

Westfield Selectboard Minutes
October 10, 2016 – 6:00 p.m. – Town Offices

Present were: Selectboard members: Yves Daigle, Chair; Richard Degre and Jacques Couture; Treasurer: Mary Lou Jacobs; Town Clerk: LaDonna Dunn; guests Katherine Sims (for a portion of the meeting) and Mark Higley (for a portion of the meeting)

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Yves at 6:04 p.m.
2. **Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda:** Mary Lou added approve warrant dated 10/10/16 to Article 7.
3. **Approve Minutes of the August 16, 2016 Westfield Bridge #16 Bid Opening Meeting:** Motion by Jacques and second by Richard to approve the minutes as read with no changes. So moved. Yves added that the project will be put out to bid again in February 2017.
4. **Approve Minutes of the August 16, 2016 Selectboard Meeting:** Motion by Richard and second by Jacques to approve the minutes with no changes. So moved. Yves noted that Jeremy Dunn can help fix the flagpole at the Library.
5. **Guest Katherine Sims:** Katherine asked to be on the agenda to share with the Selectboard her reasons for running for the House of Representatives. She shared her views and answered questions. She invited the Selectboard to attend the Candidates Forum/Debate on Monday, October 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the Westfield Community Center and thanked the Selectboard for providing the Community Center venue.
6. **Representative Mark Higley to Discuss Local Break-ins:** Mark Higley discussed the recent break-ins in Westfield. He attributes the break-in problem to the opioid problems in Vermont and throughout the country. He said he has spoken with Lt. Walter Smith, Derby State Police, who considers himself Westfield's Police Chief. Lt. Smith gave Mark the following Westfield statistics:
 - January 1, 2016 to present there have been 77 service calls, seven of which were property crimes.
 - There have been 52 tickets issued and 71 warnings issued.

Mark shared his views on Act 46 and discussed what actions the committee he sat on took during the legislative session.

7. **Approve Warrants for Expenditures dated 8/24, 8/31, 9/7, 9/14, 9/21, 10/5 and 10/10/16:** Motion by Richard and second by Jacques to approve the warrants as listed. So moved.
8. **Recycling:**
 - A. **Orey Tetreault-Recycling Helper:** Up to this point Orey has been working at the Recycling Center through VOC Rehab. His VOC Rehab contract is over and the Town was approached to hire him as Yves' helper at minimum wage. Motion by Jacques and second by Richard for the Town to employ Orey Tetreault at minimum wage. So moved. The Selectboard will re-evaluate this at budget time.
 - B. **Change of Trash Pickup Day/Additional Dumpster:** Yves has requested another dumpster at the Recycling Center but has been told by the trash hauler that they don't have any extras at this time. The hauler is picking up the trash a day earlier to help with the excess trash at recycling until another dumpster becomes available.

C. NEKWMD Hauling Fee Proposal: Yves reported there is discussion at the waste management district about possible increases in hauling fees. The district is considering charter changes. Currently the only plastics being accepted are numbers 1-4. There are also possible changes coming to the e-waste program.

9. Sign VT Electric Coop Easement for Scott & Kelli Dean: The Selectboard signed the easement giving permission for work to be done in the Town right-of-way along North Hill Road in front of the Dean's property.

10. Westfield School Director Resignations/Replacements and Search for a NCUHS Director: Kristy Pillsbury has resigned because she moved out of Westfield. Janellen Parker-Goodwin has been appointed to fill Kristy's position on the Westfield School Board. Chad Prue has also resigned. Once his letter of resignation is received, Nicole Dunn will be appointed to fill his position on the Westfield School Board. Yves spoke with Shawn Baraw about filling the vacant North Country Union High School Board position. Shawn was very enthusiastic about being on the high school board. Yves will get in touch with the Westfield School Board Chair, Kevin Amyot, so the Board can make the appointment. All of these positions will be appointed now by the Westfield School Board and will be voted on at the 2017 Town Meeting to fill the unexpired terms for that office.

11. Sheriff's Report for August: The August report reflected 18.5 patrol hours and \$76 in fines issued.

A. Possible Security Awareness Meeting for Westfield Property Owners: Due to the recent break-ins Yves discussed the possibility of having an awareness meeting at the Community Center with the Sheriff's Department.

12. Library Report:

A. Quote from Gray's Paving: A quote was received from Gray's in the amount of \$4,900 to resurface the existing asphalt and pave and top over the gravel areas. As the work is to be done in 2017, this figure will be included in next year's budget.

B. Update on Ramp/Railing: The work on the handicap ramp and railing has been completed and the Selectboard is pleased with the outcome.

C. Halloween Party-Sunday, October 16th—11 a.m. to 1 p.m.: Approximately 10 families have RSVP'd for the pumpkin carving/decorating at the Library. Per Librarian Mary Lee Daigle's request the Lion's Club donated \$50 for candy which will be given out on Halloween night.

13. Road Inventory Update-LaDonna Dunn: LaDonna spoke with Doug Morton at NVDA to express the Town's interest in working on the Municipal Road Inventory which will be required as part of Act 64, the Vermont Clean Water Act. Doug said the protocol is still being developed and he will add us to the list of towns requesting assistance from NVDA. The purpose of the inventory is to identify high impact roads that could have runoff impacting waterways. The proposed completion deadline is 2018. He also wanted the Town to understand there is a \$2,000 annual fee which is part of the Municipal Roads General Permit. NVDA will be issuing more information to towns as it becomes available.

14. Road Update:

A. Barricades on Reservoir Road: Yves reported the barricades have been placed on Reservoir Road. Larry Kennison or Eric will put one at each end of the road after the first winter storm.

B. Status of Signs on North Hill Rd.: Richard will work with Eric on the placement/installation of the signs to ensure they are in place before winter.

C. Update on Buck Hill Rd. Culvert Project: The culvert is in place and the footings have been poured. The whole project will be completed soon. Mary Lou and LaDonna will work with Eric to complete the grant paperwork.

15. Ambulance Advisory Board Update-LaDonna Dunn: LaDonna reported the current officers are: Billy Smith, President; Jen Piette, Vice President and Alissa Fontaine, Secretary. They have eliminated the position of Treasurer converting it to a Member-at-Large position. They now have a bookkeeper and a payroll company. The checks are signed by Billy Smith and Dave Murphy. Over the next three years the ambulance will be phasing in an appropriations increase until they reach 2%. They will be requesting 1.75% in 2017 which is up from 1.5% in 2016. The anticipated request for 2018 will be 1.88% then bring it to 2% in 2019. This percentage is based on the grand list value.

16. Other Business:

A. Pressure Wash Town Garage: Yves will borrow the cold pressure washer from Richard to wash the Town Garage.

B. Furnace Servicing: Yves will make the appointment to have the furnaces serviced at all town buildings.

17. Adjourn: Motion by Jacques and second by Richard to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. So moved.

Minutes submitted by: _____
LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk

Westfield Selectboard Approval:

Date: _____ **with** _____ **changes**

Yves Daigle, Chair

Richard Degre

Jacques Couture