

RTM Meeting  
January 7, 2014

**The call**

1. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Executive Director of the Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts, to approve an appropriation of \$249,587 provided by the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion to the Levitt Pavilion Account for contingency costs and additional funding on the construction of the Levitt Pavilion.
2. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Director of Public Works, to approve an appropriation of \$60,000 to the Vehicle Maintenance/Operations-Equipment Account for unanticipated costs associated with maintenance of aging public works equipment.
3. To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Director of Public Works, to approve an appropriation of \$497,595 from the Capital and Non Recurring account to be reimbursed by a grant from the Main Street Investment Fund program for town center sidewalk and street infrastructure.

**Minutes**

Moderator Eileen Flug:

Good evening. This meeting of Westport's Representative Town Meeting is now called to order. We welcome those who are joining us tonight in the Town Hall auditorium, as well as those watching us streaming live on westportct.gov, and those watching on Cable Channel 79 or AT&T channel 99. My name is Eileen Lavigne Flug and I am the RTM Moderator. On my right is RTM Secretary Jackie Fuchs. Tonight's invocation will be delivered by the Rector of Christ and Holy Trinity Church, Reverend Whitney Edwards.

Invocation, Reverend Whitney Edwards:

Good evening. If you will take a moment to close your eyes and take a breath and set aside your concerns for the moment. Let us pray:

In gratitude for the many paths we have traveled, the distances we have crossed, the places we have called home and stories we do not share, and, yet, we call this place home and it is what draws us here in the wisdom and grace and joy and love that we call God. We are grateful for the honor of serving this place, the leadership we have been called to, the decisions that are ours to make and for the wisdom that will prevail and guide us. We call upon it to lead us and guide us for all the decisions for this place, that Westport will be more fully the home to those who are cold this night and hungry this night and alone this night. And for those who we care for, those who are abundantly cared for, we are grateful and hopeful and thankful for all that is true and good and wise and righteous that we might represent it to our neighbors, friends and strangers, in the name of that wisdom we call upon. Amen.

There were 30 members present. Mr. Mandell, Mr. Mall, Mr. Izzo, Mr. Rossi, Ms. Talmadge and Ms. Rea notified the Moderator that they would be absent.

### **Announcements**

Ms. Flug:

There were no corrections to the meeting of Dec. 7. Anyone with corrections, please notify Jackie Fuchs, Patty Strauss or myself.

There are eight birthdays this month, three of them this week! Birthday greetings to Ms. Levy, whose birthday is tomorrow, Ms. Feller, whose birthday is the next day and Ms. Hamlin whose birthday is Saturday. Also, to Ms. Schine, Mr. Klinge and Mr. Rubin, who share a birthday, Mr. Mall and Ms. Briggs. Happy birthday to all of you.

Our next RTM meeting will be Feb. 4.

### **RTM Committee meetings:**

- Long Range Planning is meeting this Thursday, January 9, room 309, 7:30.
- Environment Committee will meet at Jan. 15, 7:30, room 309.
- Health and Human Services will meet after this meeting to plan a meeting.

RTM members, if you haven't already submitted your conflict of interest forms, please complete the one in your packet and return it to me or Patty Strauss.

Yesterday, RTM members received an email from Patty Strauss explaining how to opt out of receiving hard copies of the RTM packet that you get in the mail, the Code Book that you get updates to from time to time or the Budget Book from the Finance Office. There is no need to opt out of any of those but some RTM members have asked to opt out because they don't want or need the paper. If you would like to opt out of any of these materials, please notify Patty Strauss or Colleen Tarpey.

There will be a Public Information Session this Saturday at 9 a.m. at Longshore to explain the decision to remove the 15 trees that are along the entrance to the park. The public is invited to attend. This session is being held at the request of First Selectman Jim Marpe. It will be by the Town Tree Warden, Bruce Lindsay and by the Director of Parks and Rec., Stu McCarthy. The information session will take place outdoors and will include walking portion of the park so participants should dress accordingly.

### **RTM Announcements**

Jack Klinge, district 7 and Bill Meyer, district 3:

The Senior Center is having its third music concert of the winter season, Sunday, Jan. 19. It's a big band sound. It should be very well received. You are invited no matter what your age is. We hope to see you there. A quarter of one we open doors. We feed you and the show starts at two.

