

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT BOS MEETING

TOWN OF WESTBROOK, CONNECTICUT
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting
Thursday, March 7, 2019
Multi-Media Room
Mulvey Municipal Center

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Bishop called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. In attendance included: First Selectman Bishop, Selectman Hall, Selectwoman Labbadia, Lt. Costa, Troop F, Trooper Buck, Paul Connelly, BOF Chairman, John Palermo, Open Burning Official, Rich Annino, Park & Rec. Director, Bonnie Hall, ZBA Chairman and Joan Angelini, Town Clerk.

REVISIT POLICING IN WESTBROOK

Mr. Bishop thanked Lt. Costa and Trooper Buck for attending the meeting and complimented Troop F for their continued outstanding service to the Town of Westbrook. He further commented on the previous meeting when the BOS reviewed the Police Services budget and it was agreed that Westbrook would continue with the current staffing; i.e. two State Troopers and 8 part-time Constables.

Lt. Costa provided an excellent overview of the resources of Troop F and the importance of our part-time Constables in policing for the Town of Westbrook. There was a continued discussion for approximately one hour and a variety of questions were asked regarding the current above staff. It was very important to the BOS that we continue to provide the necessary level of service for the safety and wellbeing of Westbrook residents.

There was further discussion of reducing the number of Troopers to one (currently 2 Troopers assigned to Westbrook) with the clear understanding that we continue to retain the current 8 part-time Constables and that if we eliminate one Trooper, we would then hire an additional full-time Constable. This new proposed arrangement would continue to provide the level of support we need for Policing in Westbrook.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to reduce to one the number of State Troopers assigned to Westbrook. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop made a motion to reduce the Police Services budget in the amount of \$134,000. Mr. Hall seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bishop was requested to check with Attorney Jiran, Labor Attorney, to determine if the new arrangement was in conflict with the current Union contract. Also, he was to check with another municipality for a proposed job description for a full-time Constable and to recommend ideas for a process of interviewing and hiring one full-time Constable and to report back to the BOS on these two issues as soon as possible.

OTHER POTENTIAL BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS

It was also agreed that we would add \$5,000 to the Estuary Elderly Programs thereby increasing the amount from \$10,000 to \$15,000 and that this be recommended to the BOF for their review.

FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

Mr. Bishop reported that there had been a recent OSHA inspection and we are awaiting an official report for any citations.

SET DATE FOR SPECIAL BOS MEETING – Capital

The BOS scheduled a Special BOS meeting on 3/21/19 @ 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bishop made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. Ms. Labbadia seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Helchowski
Administrative Assistant

Attest,

Noel Bishop
First Selectman