

Westbrook Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

Thursday, July 28, 2011

Mulvey Municipal Center, 866 Boston Post Road, Westbrook

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Bishop called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. A quorum was established with the following Board members present: First Selectman Bishop, Selectman Hall and Selectman Ehlert.

BUSINESS

Authorizing Resolution for Clean Water Fund Grant Application - Request from Marilyn Ozols, Chair WPCC

Ms. Ozols reported that the DEP requires the entire application be completed and re-submitted.

**Mr. Hall made a motion to accept the Authorizing Resolution for Clean Water Fund Grant Application as presented. Mr. Ehlert seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

"No Bid Boiler" – Proposal/Next Steps

Mr. Ehlert reported that Attorney Wells suggested that the BOS make a motion to reject the boiler bids that were received and opened July 15, 2011.

**Mr. Ehlert made a motion to reject both boiler bids (Funk Boilers and American Boiler Inc.) as submitted. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Ehlert, Chairman of the Westbrook Energy Committee, provided a status report on various initiatives being reviewed by the Committee and Source 1.

Homework Club Program – Westbrook Park & Rec.- Rich Annino

A copy of the Homework Club proposal submitted by Rich Annino, Director of Park and Rec. was included in the BOS packet.

Mr. Annino reported that Youth and Family Services previously offered an afterschool program targeted at middle school aged children. Due to financial reasons, they can no longer offer this program and Park & Rec. was approached to continue a similar program.

Mr. Annino has developed a structured, after school program based on the current Summer Day/Teen Camp program. He has discussed his proposal with Ms. Pat Charles, Superintendent of Schools. Mr. Annino reported that the program would utilize space in the cafeteria, gym (when available), and fields and would include time and a quiet space for homework. The program would run after school until 6:00 p.m. and would allow for flexibility during ½ days of school.

There was considerable discussion regarding the "Homework Club" aspect of the program. It may be appropriate to consider a different name for the program. It was clarified that tutoring is not included in the program; simply a quiet space will be available for the children to independently complete their homework. A "fact sheet" outlining the program will be sent to parents and the telephone alert system will also be used to advertise the program. Ms. Butterworth, Treasurer, commented that high school students may be available to tutor children to fulfill their community service requirements.

Mr. Bishop reported that this program will be "budget neutral" and any income generated will be deposited into the Town's General Fund.

The after school program housed at the Daisy Ingraham School and provided by the YMCA was discussed. A gentleman commented that teachers should be available to assist with homework. Mr. Bishop responded that overtime costs and teacher contracts make tutoring cost prohibitive to the school.

Mr. Hall commented on any scholarship mechanism available for needy families. Mr. Annino responded that Park & Rec. never turns anyone away.

Mr. Annino and Mr. Urban will discuss the financial aspects of this program.

**Mr. Ehlert made a motion to approve the Homework Club Program as presented. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Appointments

First Reading – Kara Brewster – Retirement Board

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Bishop reported that Darlene Jones has filed an unemployment claim. This claim has been reviewed with legal counsel and addressed appropriately.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Attest,

Suzanne Helchowski  
Clerk

Noel Bishop  
First Selectman