

**TOWN OF WALPOLE
MEETING OF THE SELECTBOARD
FEBRUARY 6, 2020**

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

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dalessio called this meeting of the Selectboard to order at 6:30 PM in the Walpole Town Hall. Ms. Mayberry was unable to attend this meeting due to traveling for her job. Ms. Borden, Recording Secretary, was unable to attend due to the weather. He advised this meeting is being recorded and asked anyone wishing to speak to identify themselves for the record. There were five visitors in attendance.

TREE REPLACEMENT ADVISORY BOARD: Last Monday Mr. Ray Boas had attended the Walpole Conservation Commission meeting. He shared his Walker Road article in the Clarion with them. At that meeting he learned that Mr. Ben Daviss, Mrs. Fritzie Till and other residents are working on a Tree Replacement Plan for the future. He is going to join them at their meeting this Sunday when there will be discussion on a tree planting program. He knows what he has in mind is aggressive but would like to get something started before Old Home Days. Mr. Dalessio mentioned that Mr. Rau has a list of Town trees that are going to come down. Mr. Boas asked for a copy of that list. Mrs. Pschirrer noted that Laura Hayes, member of the Conservation Commission, has been working on trees. They talked to a landscaper on what they might do on Walker Road. The landscaper talked about having them get a head-start on Emerald Ash Borers who drill into ash trees. They are in Massachusetts and Vermont and moving north. Mrs. Pschirrer asked Laura Hayes if she would be willing to tag these trees as they could be put on the tree removal list. Mr. Boas would like to coordinate with individual groups and continue to work with the Conservation Commission. It would be great to have a plan started so they could begin a fundraiser to purchase larger trees. He would like to see this as a community effort and get a lot of people involved. Mr. Dalessio did not see any reason why they could not go in this direction. Mr. Boas will keep the Selectboard updated as plans move forward. Sidney Curven recommended using pollinator plants. Mr. Boas advised they are looking into these plants.

WARRANT ARTICLE – Plastic Bag Ban: Sidney Curven, Ruby Frithsen and Mrs. Frithsen were present. Mr. Dalessio advised they have an article on this year's Town Meeting Warrant for banning less than 3 mil plastic bags in Town. Ruby Frithsen explained that they are looking for clarification on what will be expected from them at Town Meeting. Mrs. Pschirrer pointed out that people are allowed to put tables up around the room to demonstrate what they do; Sidney and Ruby can do the same thing. They can put up posters and hand out material to people attending. They will make a verbal presentation when it is their turn to do so. They are the last presenters. The Moderator controls the Town Meeting and any questions that are brought up. Mr. Dalessio stated that it is his duty to announce that regardless of the outcome of the vote, the Selectboard does not have the authority in accordance with State law, to enforce this ban. Next Thursday, February 13th at 4:45 PM, the Selectboard will have a Public Hearing on the 2020 Budget and Warrant Articles. They are welcome to come and participate.

Mrs. Pschirrer advised that the schedule for next Thursday, February 13, 2020, is as follows:

- 4 PM: Broadband Bond Hearing;
- 4:45 PM: 2020 Budget and Warrant Article Hearing;
- 5:45 PM: Charlestown Withdrawal Informational Meeting;
- 6:30 PM: Selectboard Meeting.

FACT-TV: Mr. Bill Staats from FACT-TV was present but did not film this meeting due to an equipment issue. Mrs. Pschirrer explained that Selectboard members come in prior to the meetings to read meeting materials. Therefore, the Selectboard can move quickly through the agenda items.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to accept the Accounts Payable Check Register in the total amount of \$43,681.99 for checks issued February 7, 2020. This amount includes a \$27,560.17 payment to the NH Retirement System. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

PAYROLL:

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to accept the Payroll Check Register for the week ending February 1, 2020, in the amount of \$25,840.54, for checks issued February 7, 2020, and the electronic fund transfer for the 941 Employer Taxes in the amount of \$5,454.44. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES:

SELECTBOARD MINUTES – January 30, 2020: Mrs. Pschirrer moved to accept the Minutes of the Selectboard meeting of January 30, 2020, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were accepted.

BROADBAND PUBLIC BENEFITS PUBLIC MEETING – January 11, 2020: Mrs. Pschirrer moved to accept the Minutes of the Broadband Public Benefits Public meeting of January 11, 2020, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the Minutes were accepted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

The Selectboard acknowledged receipt of the following Committee reports:

- North Walpole Village Board of Commissioners – December 18, 2019;
- North Walpole Village Board of Commissioners – December 26, 2019;
- North Walpole Village Board of Commissioners – January 2, 2020;
- North Walpole Village Board of Commissioners – January 7, 2020;
- North Walpole Village Board of Commissioners – January 14, 2020.

