

TOWN OF WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 08, 2019
Mulvey Municipal Center
Multi Media Room

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Bishop called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. In attendance included: First Selectman Bishop, Selectman Hall, Selectwoman Labbadia, Attorney Jiran (via spider phone 3:15 p.m.), Tom Kowalchik, USI, Donna Castracane, Director of Finance, Kim Bratz, Tax Collector, Mike Jenkins, Public Works, Jill Brainerd, HR/Facilities, Joan Angelini, Town Clerk, Colleen Topitzar, Public Works, Pam Fogarty, Assessor, Rich Annino, Park & Rec, Shirley Mickens, WPCC Tech, Cathy Winninger, Fire Department, David Maiden, Building Official, Rita Trojenowski, Facilities, and Carol Hess, Assistant Finance Director.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bishop made a motion to go into Executive Session at 3:01 p.m. to discuss collective bargaining strategy regarding the Town Hall Contract and tentative agreement. Invited into the Executive Session: Attorney Jiran (via spider phone 3:32 p.m.), Tom Kowalchik, USI, Donna Castracane, Director of Finance, and Suzanne Helchowski (to distribute/coordinate various documentation relative to the contract, benefits, etc.). Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Regular Session resumed at 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Hall made a motion to ratify the Municipal Contract dated 7/1/19 – 6/30/22 and to authorize First Selectman Bishop to sign the contract, retro-active to 7/1/19. Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hall made a motion to extend the same benefits for health insurance, wages, and longevity as specified in the Union Contract to all Non-Union, elected officials and recording clerks effective 7/1/19 – 6/30/22, retro-active to 7/1/19. Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. Discussion followed:

Non-Union municipal employees and elected officials expressed concern regarding 4 to 5 re-classified (to a higher range) Union positions approved by the Union. It was agreed that both Management and Union would meet to further discuss the issue and report recommendation to the BOS.

The motion passed unanimously.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Bishop reported that since the Constable's Contract has not yet been ratified, any salary adjustments are still pending.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to add to the agenda an appropriation relative to the wage increases. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to approve and forward to the BOF and Town Meeting an appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$130,000 for wage increases as outlined in the Union Contract. Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Labbadia made a motion to add to the agenda authorization for grant submittals. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hall made a motion to authorize First Selectman Bishop to sign two Westbrook Foundation Grant Applications, Westbrook Fire Dept., \$38,000 (cleaning equipment for Personal Protective Equipment and hose roller) and Social Services \$10,000 (hearing aids). Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Hall made the following resolution:

Resolved that the Town of Westbrook may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Grant, any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate and;

Further resolved, that Noel Bishop, First Selectman, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents relative to the Grant on behalf of the Town of Westbrook and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:31 p.m. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Suzanne Helchowski
Administrative Assistant

Noel Bishop
First Selectman