Mr. Meyer:

What two big things happen nationally Feb. 2? Super Bowl and Ground Hog Day. We are having our ninth annual Super Bowl Sunday at the Senior Center. The whole Town comes together. We have cheerleaders, food. There are activities, prizes. A lot of people wear their college uniforms. Any RTM member that comes, I'll get Cecil to announce you, good PR. Jim Marpe stand up. He's a Nittany Lion. They just lost their coach. See you on Feb. 2 at two o'clock.

Mr. Klinge:

The Little League will be there. It is their 85<sup>th</sup> appearance. There will be hot dogs and the works from Oscars, New York style dogs.

Mr. Meyer:

Jack went to Mimi Levitt and got a \$25,000 contribution. That's how we got the Sunday concerts. Thank you Jack.

Mr. Klinge: Thank you Mimi Levitt.

Velma Heller, district 9:

I just wanted to alert everybody, this Friday, Jan. 10, is the Board of Ed.'s annual overview of the budget. This is the date that the Superintendent's proposed budget is presented. It's an opportunity to get an overview of the Board of Education budget; to see the overall costs of providing educational services; to see how the costs are distributed in various funds, both operations and capital, and for what purposes because it's not just numbers, it's what does it buy; and to have a look at the variances from year to year and their causes in such areas as enrollment and that sort of thing. So, everyone is invited to come; in particular, members of the Education Committee and the Finance Committee will be there and tend to stay as long as we possibly can because we get more information that way. The budget book is handed out that day so you will be provided with information that you'll need for that time. So, hope to see you there.

Arthur Ashman, district 7:

Most of you, I think, saw the Chuck Close exhibition at WAC which was really quite magnificent. This Sunday at three o'clock, a Yale Scholar, who actually specializes in the life of Chuck Close, is going to be speaking at WAC. Admission is free but for RTM members, pay \$50!

Ms. Flug:

We have a report by Dr. Heller and Mr. Wieser about the \$2 million shortfall in the Board of Education budget.

Jeff Wieser, district 4:

Many of you have heard about this situation. It is a very fluid situation but just a very brief update from what all is going on from the Finance Committee and Education Committee perspective. Just a bit of background: In December, the Health Insurance Fund of the Board of Education was found to have been approximately \$2 million under-budgeted during last year's cycle. This was due, apparently, to expanded medical

claims by education employees as well as potential errors in accounting, errors which are still being reviewed. Not to make too much of that, but they are still being reviewed. Yesterday, the Audit Subcommittee of the Board of Finance met in Town Hall. In that meeting, Subcommittee Chair, Brian Stern, outlined a need for greater controls to ensure this does not happen again, both at the Board of Education level and the Town level. That committee focused primarily on control issues, in regard to which Brian asked questions and raised fairly basic points like why a monthly control process did not pick up the discrepancy until November. Actually, last December, someone referred to it; why there was an error in budget calculations during the budget cycle. That just requires some forensic review which will be ongoing. There appeared to be a misdirection of a \$59,000 payment which was very clearly requested to go to one specific spot and went somewhere else, still within the Town. There has really been no concern with malfeasance, particularly at this point, but there will be reviews going on. What is the actual cause of the shortfall in the projected expenses? They think it is mostly medical claims but there may be other contributing factors. What controls are there in any change of financial management as the financial controller for the Board of Education retired last June and there has been a change which is partly what gave rise to this understanding of a shortfall. An active discussion followed in which there were rather strong recommendations by Don and by others for an independent audit and the Board of Finance will probably weigh in on that issue tomorrow night at their meeting which we should all consider going to.

Dr. Heller:

At the meeting last night of the Board of Education at which Jack Klinge and others were present, those substantive issues were responded to with the establishment of an ad hoc committee of the Board of Education. It is called the Health Insurance Fund Review Committee, which, with the assistance of our external auditor, to a maximum expenditure of \$10,000, will review the following: They are charged with confirming the nature and extent of the shortfall. There's a real attempt here to check the numbers; to establish the cause of the shortfall, to recommend to the Board of Education ways to avoid future inaccuracies and to prepare a comprehensive summary report. The subcommittee is made up of three Board of Education members, Elio Longo, the Board of Education Finance Director, and an unaffiliated citizen, yet to be appointed. The Board of Education members are Karen Kleine, Bret Aronow who is the chair of the committee and the new member, Paul Block. The RTM has been invited, along with other interested bodies, to appoint a member to review the activities of the Ad Hoc committee and be present at all of their meetings so there will be a designated RTM member there. Elaine Whitney provided a deadline of Feb. 10, 2014 for the work of the subcommittee as that is the date on which the Board of Education is planning to act on the Superintendent's proposed budget. Clearly, if they finish earlier, it will be presented earlier. Subsequent to the creation of this body, Elliott Landon advised that his proposed budget will call for a 4.31 percent increase which totals 6.51 percent as a result of these health issues. In other words, there will be funds that need to be realized in next year's budget. So, you can see, this is going to be a really busy year. We need everybody to be involved and follow this closely. It's complicated and we want people to thoroughly

understand what's going on. The designated person is our very own Allen Bomes. We're very happy to have him represent us on this committee.

