

**TOWN OF WEBSTER
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
DONALD BOURQUE, CHAIRMAN
MARK DOWGIEWICZ, VICE CHAIRMAN
ANDREW JOLDA
WILLIAM STARZEC
RANDALL BECKER**

A Board of Selectmen's Meeting was held in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at the Town Hall on Monday, April 25, 2016. Selectman Bourque called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Randall Becker, William Starzec, Andrew Jolda and Mark Dowgiewicz

Pledge of Allegiance: Vice-Chairman Dowgiewicz led the Selectmen in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice-Chairman Dowgiewicz led the Q & A for the Proposition 2 ½ Override.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Bourque stated the meeting minutes will be tabled until the next meeting.

Town Administrator Screening Committee

Thomas Ralph, Jr. came forward. He stated the Committee met earlier that evening and have suggested the Board of Selectmen offer a salary range of \$125,000-\$150,000 for the Town Administrator. He stated the salary would be negotiable upon qualifications.

Vote: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Becker to offer a salary range of \$125,000-\$150,000 for a Town Administrator, negotiable upon experience.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Ms. Leduc stated there was a special appropriation done at a prior Town Meeting which still has a balance in it of just over three thousand dollars. She stated the prior Committee spent \$150.00 in advertising. Selectman Starzec asked if the money could be appropriated after this process is over. He stated the ADA Committee was looking for funding.

Francis “Pete” Carbonneau – 2016 Killdeer Island Block Party

Pete Carbonneau came forward. He stated they are looking to hold the Killdeer Island Block Party on September 10, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. He stated he was just looking for an Entertainment License. He stated he believed he didn't need a Police Detail. Chairman Bourque asked if he paid for Police Detail the last two years. Mr. Carbboneau stated he paid but they never showed up. Chief Bent stated he was returned the money he did pay. He stated the reason why he was required to pre-pay the last two years was because he didn't pay in the past. Mr. Carbonneau stated 125-150 attend the event. He stated it is a BYOB. He stated no alcohol is served. Selectman Becker stated he would recommend a Police Detail with that many people attending.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve a “One Day” Liquor License and a “One Day” Entertainment License for the 2016 Killdeer Island Block Party on September 10, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with a required Police Detail.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Richard Holewa – Bridge Re-Name

Richard Holewa came forward. He stated he would like to rename the bridge between Webster and Dudley to honor active public safety.

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to approve the Public Safety Bridge re-naming to honor Police, Fire, Paramedics and the Public Works Department.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Doran Crouse and William Burke – Water/Sewer Abatements

Doran Crouse stated during the meter reading process 14 Henry Road was flagged for having high usage. The problem was found in the home water softening system while the owner was out of state. He stated they are recommending that the Board deny the request due to the fact that the water softener problem was not the responsibility of the town and that similar usages took place in the past.

Motion: Made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve Doran Crouse's recommendation to deny the request for 14 Henry Road.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Mr. Crouse stated during the reading process 11 Henry Road was flagged for having high usage. The problem was found with the toilet running continually due to rust clogging the valve and holding it open. He stated they are recommending that the Board of Selectmen deny the request.

Motion: Made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve Doran Crouse's recommendation to deny the request for 11 Henry Road.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Mr. Crouse stated the owner of 32 Nancy Drive came in to submit a Senior Rate Form. He stated he was looking for an abatement for the last six years he could have been eligible for the discounted rate because he claims the town didn't inform him of the discount. He stated they recommend the Board of Selectmen deny the request because water consumption was the lowest in years and because the department does not honor retroactive senior rate requests.

Motion: Made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve Doran Crouse's recommendation to deny the request for 32 Nancy Drive.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Acting Town Administrator's Report

Ms. Leduc stated the 2016 local election will be held on Monday, May 2, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Town Hall auditorium. Lawn signs have been placed in highly visible areas around town. The ballot has been posted in the town Hall, at the Library, Police and Fire Stations. The electronic sign board is in front of Town Hall advertising the election. A copy of the ballot is available for viewing on the Town Clerk's page via the Town's website, including a link from the Town's official Facebook page, and will also be included in the April 27, 2016 issue of the Smart Shopper.

