

**Town of Woodstock
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
January 16, 2020
7:00 PM – Room A**

MINUTES

PRESENT: John Swan, Gregory Kline and Chandler Paquette.

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Gordon, Heather Paquette, Emilie Hebert, Judy Buell, Kevin Withers, Megan Bard Morse and Pamela Spaeth (7:20pm).

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

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

3. Approve the Minutes of the January 2, 2020 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting:

Selectmen Chandler Paquette made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2020 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting as presented.

Mr. Swan stated that the contract with One Earth Environmental LLC that was discussed at the previous meeting has been signed and sent off.

4. Consider the Appointment of Pamela Spaeth as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission for the Term January 16, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

Mr. Paquette moved to table the appointment until Mrs. Spaeth arrived or at a future meeting.
Motion passed unanimously.

5. Consider the Reappointment of Douglas Young as a Full Member of the Agriculture Commission for the term of January 16, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

Mr. Paquette made a motion to reappoint Douglas Young as a Full Member of the Agriculture Commission for the term of January 16, 2020 through December 31, 2022. **Motion passed unanimously.**

6. Discuss Amending the Ordinance Regarding Tax Abatements for Dairy Farms and Fruit Orchards Adopted: June 29, 1992 and Amended May 3, 1999.

Mr. Swan stated that the Agricultural Commission wished to update the Ordinance regarding Tax Abatements to Dairy Farms and Fruit Orchards. Attorney Richard Roberts has reviewed the amended ordinance. The new ordinance would include non-traditional farming practices such as hydroponic farming.

There was discussion as to taking out the clause regarding commercial lobstering. It was the consensus of the Board to keep that clause in.

Emilie Hebert asked why beef cattle were not included in the amended ordinance. Attorney Richard Roberts stated that the Town Ordinance could not create an exemption greater than the State Statute, therefore an exemption for beef cattle could not be included in the amended Town ordinance.

Mr. Swan stated that he hopes to bring the amended ordinance to Town Meeting within the next six months.

7. Tax Rebates:

None.

8. Correspondence and Announcements:

An incident report from State Police Troop D was received for the month of December, 2019.

9. Citizens Comments:

Megan Bard Morse asked that the Board of Selectmen keep the Board of Education and Woodstock Academy in the loop with regards to the traffic situation at the intersection of Route 171 and Route 169. Mr. Swan stated that the State informed him that a traffic light is not needed at that situation, however he will be meeting with State Representative Pat Boyd and a representative of the Department of Transportation to look into other alternatives.

Mrs. Spaeth arrived, and she explained that she has been sitting in on meetings of the Conservation Commission and feels that it is important to keep Woodstock rural and agricultural.

Mr. Paquette made a motion to appoint Pamela Spaeth as an Alternate Member of the Conservation Commission for the Term of January 16, 2020 through December 31, 2022.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mrs. Spaeth was thanked by Mr. Swan for her volunteerism to the Town.

10. Other from Committee:

Mr. Swan stated that he has received the Monthly Receipts from the Town Clerk's Office for the month of December, 2019. He stated that there has been an increase in revenue collected in that office.

11. Adjournment:

Mr. Kline made a motion to adjourn at 8:47pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**