ABATEMENT:

MAP and LOT #008-105-001: Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Chair of the Selectboard, Steven Dalessio, sign the Board of Tax and Land Appeals (BTLA) Settlement Agreement for a mediated abatement appeal for Map and Lot #008-105-001 for Tax Years 2018 and 2019. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

VETERANS TAX CREDIT:

MAP and LOT #013-019-000 Mrs. Pschirrer moved to grant the change in the owner's name on the Veterans Tax Credit for Map and Lot #013-019-000. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

MAP and LOT #028-121-000: Mrs. Pschirrer moved to grant the All Veterans Tax Credit for Map and Lot #028-121-000. This is a new applicant. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

MAP and LOT #028-046-000: Mrs. Pschirrer moved to grant the change in the property owner's name on the Veterans Tax Credit for Map and Lot #028-046-000. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

SOLAR ENERGY TAX EXEMPTION:

MAP and LOT #005-011-003: Mrs. Pschirrer moved to grant the Solar Energy Tax Exemption for Map and Lot #005-011-003 on Kingsbury Road. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program Form: Mr. Dalessio went through the maps as requested by the U.S. Census Bureau for the 2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program (BVP). He did not see anything that changed the size of the Town of Walpole. The boundaries are correct.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Chair of the Selectboard, Steven Dalessio, be authorized to sign the 2020 Initial Boundary Validation Program form. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

The Standard Master and Benefit Contribution Reduction Service Agreements: Mrs. Pschirrer has concerns with this agreement. This group is located in Oregon. There are some things they have to call to the attention of the Director of Finance. This company will not make deductions for the Retirement Plan. This agenda item was tabled until the next meeting.

Pending Further Actions:

Lights re: Walpole, NH – Rockingham, VT 42277 Bridge Renovation Project: Mr. Dalessio has not yet heard from the NH Department of Transportation on the lights on the Arch Bridge.

Joint Meeting Request from Bellows Falls Village Board of Trustees: The Selectboard is waiting for a Joint Meeting date and time from the Bellows Falls Village Board of Trustees.

Town Deeded Properties: The Town Deeded Properties packets are being put together.

NEW BUSINESS:

Recreation Revolving Fund Requests re: Daddy and Me Dance: Mrs. Pschirrer advised they received some requests from the Recreation Department to use funds from their Revolving Fund. They are having their Daddy and Me Dance this Saturday night. This is the second year of this very popular event.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to approve the Recreation Department’s request for Loves Photography in the amount of \$300. The photography will be capturing the two-and-a-half hour event and taking a “Prom” photo for their guests. This will be taken out of their Revolving Fund. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to approve the Recreation Department’s request for DJ Selena in the amount of \$100. DJ Selena will be playing music, games, and interacting with the guests for two-and-a-half hours. This will be taken out of their Revolving Fund. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to approve the Recreation Department’s request for Joanie Joan’s Baked Goods in the amount of \$325.75. This is for baked goods for the guests to take home as a gift. This will be taken out of their Revolving Fund. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

Mrs. Downing was asked to contact Mr. Tom Goins to issue these checks as they will be needed on Saturday evening. Mrs. Pschirrer recommended asking the Recreation Department to allow more lead-time when checks are needed for events.

Conservation Commission Alternates: When working on the Town Report, Mrs. Downing noticed there were six alternate members which seemed like quite a few. While doing some research, she discovered that in the 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes Article 9 was passed with a voice vote as follows: “To see if the Town will vote to codify the membership of the Walpole Conservation Commission five (5) members to seven (7) members with three (3) alternates.” Mr. Dalessio asked Mrs. Downing to contact Mrs. Alicia Flammia, Chair of the Walpole Conservation Commission, to advise she will have to trim the alternates down to three alternate members in accordance with Warrant Article 9 in 2015.

NON-PUBLIC SELECTBOARD SESSION: Mr. Dalessio advised that the Selectboard will now enter into a Non-Public Selectboard Session.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to enter into a Non-Public Selectboard Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II to discuss (c) Reputations. Mr. Dalessio seconded the motion and, on a roll call vote with Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved at 7:04 PM.

The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 7:15 PM.

Mrs. Pschirrer moved that the Minutes of the Non-Public Selectboard Session of February 6, 2020, will be sealed. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

RECESS SELECTBOARD MEETING:


Mrs. Pschirrer moved to recess this Selectboard meeting. The Selectboard will enter into a meeting as the Hooper Trustees. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the motion was approved.

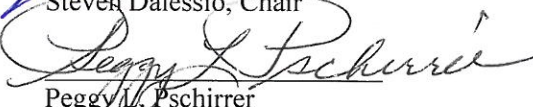
The regular Selectboard meeting resumed at 7:21 PM.

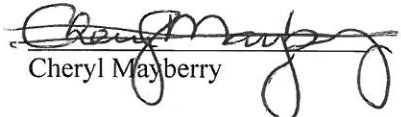
ADJOURNMENT:

Mrs. Pschirrer moved to adjourn this Selectboard meeting. Seconded by Mr. Dalessio. Mr. Dalessio asked if there was any discussion. There was none. With Mrs. Pschirrer and Mr. Dalessio in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Regina Borden, Recording Secretary
(Transcribed from recorder)


Steven Dalessio, Chair


Peggy L. Pschirrer


Cheryl Mayberry

(Note: These are unapproved Minutes. Corrections will be found in the Minutes of the February 13, 2020, Selectboard meeting.)