She stated a Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, May 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the BHS auditorium following by the spring Annual Town Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Lawn signs will be placed in highly visible areas around town. Summaries of the warrant were advertised in the Telegram and Gazette on Sunday, April 24, 2016. Complete copies of the warrants have been posted in the Town Hall, at the Library, Police and Fire Stations. The electronic sign board is in front of Town Hall advertising the Town Meeting. The warrants are available for viewing on the Town's website, including a link from the Town's official Facebook page, and will also be included in the May 4, 2016 issue of the Smart Shopper. She stated they will be requesting that the Annual Town Meeting be immediately adjourned until Monday, June 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

She stated a Proposition 2 ½ Override Special Election will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Town Hall auditorium. Lawn signs will be placed in highly visible areas around town. The ballot has been posted in the Town Hall, at the Library, Police and Fire Stations. The electronic sign board will remain in front of Town Hall and updated to advertise the special election. A copy of the ballot is available for viewing on the Town's website, including a link from the Town's official page, and will also be included in the April 27th, May 4th and May 11th issue of the Smart Shopper.

She stated the Town of Southbridge hosted a Conflict of Interest Law municipal employee seminar presented by the State Ethics Commission on Thursday, April 14, 2016. The Town of Webster was well represented with a total of nineteen employees and elected officials in attendance.

She stated the town owned property auction was held on Friday, April 22, 2016. The results of the auction far exceeded initial expectations and are as follows: 91 North Main Street - \$97,000, 405 School Street - \$50,000, 27 Sutton Road - \$80,000, 21 Mechanic Street - \$27,000, 22-24 Pearl Street - \$17,000 and 141 North Main Street - \$15,000. A total of \$286,500 was collected and all six properties were advertised were sold. Successful bidders are charged a 10% buyer's premium which compensate both the auctioneer and the Town's tax title attorney for their services. The total out of pocket to the Town to conduct the auction were \$4,150, which represents payment to an outside vendor to clean debris from three of the properties. She stated she would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the Finance and Code Enforcement Teams, in particular Town Treasurer James Chauvin, for their vision, teamwork and cooperation throughout the process.

She stated the FY16 4th quarter actual real estate and personal property tax bills are due on Monday, May 2, 2016.

She stated the Water Department continues their biannual flushing operations. They've completed a majority of the sequences in zone 1. The staff is hopeful that they can wrap up zone 1 by the end of this week and move on to zone 2.

She stated the Independence Day Fireworks Display is scheduled for Friday, July 1, 2016 at Memorial Beach.

She stated the Board need to reschedule the re-organization meeting. She stated the Board was going to meet on Wednesday, May 4th but that is the same night as the Super Team Banquet. The Board decided to hold their re-org meeting on Tuesday, May 3rd.

Motion: made by Selectman Jolda, seconded by Selectman Starzec to approve the Acting Town Administrator's Report.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Old Business

Selectman Dowgiewicz asked to get an update on the Anglo fire site for the next meeting.

He stated he would like to ask the Board to reconsider allowing Veterans free access to the compost facility. He stated they were allowed free access before.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Becker to allow Veterans one free compost sticker.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

New Business

Earl Gabor came forward. He stated the Charter Review Committee has requested use of Town Counsel. Chairman Bourque stated he would like a set figure amount. Mr. Gabor stated he was just coming before the Board to get an early approval. He stated he would come before the Board with a specific amount. Ms. Leduc stated there was a special appropriation for the Charter Review Committee. She stated there is roughly \$2,200 remaining from that appropriation.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Becker to approve the use of the special appropriation by the Charter Review Committee.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Motion: made by Selectman Becker, seconded by Selectman Jolda to open the Special Town Meeting Warrant for June 6, 2016 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the Bartlett High School auditorium.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Informational Mail

Selectman Dowgiewicz stated the Board received a letter from Wayne Lawson requesting re-appointment to the Cable Advisory Committee.

Motion: made by Selectman Dowgiewicz, seconded by Selectman Starzec to re-appoint Wayne Lawson to the Cable Advisory Committee.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes, Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes and Chairman Bourque - yes.

Selectman Dowgiewicz stated the Board received a letter regarding the softball field snack shack. He asked Ms. Leduc to look into this.

Selectman Jolda stated the Board received two letter of interest for the Conservation Commission. He asked to have this on the next agenda.

Selectman Dowgiewicz stated the Board received a report from the Memorial Beach Advisory Committee. He asked to have this on the next agenda.

Selectman Starzec stated he would like to take a moment and thank all of the residents for their support over the last three years. He stated he was honored and privileged to serve the community. He stated he faced a very difficult decision on to run again. He stated he would like to thank Pam, Courtney, Greg and all of the Town's employees for their support. He stated he would also like to thank his wife for being his biggest supporter.

Adjournment

Motion: made by Selectman Starzec, seconded by Selectman Jolda to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Vote: Selectman Becker - yes, Selectmen Starzec – yes, Selectman Jolda – yes and Selectman Dowgiewicz – yes.

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney M. Friedland
Executive Secretary