

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, November 3, 2016

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Austin, Jack Zeller, Clayton Stalker

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Austin.
2. Guests/Public Business:
 - A. David Wirth, Zoning Administrator: A property (R19-22) off the London Road that has a dilapidated cabin on it is for sale. David would like the Selectmen's opinion if the cabin is 'grandfathered'. The cabin is still listed on the property card. The Selectmen want the assessor to look at the property and reassess the cabin's functionality. If it is deemed unusable at that time, there will be a one-year window in which the cabin can be rebuilt in the same footprint.
 - B. Robert Moore, Moderator: Bob expects a large turnout at the November 8th election and wants the Selectmen, as appointed election officials, to keep the hallway and the porch area of the town hall clear. They will also help with directing those who need to register to vote that day to the proper table.
 - C. Reggie Goodnow was not able to attend the meeting, but would like permission to cut down a pine tree that is on or near the boundary of the Burt land and town land behind the town hall. Until the town hall survey is completed and ownership of the tree can be established, no cutting should take place.
3. Approval of Minutes: October 20, 2016. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
4. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Jack Zeller to approve a manifest of \$442.05 for the highway department and \$227,464.73 for all other bills for a total of \$227,906.78. Motion passed 3-0.
5. Old Business:
 - A. Feasibility Study for possible future use of town-owned property (780 Route 12): Twelve RFP's were sent out to do a 'needs assessment' of the current fire station.
 - B. Fire Department Building Committee: The Selectmen will appoint a committee of seven that will recommend how to proceed after the results of the 'needs assessment' is done. The committee will be made up of a cross-section of townspeople and firemen.
 - C. Fire Department Grant – excess funds: The town attorney's opinion is that if there was extra money available for other fire department uses after purchasing the defibrillator, that use should be brought up and voted on at the next town meeting.
6. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:
Timber Tax Warrant: R13-59

 - A. The school has requested that a 'Do Not Enter' sign at one of the school driveways be replaced because the writing has faded and is unreadable. The Selectmen decided that the town will purchase the sign and the school can put it up.

- B. Cass Hill Road: The Road Agent has requested that a letter be sent to the owners of 27 Cass Hill Road regarding vehicles and other items that are located in the turn-around that is used for plowing. The Selectmen signed a letter asking for the removal of the obstacles or plowing will not take place.
- C. 2017 Budget: Budget request notices were sent to all departments, boards and committees. Budgets are due December 2 at which time the Selectmen can begin work on their budget to present to the Budget Committee.
- D. 2016 Tax Rate: The Selectmen approved the tax rate set by the Department of Revenue at \$24.83. Undesignated fund balance will not be used.

	2016 Rate	2015 Tax Rate	Difference	%
Town	3.86	4.03	-.17	-4.28%
County	3.55	3.28	.27	8.15%
Local School	15.01	12.20	2.81	23.02%
State School	2.41	2.30	.11	4.65%
Total	\$24.83	\$21.81		

- E. The Supervisors of the Checklist would like to put a locked box in the hallway of the town hall to use for correspondence from the town clerk for security purposes. Selectmen approved the request.

7. Correspondence: None.

8. The Selectmen adjourned the meeting at 7:10PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Jack Zeller

Clayton R. Stalker

NEXT MEETING – Thursday, November 17, 2016, 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES