

**TOWN OF WALPOLE  
MEETING OF THE SELECTBOARD  
DECEMBER 12, 2019**

Selectboard Present: Steven Dalessio (Chair); Peggy Pschirrer; Cheryl Mayberry

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Dalessio called this meeting of the Selectboard to order at 6:30 PM in the Walpole Town Hall. He advised this meeting is being recorded and asked anyone wishing to speak to identify themselves for the record. There was one visitor in attendance.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS:**

**HODGKINS & SONS:** Mr. John Hodgkins was present to discuss the road restriction put on Hodgkins and Sons back in 2002 by the Town when they were locating their building and business on the Old Drewsville Road and needed a building permit. At that time, there was a neighbor who walked her animals on the road. Therefore, the restriction was made that they could not use the road with their equipment. Since then other contractors use the road frequently. He would like to make it fair for all of them. If he is bidding on a project, he is quite often not competitive because of traveling around on the Upper Walpole Road and Route 103, while other contractors can use the Old Drewsville Road. Mr. Dalessio mentioned the first time he heard about this restriction was when the Town was paving the hill. What is good for one should be good for all. It is a valid concern. It will take the Selectboard a few weeks to do the research to discover who imposed the restriction. Mr. Hodgkins will attend another meeting after the holidays.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Accounts Payable Check Register in the amount of \$1,880,113.49 for checks issued December 13, 2019. This amount includes a \$1,594,803 payment to the Cheshire County and a \$224,323 payment to the Village of North Walpole. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

**PAYROLL:**

Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Payroll Check Register for the week ending December 7, 2019, in the amount of \$29,747.38 for checks issued December 13, 2019, and the electronic fund transfer for the 941 Employer Taxes in the amount of \$6,433.30. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES:**

**SELECTBOARD MINUTES – December 5, 2019:** Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Minutes of the Selectboard meeting of December 5, 2019, as submitted. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were approved.

**NON-PUBLIC SELECTBOARD MINUTES – December 5, 2019:** Ms. Mayberry moved to accept the Minutes of the Non-Public Selectboard Session of December 5, 2019, as submitted. These Minutes will remain sealed. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were approved.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the following Committee reports:

- Broadband Committee Meeting – November 25, 2019;
- Broadband Committee Meeting – December 4, 2019.

**PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS AND ABATEMENTS:**

Ms. Mayberry moved to grant the following Property Tax Refunds and Abatements:

- MAP and LOT #002-009-000 - Refund for \$19.35 due to an overpayment;
- MAP and LOT #005-036-001 – Refund for \$32.03 due to an overpayment;
- MAP and LOT #007-011-000 – Abatement for a tax deeded property. \$4,845 is the total tax bill for the year.
- MAP and LOT #012-013-004 – Abatement of the 2<sup>nd</sup> tax bill for Abenaki Springs Phase I. The Supplemental Tax Warrant will follow under Warrants. The property was granted a Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). The Abatement is in the amount of \$15,333.00.

Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

**WARRANTS:**

Ms. Mayberry moved to approve the following Warrants:

- MAP and LOT #012-013-004 – Supplemental Property Tax for Abenaki Springs Phase I in the amount of \$3,648.00.
- Water Tax Lien – Walpole – For the amount of \$971.83;
- Sewer Tax Lien – Walpole – For the amount of \$4,859.21;
- Sewer Tax Lien – North Walpole – For the amount of \$15,299.51.

Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

**VETERANS' TAX CREDIT:**

MAP and LOT #003-012-006: Ms. Mayberry moved to grant the Veterans' Tax Credit for Map and Lot #003-012-006. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

This is for a veteran who moved within the Town. The credit goes with the person, not the property

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Broadband Update:** Mrs. Pschirrer displayed a copy of what the warrant will look like. They are negotiating with Consolidated Communications. The committee members are requesting some revisions to the Master Service Agreement. The Bond Bank has to agree with any changes. Committee members are doing a wonderful job of paying attention to everything. They are also attending other meetings. Two Public Hearings were scheduled: the first meeting is Saturday, January 11, 2020, at 10:00 AM and a second meeting is on Wednesday, February 12, 2020, at 6:30 PM. This will be the first warrant article on the agenda at the annual Town Meeting.

**2020 Annual Town Meeting Dates:** The following dates have been set: 2020 Annual Budget and Warrant Public Hearing will be on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 5:00 PM. Town Voting is Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and the Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Fall Mountain Region School District:** The Selectboard advised that the SAU Deliberative Session is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020, at 6:30 PM at the Fall Mountain Region High School in the Auditorium. The Selectboard urges all Town of Walpole voters to attend.

**EPA Grant Update:** Mrs. Pschirrer advised that Attorney Hockensmith sent the check in the amount of \$175,000 that he was holding in escrow. The Town will put it in PDIP. This is the last money they will be using for this EPA Brownfields clean-up project at the former Westberg/Central Plating property now owned by the Town. Mrs. Pschirrer plans to sign the EPA Grant contract this week. Mr. Dalessio recommended setting up a process for handling funds in connection with this project.

**Sewer Easement Deed:** Mr. Dalessio reported that Attorney Hockensmith concluded work on the easement deed between Chamberlain Real Estate and Machinery Group, LLC and The Town of Walpole. It will be forwarded to Mr. Mark Houghton for his review. If Mr. Houghton approves the deed, Mr. Dalessio will ask Attorney Hockensmith to continue to proceed.

**Plastic Bag Ban Warrant Article Petition:** The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the Plastic Bag Ban Warrant Article Petition received from Ruby Frithsen and Sidney Curven. There were 164 registered Walpole voter signatures. The petition will be forwarded to Attorney Hockensmith for his review and advisement.

**Lights re: Walpole, NH – Rockingham, VT, 42277 Bridge Renovation Project:** At the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Walpole Selectboard meeting where the NH Department of Transportation discussed the Walpole, NH – Rockingham, VT 42277 bridge preservation project, one thing that was brought up was the lighting on the bridge. Mr. Jason Tremblay mentioned the lights would be removed unless the Town requests they would like to keep the lights with the understanding that the costs to power and maintain them would be the responsibility of the Town. They would need to sign an agreement to this effect. Ms. Mayberry pointed out that this is not a Town road. Therefore, why should they pay for the lights? The State has not even painted the lines or the crosswalks; how is that supposed to be safer. Mrs. Pschirrer noted there is one streetlight on the Vermont side of the bridge. The New Hampshire side is very dark. Mr. Dalessio will draft a letter to Mr. Tremblay stating that the Selectboard still feels strongly that the State should keep the lights on the bridge. The only compromise should be re-painting and re-striping the lines and crosswalks. He will copy the Walpole State representatives. The letter will be ready for next week.

**NH Lottery and KENO 603:** The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the letter from the NH Lottery asking them to consider placing KENO 603 before the voters at Town Meeting this spring. No action will be taken by the Selectboard on this request.

**Pending Further Action:**

**New Reuse Center Plans:** Mr. Ben Hoy is in the process of getting prices from some people for the new Reuse Center. They should be available in time for Town Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Recreation Revolving Fund Request:** Ms. Mayberry moved to approve the request from Justin Cassarino and the Recreation Committee to pay Grizzly Graphixs \$1,183.25 for Basketball shirts. Local sponsors had agreed to purchase the shirts for the participants and are mailing their payments into the Town Hall. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

**Water Standards:** On Tuesday Mr. Dalessio met with Mrs. Jennifer Palmiotto of Granite State Rural Water and Mr. Peter Clark, a representative from Senator Jeanne Shaheen’s office. The House put an injunction on the new water standards effective December 31, 2019, in the State of NH. There is some money available to do pre-engineering on the Vilas Bridge. They discussed what could happen if damage did occur to the sewer line underneath the Vilas Bridge and the impact the Connecticut River has with several states. He is going to work with Mrs. Palmiotto and Mr. Houghton on this.

**NON-PUBLIC SELECTBOARD SESSION:** Mrs. Pschirrer moved to enter into a Non-Public Selectboard Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss (a) Personnel and (c) Reputations. Ms. Mayberry seconded the motion and, on a roll call vote with Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved at 7:35 PM.

The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 8:08 PM.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Minutes of the Non-Public Selectboard Session of December 12, 2019, be sealed. Seconded by Ms. Mayberry. With Mrs. Pschirrer, Ms. Mayberry and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

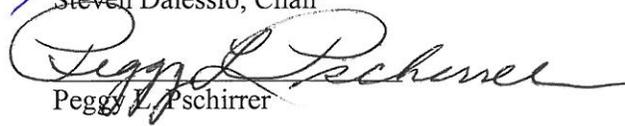
**RECESS SELECTBOARD MEETING:** Ms. Mayberry moved to recess this Selectboard meeting. The Selectboard will enter into a meeting as the Hooper Trustees. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 8:13 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Ms. Mayberry moved to adjourn this Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Pschirrer. With Ms. Mayberry, Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Regina Borden, Recording Secretary

  
Steven Dalessio, Chair

  
Peggy L. Pschirrer

  
Cheryl Mayberry

(Note: These are unapproved Minutes. Corrections will be found in the Minutes of the December 19, 2019, Selectboard meeting.)