researching different energy options. At this point it looks like Clear View Energy has the best rate, with a flat fee of 8.69 kw with a \$50.00 cancellation fee for the first 12 months. Mrs. Cullan is still waiting to hear from Public Power, which is the current company that the Town is using, for information on cancellation fees.

Mr. Alberts had a productive meeting with Woodstock Academy Headmaster Chris Sandford and Board of Education Chair Megan Bard Morse. It was suggested that a traffic light be installed at the intersection of Routes 169 and 171, by Garden Gate Florists to be used during peak hours. During off peak hours it could be a blinking light. It was the consensus of the Board of Selectmen to request the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation to do a traffic study at this intersection.

12. Citizen's Comments.

Mark Parker has received a letter from Carl Knittel resigning from the Inland-Wetlands and Watercourses Agency effective immediately.

Mr. Olah asked if any information has been forthcoming from the Town Attorney in regards to if the increased enrollment at Woodstock Academy would be considered an emergency expenditure under Proposition 46, or if a petition amending Proposition 46 had been received. Mr. Alberts stated that the Town Attorney is still researching the question about if the enrollment increase would be considered an emergency expenditure. Ms. French stated that no petition has been filed as of the close of business today. Mr. Alberts stated that if a petition does arrive the Board of Selectmen can vote to adjourn any item on the petition to referendum.

David Fortin wondered if since the school buildings are considered Town owned buildings that perhaps the Town could do some of the capital improvement projects at the schools instead of the Board of Education.

13. Adjournment.

Mr. Paquette moved to adjourn at 8:50pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Christine G. French
Clerk