

**Town of Woodstock
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Thursday – July 18, 2019
7:00 PM – Room A**

MINUTES

PRESENT: Michael Alberts, Frank Olah and Chandler Paquette.

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Attorney Richard Roberts, Chris Mayhew, Jim Trowbridge, Diane Miller, Heather Paquette, Karen Olah, Dottie Durst, Rick Torgeson, Megan Bard Morse and WINY Reporter

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance: Mr. Alberts led the Board of Selectmen and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approve the Minutes of the June 30, 2019 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting:

Under item 6, Discuss CME Status Update on the Local Bridge Replacement, Mr. Alberts pointed out that Treasurer Karen Fitzpatrick was not present at the meeting, and that the bond or bond in anticipation process would not begin until **early 2020**, not December of 2019.

Selectmen Chandler Paquette stated that under item 2 Pledge of Allegiance is should be **members**, not member.

Chandler Paquette made a motion to approve the June 30, 2019 Board of Selectmen's minutes as amended. **Motion passed.**

4 & 5. Consider the Appoint of Dorothy Durst as a Full Member of the Economic Development Commission for the Term of July 18, 2019 through December 31, 2019 and to Consider the Appointment of Dorothy Durst as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the Term of July 18, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

Dorothy Durst explained that she at one time she ran her own business and keeps current with business trends in the New England region. She attended Economic Development Commission meetings several years ago, and during her tenure on the Planning & Zoning Commission the Commission revised the Plan of Conservation and Development seeking to support Agricultural businesses and other small businesses.

Her interest in the Zoning Board of Appeals stems from her many years as a member of the Planning & Zoning Commission in Woodstock and the Land Use Commission while residing in Pomfret.

Mr. Alberts explained that Mrs. Durst's resignation from the Planning & Zoning Commission begins on July 31, 2019. Since it is a conflict of interest for her to serve on both the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals at the same time, her starting term date for Zoning Board of Appeals will need to be amended to August 1, 2019.

Selectmen Chandler Paquette made a motion to appoint Dorothy Durst as a Full Member of the Economic Development Commission for the Term of July 18, 2019 to December 31, 2019, and as an Alternate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the term of August 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019. **Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Consider the Reappointment of Chris Mayhew and Beach Baywood as Full Members of the Crystal Pond Park Commission for the Term July 18, 2019 through June 30, 2021.

Chris Mayhew explained to the Board that he has been a member of the Commission since 2015. He has been a resident of Woodstock for years and is a teacher at the Woodstock Middle School. He is a member of the local Masonic Lodge, a member of the Muddy Brook Volunteer Fire Department and the softball coach at Woodstock Academy.

Beach Baywood was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Selectman Frank Olah made a motion to reappoint Chris Mayhew and Beach Baywood to the Crystal Pond Park Commission for the term of July 18, 2019 through June 30, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Chris Mayhew to Discuss the Progress Made with Planning a Potential Timber Harvest.

Mr. Mayhew explained to the Board that Yale University did a forest management plan and gave the Commission advice on how to maintain a healthy forest. Unfortunately Yale University will not be able to mark trees or care for the forest. The Commission reached out to local foresters to see if there was any interest in this job, and only one forester responded.

Jim Trowbridge stated that many of the hemlock trees have been damaged by the woolly adelgid and many oak trees were damaged by the gypsy moth infestation over the last few years. The emerald ash borer has been spotted in forests nearby. These trees need to be taken down before they become a safety hazard. The forester has advised the Commission that the damaged oak trees as well as some of the healthy oak should be harvested.

The Commission members present stated that the forester planned to start marking trees in August or September and start the harvest in January. An old logging road from a previous harvest, with a little tweaking can be used again. Any proceeds from this project will go back into the Crystal Pond Park.

The Eastford Board of Selectmen approved this project at their last meeting. Mr. Alberts stated that the Woodstock Conservation Commission acts in an advisory capacity for the Board of Selectmen, and he urged the Crystal Pond Park Commission members to attend the next

Conservation Commission meeting. Mr. Mayhew agreed that he would, and report back to the Selectmen.

8. Consider Hiring the Law Offices of Lloyd L. Langhammer LLC for Tax Appeals and Such Other Matters:

Mr. Alberts stated that this is a law firm that Assessor Emily Carlone has used in the past at other places of employment. Ms. Carlone feels comfortable working with this law firm.

Mr. Olah asked Town Attorney Richard Roberts if this was service that Halloran Sage provided. Mr. Roberts stated that it did.

Mr. Olah made a motion to table this agenda item until Assessor Emily Carlone could be present to answer questions. **Motion passed.**

9. Warn a Special Town Meeting for July 30, 2019, 7:00pm, to approve the expenditure of \$212,483.00 as recommended by the Board of Finance from the Reserve for the Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund to be used for the Woodstock Academy Roof Replacements and Underground Storage Tanks Removal and Replacement. Said meeting will be adjourned to a referendum vote on August 6, 2019 from 12 Noon to 8:00pm, at the Woodstock Town Hall.

Mr. Alberts explained to the other members of the Board that the Board of Finance had approved taking this step towards paying the \$212,483.00 at their last meeting. This will be advertised in the Shopper Guide for the next three weeks.

Frank Olah moved the following:

**TOWN OF WOODSTOCK
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
July 30, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

A Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, will be held at the Woodstock Town Hall, 415 Route 169 in the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut on July 30, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss and vote on the following:

1. To choose a Moderator.
2. To consider and vote upon the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Woodstock approve the expenditure of \$212,483.00 as recommended by the Board of Finance from the Reserve for Capital and Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund to be used for The Woodstock Academy Roof Replacements and Underground Storage Tanks Removal and Replacement.

3. 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 for submission to the voters of the Town of Woodstock by referendum to be held on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 from 12:00 Noon to 8:00 PM at the Woodstock Town Hall. Voters approving the question will vote "Yes" and those opposing the question will vote "No." Absentee ballots will be available at the Office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at Woodstock, Connecticut, this 18 day of July, 2019
Woodstock Board of Selectmen, Michael L. Alberts, First Selectman, Chandler Paquette, Selectman, Frank Olah, Selectman, Attest: Judy E. Walberg, Town Clerk

Mr. Alberts stated that Dawn Adiletta has agreed to be the moderator for the meeting. Mr. Alberts was very disappointed by some of the comments and the tone of the Board of Finance meeting. There will be Constables at the meeting.

10. Tax Rebates:

Chandler Paquette made a motion to approve the tax rebate to Corelogic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$1,817.90. **Motion passed unanimously.**

11. Correspondence and Communications:

Mr. Alberts stated that due to the extreme heat the Town Hall will be open on Saturday noon to 4:00pm as a cooling center. If many people use the facility on Saturday, the Town Hall may be open on Sunday.

12. Citizens Comments:

Chris Mayhew thanked Mr. Olah for his recent letters in the Woodstock Villager with regards to the intersection of Route 169 and Route 171 by Garden Gate Florist. Mr. Mayhew would like to have a meeting with Mr. Olah to discuss his concerns and ideas for solutions.

Megan Bard Morse thanked the Board for warning the Special Town Meeting, but she had concerns about people being on vacation during the referendum. Town Attorney Richard Roberts stated that this matter needs to be voted on as soon as possible. If this matter is voted down at the Referendum the Board of Education will need to act quickly to find a way to pay for capital assessment fee within their budget. He also stated that Absentee Ballots will be available the morning after the Town Meeting.

13. Other From Committee:

Mr. Olah asked what the “Tour de Farms” was. Mr. Alberts explained that this would be a bicycle tour of the local farms held in conjunction with Celebrate Agriculture. This bicycle tour has been held in the past.

14. Adjournment:

Mr. Paquette made a motion to adjourn at 8:00pm. **Motion passed.**