

DRAFT MINUTES

Worcester Selectboard Regular Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2025 at 6:30 pm

Worcester Town Office Complex

Selectboard members present: Carter Stowell and John Kaeding

Town staff present: Jennifer LeStat, Katie Miller, Mike Utton, Brian Powers

Guests present: Walt Bador, Jeff Utton, Chris Pollard, Rodney Campbell, Albert Campbell and Joe Audet Jr.

Housekeeping

- John moved to accept the draft minutes of April 4, 2025, as written, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved
- Additions/Deletions to the agenda - John moved to add to the agenda under Old Business, the acceptance of Allen Gilbert's letter of resignation from CV Fiber; seconded by Carter and unanimously approved

Public Input - none

Department Reviews

Town Clerk Report

- Jennifer notes she is completing work on the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan
- She and Fran will be attending election training tomorrow in Montpelier

Town Treasurer Report

- Katie notes 2024 flood paperwork is complete, all obligated projects total \$1,451,225
- Bond Bank paperwork for the 2023 flood is complete

Fire Department Report

- Mike reports a new 911 system update improves notification and direction of fire calls

Town Engineer Report

- Tyler was not able to be at tonight's meeting but he provided a thorough update on options for 5 major road projects coming this summer. Tyler, with support from Brian Powers and Mike Utton, suggests the best plan is to move forward on 4 projects this summer using a single contractor and postpone the largest project until 2026. John moves to proceed with 4 projects this summer using a single contractor if possible and put the Hampshire Hill project on hold until 2026, seconded by Carter and unanimously

approved

New Business

Discuss policy for sale of items

- This is, in fact, a discussion of the sale of a trailer that belonged to the Worcester Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department. The Department's by-laws note it is a non-profit organization and as such it oversees its own funds which are generated by fund raisers or "boot drops", those are funds not provided by Town government. The trailer was owned by the Fire Department and purchased with its own funds, therefore, the SB was not in control of the sale of that item.

Discuss abuse by driving on Ladd Field and the soccer field

- It was noted that at least twice in two weeks someone has driven on or "done donuts on" the soccer field. That is illegal as well as destructive. Carter will draft a message discouraging such acts to be posted on FPF and Worcester Connects Facebook page. Signage will be updated prohibiting such activity.

Authorize Roger Strobridge to represent the SB on an Historical Society task force

- John moved to authorize Roger Strobridge to represent the SB on an Historical Society task force; seconded by Carter and unanimously approved

Old Business

Sign Bond Bank agreement and loan documents

- John moved to sign the Bond Bank agreement for \$ 2,000,000, as presented by Katie, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved. That agreement will allow the Town to pay off bank loans which exist at a much higher interest rate.

Allen Gilbert resignation as CV Fiber representative

- John moved to accept Allen Gilbert's resignation as CV Fiber representative, seconded by Carter and unanimously approved

Correspondence

- Jennifer read a letter from Caitlin Howansky regarding concerns about vehicles speeding through Worcester on Rte. 12 causing a wide range of safety concerns. She suggests radar feedback signs at both ends of Town. John will try to resurrect the speed study which was scheduled for last summer but got diverted because of the flood.

Announcements

- The next regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting will be held at the Office Complex on Monday, May 5, 2025 at 6:30 pm. John moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 pm: seconded by Carter and unanimously approved

Bills - signed as presented

Attest - John Kaeding

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