

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF WESTBROOK
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, January 28, 2021
Via ZOOM

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Bishop called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. In attendance included: First Selectman Bishop, Selectman Hall and Selectman Fuchs, Marilyn Ozols, Planning Chairman, Rich Annino, Park & Rec Director, David Maiden, Building Official, Bonnie Hall, ZBA Chairman, Donna Castracane, Director of Finance, Heidi Wallace, Inland Wetland Official, Ken Butterworth, IT, Chief Cusson, Tim Kellogg, Library Director, John Riggio, Director of Public Works, Don Izzo, Director of Emergency Management, Bob Hagemeister, Chairman Board of Fire Commissioners, Tony Cozza, BOF, Courtney Burks, Senior Center Director, John Rie, Harbor Commission Chairman, Zack Faiella, Health Director, John Flaherty, Fire Marshal, Carol Hess, Asst. Finance Director, Elizabeth Carpenter, Social Services Coordinator, Lynn Spencer, Fire Commissioner, Carol Mullaney, VNA Director, Paul Winch, BOF member, Pete Schaumburg, Fire Commissioner, Jill Brainerd, Facilities, Pat Marcarelli, COB, Wendy Leone, Assessor, Vincent Gentile, Chris Ehlert, BOF member, Chairman Energy Committee, MaryJo Noonan, Chairman Library Board, Trooper Borelli, Jim Crawford, Registrar, John Palermo, Open Burning Official, Kim Bratz, Tax Collector, Joan Angelini, Town Clerk and Eric Knapp, Planning, Zoning and Development Coordinator.

POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY FUNDING

Due to the Pandemic, per Executive Order, the BOS may act in both its own capacity and that of a Town Meeting.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$103,000 from the Fund Balance on behalf of the BOS and a Town Meeting for the purchase of police dash and body worn cameras. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FINAL BUDGET DISCUSSION

Police

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Police Services budget in the amount of \$641,320.00 (including Harbor Patrol and PA/TA). Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Assessor

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Assessor budget in the amount of \$127,739.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tax Collector

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Tax Collector's budget in the amount of \$165,364.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

First Selectman

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the First Selectman budget in the amount of \$206,224.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

General Engineering

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the General Engineering budget in the amount of \$48,000. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

HR

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the HR budget in the amount of \$27,500. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Legal Services

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Legal Services (Town Attorney) budget in the amount of \$30,000. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Treasurer's budget in the amount of \$14,067.00 Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

WPCA

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the WPCA budget in the amount of \$30,835.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

VNA

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the VNA budget in the amount of \$616,392.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Park & Rec.

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Park & Rec. budget in the amount of \$416,402.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Senior Center

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Senior Center budget in the amount of \$99,004.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Department of Health

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Department of Health budget in the amount of \$215,441.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Social Services

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Social Services budget in the amount of \$70,107.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Town Clerk

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Town Clerk budget in the amount of \$146,558. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Finance budget in the amount of \$186,348 Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

*IT

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the IT budget in the amount of \$150,227.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Department

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Fire Dept. budget in the amount of \$825,124.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Marshal

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Fire Marshal budget in the amount of \$132440 Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fire Commission

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Fire Commission budget in the amount of \$1,570.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

BAA

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the BAA budget in the amount of \$386.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Board of Finance

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Board of Finance budget in the amount of \$45351.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Elections

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the Elections budget in the amount of \$63,140.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Grants

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Grants budget in the amount of \$196,750.00 Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Library

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the Library budget in the amount of \$372,681.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Works

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Public Works budget in the amount of \$1,488,181.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to reinstate a 1.4% pay increase to Mike Jenkins effective 7/1/21. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Facilities Management

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Facilities Management budget in the amount of \$416,669.00 Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Commission

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Conservation Commission budget in the amount of \$26,599.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Inland Wetland

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Inland Wetland budget in the amount of \$68,384.00. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ZBA

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the ZBA budget in the amount of \$27,996.00 Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Planning, Zoning and Development

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Planning, Zoning and Development budget in the amount of \$201,873.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Building Official

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the Building Official budget in the amount of \$146,086.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Harbor Commission

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the Harbor Commission budget in the amount of \$11,353.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Emergency Management

Mr. Hall made a motion to approve the Emergency Management budget in the amount of \$28,332.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ad Hoc Energy Committee

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the Energy Committee budget in the amount of \$1,235.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Dog Fund

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the Dog Fund in the amount of \$16,771.00. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Note: there is currently \$1.1 million budgeted for Capital.

The meeting recessed at 7:36 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 7:46 p.m.

Mr. Hall made a motion to set the Contingency at \$75,000.00. Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

*Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the municipal budget in the amount of \$12,954,282.00 (.6% increase) and forward to the BOF for further action, subject to final review by the Director of Finance. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

***Note: after further review by the Director of Finance, the IT budget increased to \$152,707.00, bringing the total municipal budget, forwarded to the BOF, to \$12,956,782.00 (.6% increase).**

GRANT ACCEPTANCE – Middlesex County Community Foundation

Due to the Pandemic, per Executive Order, the BOS may act in both its own capacity and that of a Town Meeting.

The Middlesex County Community Foundation has awarded the Conservation Commission a \$5,000 grant for the Toby Hill VIII parcel acquisition.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to accept the grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the Middlesex Community Foundation for the Toby Hill VIII parcel acquisition on behalf of the BOS and Town Meeting. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR – Families First Corona Virus Response Act - Extension

The CARES Act provides paid sick leave and paid family leave to employees who are unable to work due to Covid-19. These provisions expired 12/31/20.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to extend the CARES Act benefits relative to paid leave until 3/31/21. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Mr. Hall made a motion to re-appoint John Palermo to a 4 year term as the Open Burning Official. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to re-appoint Lee McNamar to a 3 year term on the WPCA. Mr. Fuchs seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to re-appoint Raymond Fontana to a 3 year term on the WPCA. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/12/21 BOS meeting. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/14/21 BOS meeting. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/21/21 BOS meeting. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fuchs made a motion to approve the minutes from the 1/22/21 BOS meeting. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Bishop reported that Mrs. Helchowski received her certification as Grants Coordinator for the Town of Westbrook's Small Cities Grant.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Suzanne Helchowski
Executive Asst.

Noel Bishop
First Selectman