

Board of Selectmen Meeting
March 11, 2020
APPROVED MINUTES

The Westport Board of Selectmen, Traffic Authority and Water Pollution Control Authority held a public meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in Westport Town Hall Room 201/201A. In attendance were Jim Marpe, Jennifer Tooker, Melissa Kane, Eileen Flug, Gary Conrad, Peter Ratkiewich, Elio Longo, Foti Koskinas, Douglas LoMonte, presenters as noted in the minutes, members of the public and Eileen Francis, recording secretary.

MINUTES

1. Jennifer Tooker presented Item #1. Upon motion by Melissa Kane, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's public meeting of February 26, 2020 are hereby APPROVED.

APPROVE CONTRACT BETWEEN TOWN AND PRECISION RETIREMENT GROUP

2. Finance Director Gary Conrad presented Item #2. Mr. Conrad explained that the 457 Plan would be available for seasonal, part-time and temporary Town employees. He described the details of the program including that it is an employee benefit at no cost to the Town. Upon motion by Jim Marpe, seconded by Melissa Kane and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the contract between the Town of Westport and Precision Retirement Group for a FICA Alternative Retirement Plan for seasonal, part-time and temporary employees is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVE USE OF TOWN ROADWAYS FOR 2020 FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

3. Jacqui Bidgood and Randy Herbertson representing the Downtown Merchants Association presented Item #3. Ms. Bidgood and Mr. Herbertson explained that the annual event was being moved to an earlier date than previous years. The event will be set up on Church Lane, Elm Street and Main Street where multiple artists will be represented. There were no concerns from town officials and the organizers assured the Board that all safety precautions will be addressed. Upon motion by Melissa Kane, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was,

RESOLVED, that the request from the Downtown Merchants Association for closure of various town roads and the use of town property (as described in the Application dated March 3, 2020) from May 29, 2020 (for set up) to May 31, 2020 for the Westport Fine Arts Festival, contingent upon compliance with recommendations from Town departments and in accordance with Procedures for Use of Town-owned Property, Facilities and/or Public Roadways is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVE LIFESTYLE PUBLICATIONS, LLC FOR EXCLUSIVE MEDIA SPONSOR FOR WESTPORT MEANS BUSINESS

4. Assistant Town Attorney Eileen Flug presented Item #4. Ms. Flug explained that the magazine will promote Westport Means Business, in its print media and podcast for a period of one year. There is no cost for this agreement and encourages cross-promotion. Upon motion by Jim Marpe, seconded by Melissa Kane and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the proposal from Lifestyle Publications, LLC (Westport Lifestyle) to be the exclusive magazine media sponsor for Westport Means Business is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVE VEHICLE DONATION TO THE WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

5. Police Chief Foti Koskinas presented Item #5. Chief Koskinas explained that the donor will donate the electric vehicle to the PD which will in turn gift it to the Town. He expressed his appreciation for the donor's generosity, and noted that the vehicle will be very useful to the department. Upon motion by Jim Marpe, seconded by Melissa Kane and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that in accordance with the Policy for Gifts to the Town, the donation from a Westport resident of a used electric vehicle (2015 BMW) that is valued between \$5,000 and \$20,000 to the Westport Police Foundation is hereby APPROVED.

APPROVE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO CURBSIDE COMPOSTING LLC

6. Director of Public Works Peter Ratkiewich presented Item #6. Mr. Ratkiewich made note of the zero-food waste initiative and how it impacts the transfer station's services. The town is attempting to consolidate the food waste stream that is generated, and encouraging composting at home and at the transfer station. Curbside Compost, LLC will provide relevant services associated with the composting. Upon motion by Melissa Kane, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the award of contract RFP 20-992T (Carting Services Food Waste Disposal) to Curbside Compost LLC of Ridgefield, CT, for a period of 12 months, at a rate of \$121/ton, with the option for two 12 month extensions is hereby APPROVED

ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE PROPOSALS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE CT OPM FROM WESTCOG

7. WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering presented Item #7. Mr. Pickering provided descriptions of the proposed applications, and the potential for receiving the awards. The 5 proposals are for study projects, have no predetermined outcome, and do not involve any local financial commitment at this time. Upon motion by Melissa Kane, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby ENDORSES five (5) proposals approved by the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WestCOG) and submitted in grant applications to the CT Office of Policy and Management; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby AUTHORIZES WestCOG to apply for funding and to enter into any required contract and/or agreement should one or more of the proposals be selected for an award.

APPROVE SOLAR POWER SERVICES AGREEMENTS

8. Attorney Doug LoMonte of Berchem, Moses, LP and BOE CFO Elio Longo presented Item #7. They requested that Item 7. (i) Plainfield Solar 2, LLC be withdrawn. The final resolution reflects this revision. Attorney LoMonte described the legal structure of the contracts noting that they were virtually identical to previous such solar power services contracts. The Board of Education and the Town is in partnership to benefit from favorable generation rates for the remotely generated electricity over a 20-year period. Due to the school administration's involvement, Mr. Longo noted that the school administration gave its full support to the contracts. David Mann stated that the contracts expand the off-site solar credits to be received by the Town and the Board of Education. Upon motion by Jim Marpe, seconded by Melissa Kane and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was:

RESOLVED, that the Solar Power Services Agreements between the Town of Westport and Plainfield Solar, LLC and the Town of Westport at Dickinson Solar, LLC as they relate to Virtual Net Metering Credits and Extra Credits available from the output of each Provider's solar powered electric generating systems are hereby APPROVED.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Jim Marpe, seconded by Melissa Kane and passing by a vote of 3-0, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.

Eileen Francis, Recording Secretary