Ms. Flug:

I invite Jack Klinge to give the report of the Special Sewer Extension Committee. This was a Special Committee that was formed last summer to review and make proposals for changes to sewer extension petition policy of the Town. They have been working very closely with the Director of Public Works, Steve Edwards, to come up with a new policy to be presented to the Board of Selectmen, acting as the Water Pollution Control Authority, for possible adoption.

Mr. Klinge:

I am Jack Klinge and the members here: Don Bergmann, Lyn Hogan, John Suggs and Carla Rea with a lot of help from Steve Edwards, Gail Kelly, Barbara Butler and a number of people. In your packet, you received, in essence, the final report of this committee recommending policy and procedural changes to our sewer extension process. I urge you to please read it and become familiar with it. Your constituents may well want to get some thoughts from you and expect you to know what it says in there. It is fairly self explanatory. I urge you to take advantage of what has been produced by this committee. They did a wonderful job. This will be presented formally to the WPCA, Jim Marpe and the Board of Selectmen in about 10 or 12 days. They will be asked to move forward on it along with Steve Edwards. This committee will live on for another month or two to consider policy or procedural changes which will even enhance how the Town operates in this area in even a better way. That's to be determined at a later date. I expect we will live on through the end of February or March.

Ms. Flug:

The committee has been meeting diligently with Steve Edwards and other agencies in Town. The committee was formed as a result of a petition that was filed by over 20 electors, who were concerned about the policy, asking us to take a look at it. Mr. Edwards made a recommendation that we have an ongoing Special Committee to take a look at it and make some suggestions. I thank the committee for all your hard work and dedication for the past six months and to come.

Wendy Batteau, district 8:

Since we are evidently not entertaining conversation about either of those two important matters, I'm wondering if the RTM been short circuited or if we will have an opportunity to ask relevant questions or, in the case of the septic, make a couple of comments. What should we do about that?

Ms. Flug:

Neither of these is on the agenda so we won't be having a discussion about it. If you have comments about the proposed changes to the policy, you should speak with members of the committee about it and the committee can meet and decide whether to recommend an alternative proposal. As far as the insurance account shortfall, there will

be opportunities to speak about it at the Board of Finance meeting and the committee meetings and other public meetings.

Ms. Batteau:

But the RTM will be able to have a meeting discussing it as well? It's a pretty provocative situation including the make up of the self examination committee. I imagine people have some thoughts about it. Should we direct those towards Velma?

Ms. Flug:

You can also direct them at Board of Finance meeting where they will be talking about that. We don't have jurisdiction over forming the committee.

Dr. Heller:

Both the Education and Finance Committees will continue to monitor this very closely. In addition, the Audit Subcommittee of the Board of Finance will be following this very closely. They will be holding meetings. Various aspects of this will come before the Board of Finance. So there will be opportunities to address both the questions that you have. It certainly will be out there. The Board of Education is exercising its fiduciary responsibility; the Audit Subcommittee is exercising its responsibility and the Board of Finance will exercise its responsibility.

Mr. Wieser:

We did ask the Board of Education to include the RTM member as a standing member of the committee which I continue to think to be a good idea. They had reasons concerning potential conflict of interest for not including outsiders which I don't know if anyone has examined very closely. I think, in the spirit of collaboration, it would be very useful to have a wider body looking over what is a pretty important thing. We haven't really gotten much further, other than to say that wouldn't be appropriate, in their view. This is all a very fluid situation. A lot is happening. A lot of conversations are happening in a lot of different places. It will definitely be dealt throughout the budget season because it is a very big number which we don't know how it's going to be worked out. So, we will have a lot of opportunities to deal with it but there are so many uncertainties right now it is a discussion starting nowhere and going nowhere.

Dr. Heller:

Everyone should know that those meetings of that newly appointed committee are open meetings; although they are workshop-style, everybody can come to those meetings. They will be conducting workshop type of activities but they will try to make time for public input. So, I don't think we are locked out of that process whether or not we have an RTM member part of that committee. I think they are very anxious to hear from us. I think a variety of bodies will be dealing with it, not just the Board of Education. That is important.

