

WORCESTER SELECTBOARD REGULAR MEETING
Minutes 6/19/2023

Monday, June 19, 2023 6:30 pm

Selectboard members present: Roger Strobbridge, John Kaeding

Guests present: Jennifer LeStat, Katie Miller, Will Sutton and Karen Walter

Housekeeping

- John called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm
- Minutes approval: John moved to accept the minutes of the regular Selectboard meeting of 6/5/2023 as presented; seconded by Roger and unanimously approved.

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

- Roger moved to add Fireworks Display Permit signing as an addition; seconded by John and unanimously accepted. The permit was then signed.

Public Input - none

Department Reviews

Town Clerk Report

- Jennifer notes the elevator/lift at Town Hall is malfunctioning and requires repair
- preparations continue for July 4 celebration
- Worcester continues work on identifying and developing an emergency town shelter

Town Treasurer Report

- Katie notes delinquent tax payments are coming in and arrangements were made for the SB to sign two specific tax agreements tonight, the SB did sign those agreements at tonight's meeting
- Worcester will be moving to a Town credit card, under Katie's strict control, rather than continuing several separate store accounts
- Katie presented several documents regarding new financial policies and procedures. Roger moved to accept those documents which include: Capital Program and Budget Policy; Capitol Reserve Fund Balance Policy; Cash Receipts, Petty Cash And Returned Check Policy; Fraud Prevention Policy; Accounting, Auditing And Financial Reporting Policy. John seconded Rogers motion and it passed unanimously.

Fire Department Report

- Will reported the Fire Department coin drop was a success, providing more than \$1500 for the department
- there are 6 new potential applicants for fire/ rescue including 4 first responders and 2 fire fighters

New Business

Road Grader

- The Town grader is running out of steam. It's nearly 35 years old. It's maker is out of business and parts are very difficult to find. Regrettably, with next years budget, Worcester will need to start squirreling away funds for a replacement.

Trail Signage

- The SB continues to think about ways the Town can help alleviate excessive motorized traffic on Eagle Ledge Trail and Shepards Hill trail. This is a perennial problem but one we intend to return to until improvement can be found.

Old Business

Forestry concerns- Chandler lot

- It has been brought to our attention that this lot is in need of thinning and clean up. To that end Rick Dyer has generously agreed to assist the Town in planning that process and to help the Town as we prepare for the arrival of the emerald ash borer.

Solar Ideas for Worcester

- John briefly described a concept that would allow Worcester to become a "solar village" via utilizing the rooftops of folks in our town who are eager to participate in a solar program. Such a concept could make "solar" more easily accessible and less expensive while providing benefit for the homeowners and the Town. This idea is in early stages, but is clearly worth pursuing.

Auxiliary Power Sources

- In an attempt to prevent a replay of last winter's disastrous power outage which prevented the ability to pump fuel for town highway and fire trucks and nearly froze those trucks in their garages, we discussed our intention of providing generator backup for the Highway Department and the Office Complex. Battery backup does not seem feasible for these buildings because of power needs. We are presently at the design stage of these projects.

Telecommunications Ordinance Review

- John is working to make the 1998 Telecommunications Ordinance more consistent with the new and forward thinking Town Plan. Revisions are nearly complete and should be ready for review at the next SB meeting.

Correspondence - none

Announcements

- The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the Town Office Complex on Monday July 3, 2023 at 6:30 pm. This meeting was adjourned at 8.30 pm.

Attest,
John Kaeding.