

MINUTES

**Selectmen's /Assessor's Meeting
Tuesday, April 17, 2018
William Pullen Building Meeting Room
6:30 p.m.**

Selectmen Present: Greg Grotton, Jim Justice, John Shepard, Sarah Drickey, Lyle Cramer

Others present: Jay Feyler

- 1. Call Selectmen meeting to order: 6:30 p.m.**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment:** Martha Nash asked if there were plans or funds in the budget to repair the playground at the old school. If there is a Park & Rec. committee? Jay stated that would be under Parks & Rec. and that there is a committee. Greg stated that the town is only responsible for the basketball and tennis courts. Jay stated that the merry-go-round near the tennis courts needs to be taken out.
- 4. Approve minutes of Tuesday April 3, 2018:**
Motion by: Jim Justice
2nd by: John Shepard
5-0
- 5. Poverty abatement, Farm and Tree penalty as Assessors (Murphy):**

2 Actions – Abatement for \$150.10 for overstated acreage and two supplemental assessments for \$1600.00 and \$2316.89.

Motion by: Lyle Cramer for overstated acreage in the amount of \$150.10.
2nd by: Jim Justice
5-0

Motion by: Lyle Cramer for 2 pieces of property in the amounts of \$1600.00 and \$2316.89.
2nd by: John Shepard
5-0
- 6. Follow-up on Ayer Park for summer:**

Jay presented the Board with a rough estimate for a worker to collect funds. The total for the season is just under \$12,000 for someone to be there 40-hours a week. A decision needs to be made pertaining to the hours needed and when the gate will be locked, etc. Much to be considered in the decision.

Several suggestions were brought up leading to a lengthy conversation about an issue that has no definitive solutions at this time. Jim suggested having an employee there to clean up the area 4 hours before close on a Thursday. Furthermore, Friday – Sunday for 12 hours each day. Sarah suggested having the employee lock the gate each night at

sundown. Jay stated that 9pm would be too late to have someone there until that hour, moreover needing the gate opened early the next morning. Jay suggested the option of having someone go in 2 to 3 times a week to clean for a few hours. Greg, Lyle and Jim shared their opinions about charging a fee and feel that is not the solution to the issue at hand.

The Board made the decision to hire an employee to start Memorial Day weekend for approximately 14 to 16 hours a week. Have them monitor the area from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday – Sunday on a trail basis through July 4th. The Board will reevaluate the situation at that time for a continuance through Labor Day. Trash clean-up will be part of the job description.

Motion by: Greg Grotton

2nd by: Jim Justice

5-0

7. Engineering Estimate discussion:

Jay stated that the approximate estimate was given to the Board. As it stands, it will cost about \$15,000 for a complete engineering study. A warrant would need to be signed at the next meeting if a decision is made. Lyle is in favor of the engineering study and feels there is a need for the information to move forward. Jay recommended calculating additional funds in case unforeseen costs are incurred. John agrees with Lyle that the study is necessary. Greg is opposed to using tax payer money until a complete audit is done. Jim agrees audit should be seen first. A resident asked why the funds are not coming the town if the town owns the building? Greg stated, in the lease, the TCC agreed to take care of all costs pertaining to building maintenance and repairs. The town is only receiving estimates at this time and he does not believe the town will be covering the full cost of everything getting done. Jim asked for clarification as to whether the town is going to pay for the study, and that what was agreed upon in the last meeting. Jay stated if there is a warrant pulled, that the town will have to pay for the study. A resident stated, as a tax payer, the TCC is a liability and an asset, which outweighs which? He feels that getting the engineering study done is very important to the town's people. He was also under the impression that the town would be helping to pay for the study. Lori verified that the audit is moving forward and is currently waiting on the engagement letter stating that the audit is indeed taking place.

Motion by: John Shepard to have the study on the warrant until there is a clear estimate from the engineering department, and to have the tax-payers vote on the decision.

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

4-1

8. Sign treasurers warrant dates April 17th, 2018:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

9. Town Manager's Report:

Jay stated in an email that Oran s mother passed away and announced the service arrangements. He will be out for the week.

Ann Dean is officially retiring from town of Washington on April 27th. A party will be held at the Washington Town Office on Wednesday the 18th from 4-7.

10. Other business:

Jay stated that the County warrant needs to be signed for the County assessment.

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

11. Selectmen's Report

John stated a reminder that the Tri-county solid waste meeting is next Thurs. in Washington at the Town Office.

Lyle made reference that rank choice voting was passed by the Supreme Court, and will incur additional costs to the town.

12. Future Agenda Items:

13. Adjourn:

Motion by: Jim Justice

2nd by: Lyle Cramer

5-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sandy Patrick – Secretary