Ms. Flug:

Ultimately, the Board of Education budget will come before the RTM and the Finance and Education Committees will be working closely with the Board of Education and

Board of Finance to make sure that all of the RTM's questions about this will be answered in connection with the budget for the coming year.

Ms. Batteau:

So, Allen, you are by far the most experienced with the Board of Education budgets of anyone on the committee so far so, good luck.

Don Bergmann, district 1:

I'm very pleased that Wendy brought up this particular point, the importance of this issue of how to deal with the financial shortfall problem. I think it would be a disservice to the public and the RTM not to highlight the fact that tomorrow evening the Board of Finance will be meeting to discuss whether or not to retain the firm of McGladrey LLP to do an independent analysis and review and report on this particular matter. I urge everyone, the public and RTM, to become engaged in that because this is a very important issue as to who should assess this issue. I feel very strongly it should be assessed by an independent body. That will be my recommendation tomorrow night and I am hopeful that the Board of Finance will follow that recommendation.

**The secretary read item #1 of the call - To approve an appropriation of \$249,587 provided by the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion to the Levitt Pavilion Account for contingency costs and additional funding on the construction of the Levitt Pavilion. By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

### **Presentation**

Stuart McCarthy, Director of Parks and Recreation:

On behalf the Levitt Pavilion and the building committee for the Levitt Pavilion, we are asking for an appropriation this evening. This is not a request for funding. It is a request for an appropriation to the Town's Municipal Improvement Fund for the Levitt Pavilion in the amount of \$249,587. This is a bookkeeping mechanism to take money that has been provided to the construction project by the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion and to appropriate that into expenditures account so it is available for the Town to proceed with the project. So, again, it is not Town funding that is being requested this evening. A quick explanation of the amount that is being requested. There are two pieces: the first one is \$97,587 and that is related to the original budget for the project. We had an original appropriation of \$6.7 million from this body. A further refinement of the construction project prior to beginning of construction raised that number to \$6,797,587. That included contribution from Friends of the Levitt Pavilion to make up that total amount and that money is already in the Town's possession and will, by this appropriation, be made available. The second portion of that is \$152,000 which will be forwarded to the Town upon approval of this appropriation from the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion to the Town of Westport to be made available as additional contingency funds for the project. When the original project budget was established, we agreed to a five percent contingency fund for the project. We went back and forth for correct amount for the contingency when we agreed to the five percent which is a relatively low contingency for a project of this size. We did advise the Levitt Pavilion to have an

additional 2 1/2 percent on hand in the event it was needed, that equaling \$152,000. We do believe now it is now appropriate to move that amount to the Town's possession. It is our hope that we will not spend that money for the project. The project currently does have a contingency. We had some unexpected costs that reduced that contingency to the point where we thought it prudent to replenish the contingency. It is certainly the hope of the building committee and the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion that the money will not be expended and returned to the Levitt Pavilion but this is a mechanism that is necessary to keep the project moving, to assure that there are no delays as we get through construction so if there is a need for contingency funds, they are available.

### **Committee Report**

Finance Committee, Lois Schine, district 9:

The Finance Committee met earlier tonight and voted unanimously to support this appropriation. What you have to realize is it's not our Town money, anyway. It was the Levitt money which the Town has in its funding account. This is just a mechanism to allow them to pay their bills.

### **Members of the Westport electorate – no comments**

Dr. Heller read the resolution and it was seconded by Mr. Rubin.

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Executive Director of the Levitt Pavilion for the Performing Arts, the sum of \$249,587 provided by the Friends of the Levitt Pavilion to Levitt Pavilion Account for contingency costs and additional funding on the construction of the Levitt Pavilion is hereby appropriated.

Ms. Flug:

It has been moved and seconded by Mr. Rubin to approve the resolution just read.

### **Members of the RTM**

Mr. Meyer:

I just want to say the great thing the Levitt is. Here's all the things they do: rock, pop, blues, world, jazz, folk, big band, comedy, dance, movies, children's series. What an asset for Westport.

**By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

**The secretary read item #2 of the call - To take such action as the meeting may determine, upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Director of Public Works, to approve an appropriation of \$60,000 to the Vehicle Maintenance/Operations-Equipment Account for unanticipated costs associated with maintenance of aging public works equipment. By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

### **Presentation**



Steve Edwards, Director of Public Works:

The request, the first item, is a request for \$60,000 to supplement my equipment maintenance budget. As you are aware, I got appropriated at the beginning of the year, \$185,000 for maintenance of that equipment. When we went through our annual federal inspections on our 28 pieces of equipment, a lot more maintenance was detected than was anticipated. Two factors primarily attributed to that: one is the age of the equipment, that the equipment has been deferred for approximately two years. That has added to its overall cost for repairs. The other being the amount of salt that's being used. We are seeing a lot more deterioration of the equipment relative to that. Both of those components have added to a lot of added expenses, ball joints, king pins, tie rods, mostly associated with age and deterioration. The good news is the repairs were completed. The work is now behind us. We've gone through four storms to date [knock on wood] and I have had no down equipment over the past four storms. Hopefully, that pattern will continue. We anticipate for the remainder of the year that another \$60,000 will be necessary to get through our spring season and limp through to the next budget year. This equipment is anticipated to be replaced. The primary vehicles are 10 large plow vehicles. They were scheduled to be replaced two years ago but they've been deferred. We are now putting together specifications for that equipment. We'll come back to this body and the Board of Finance for a somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1.2 million and \$1.3 million appropriation. That will be brought to you spring/summer so we can get this replacement on schedule. In the meantime, we anticipate \$60,000 to get us through the remainder of the year.

### **Committees report**

Public Works and Finance Committees, Jay Keenan, district 2:

Public Works and Finance met earlier tonight for an appropriation of \$60,000 for vehicle maintenance. Due to the wear and tear on the vehicles and the age of the fleet, all those in attendance voted unanimously to approve.

### **Members of the Westport electorate – no comments**

Dr. Heller read the resolution and it was seconded.

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Director of Public Works, the sum of \$60,000 to the Vehicle Maintenance/Operations-Equipment Account for unanticipated costs associated with maintenance of aging public works equipment is hereby appropriated.

Ms. Flug:

It has been moved and seconded by Mr. Rubin to approve the motion just read.

### **Members of the RTM – no comments**

**By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

**The secretary read item #3 of the call - To approve an appropriation of \$497,595 from the Capital and Non Recurring account to be reimbursed by a grant from the Main Street Investment Fund program for Town center sidewalk and street infrastructure. By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

### **Presentation**

Mr. Edwards:

The good news is that we applied for a grant over a year ago in the amount of \$497,595. In all honesty, we put that grant in anticipating getting a small percentage of that awarded. The good news/bad news is that we got the grant and now we have got to get the work done. The first portion of the project is that we have to appropriate the money up front. It's a reimbursable grant. We will appropriate it. We will spend it and then submit it back to the state. They have already approved the scope of the work. They have approved the design. Now all we have to do is get it done. That's not any small task. It is predominantly in the downtown area, primarily replacing curbing and putting in new lighting in the downtown area between the Post Road and Avery, then doing additional sidewalks between the Main Street area from Avery up to Coffee 'An and putting a sidewalk on Imperial, putting additional sidewalk on Myrtle, an additional sidewalk on Elm Street. It is a composite of primarily new sidewalks and reconstruction sidewalks. In the immediate downtown, between Post Road and Avery, it is predominantly curbing. That was designed that way so that it will not interfere with the larger projects associated with 2020 or anything that will morph out of that. Right now I've got deteriorating curbing down there. I've got a severe trip hazard. This project is to put granite curbing in there which will be the basis for anything beyond it. The discussions with the downtown merchants are that as I come in with the curbing, they will make subsequent repairs to their sidewalk. In the commercial district, it is the merchants who are responsible for the sidewalk. The Town is responsible for the curbing and the road surface. We will try to team up with it. This money cannot be used on private property. So, the issue, when we put the design together was to make sure we identified components where it was Town property and work that will not be redundant, primarily maintenance types of work I would have to do anyway. We have identified a specific area, downtown curbing and replacement of existing streetlights with somewhere in the neighborhood of 15 to 28 lights, design standard to be determined. I have a standard light that is coming down right now that has been approved in Planning and Zoning, more of a colonial style lantern. If you have looked at Church Street and what was approved in front of the Bedford proposal, my anticipation is to continue that type of lamp design up Main Street. That again will be vetted fully with Planning and Zoning and all the bodies that will be providing input. Right now, we are anticipating replacing existing lights with an ornamental style light to make the area more attractive.

### **Committees Report**

Finance and Public Works Committees, Mr. Keenan:

The Public Works and Finance Committees met again earlier tonight for an appropriation of \$497,595 for the Town center sidewalk street infrastructure grant. It is for repairs to the downtown curbs and sidewalks. Attached to the report is a list of

exactly where these are going, which was part of the grant application. It is to replace curbs, sidewalks, continuation of the curbs from the Bedford Square Project, also, tree grates and lights. All those attending from both committees voted unanimously to approve.

**Members of the Westport electorate – no comments**

Dr. Heller:

RESOLVED: That upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance and a request by the Director of Public Works, the sum of \$497,595 from the Capital and Non Recurring account to be reimbursed by a grant from the Main Street Investment Fund program for town center sidewalk and street infrastructure is hereby appropriated.

Ms. Flug:

It has been moved and seconded by Mr. Rubin to approve the motion just read.

**Members of the RTM**

Mr. Bergmann:

First of all, as I did a couple of months ago when we were approving funding for the RBA group to do the Town plan effort, I wanted to then acknowledge the hard work that Lou Gagliano did on that project and I want to do the same tonight. Lou was very instrumental working with Steve and getting this money for the Town and I think it's worth noting that Lou did a terrific job and I hope he continues to work with the Town on these ongoing projects. The second issue, Jay, do you have a list of the streets? Does that include anything on the other side of the Saugatuck at all? It does. I'm just interested. This money will be used for some design elements, not just curbs. Will there be design elements on any of the sidewalks at all? Where I'm going on this, I'm very interested in making sure that this is done in a way that coordinates with the RBA Group and their efforts. We are about to enter into a contract with RBA for the work they are going to be doing. The two come together. I would like to have some sort of confirmation if you can do it that you see the two working together to accomplish this, not curbing but lighting, trees...

Mr. Edwards:

I will certainly be working with any groups. We do have a section of sidewalk on the Post Road West between Ludlow and Wright Street. That is the only part on the west side. The remainders are all on the east side.

First Selectman, Jim Marpe:

Yes, Don. We will be working very closely with Steve. We are very close to re-launching the Downtown Steering Committee, the planning for downtown. Steve Edwards will be part of that committee. The intent here is to move along that process in a timely fashion so any input to what Steve is undertaking, what we are discussing here, will take place as appropriate. Also, the Historic Village District project has a role to play in this. Again, we are encouraging them to move along their project. That is sponsored by the Historic District Commission to make sure that they are in sync also with what Steve is doing so

that anything that he is doing that will have design implications to what those projects are all about are in sync with what he is doing. The answer is yes, yes, yes.

Mr. Bergmann:

Thank you, thank you, thank you. As you know, I'm very anxious to keep things moving ahead and I'm delighted that is what is happening.

Diane Cady, district 1: What's the planning for trees?

Mr. Edwards:

Yes. I have been working with the Tree Warden. We will be working with the Tree Board. I have a meeting with the downtown merchants on Thursday to discuss their involvement and their contribution. The answer is yes. It will be reforested. I can't give you the specifics right now. The good news is that the Tree Warden has already received a gift contribution of approximately 30 trees which we have in storage. Some will be appropriate, Some are not. That is a high priority event for the spring.

**By show of hands, the motion passes unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patricia H. Strauss  
Town Clerk



by Jacquelyn Fuchs  
Secretary

**ATTENDANCE: January 7, 2014**

<b>DIST.</b>	<b>NAME</b>	<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>ABSENT</b>	<b>NOTIFIED MODERATOR</b>	<b>LATE/ LEFT EARLY</b>
1	Don Bergmann	X			
	Diane Cady	X			
	Matthew Mandell		X	X	
	Chris Tait	X			
2	Catherine Calise	X			
	Jay Keenan	X			
	Louis Mall		X	X	
	Neil Phillips	X			
3	Lyn Hogan	X			
	Jimmy Izzo		X	X	
	Sylina Levy	X			
	Bill Meyer	X			
4	David Floyd	X			
	Kristan Hamlin	X			
	Clarissa Moore	X			
	Jeffrey Wieser	X			
5	Seth Braunstein	X			
	Peter Gold	X			
	Paul Rossi		X	X	
	John Suggs	X			
6	Brandi Briggs	X			
	Hope Feller	X			
	Paul Lebowitz	X			
	Catherine Talmadge		X	X	
7	Arthur Ashman, D.D.S.	X			
	Allen Bomes	X			
	Jack Klinge	X			
	Stephen Rubin	X			
8	Wendy Batteau	X			
	Peter Knight	X			
	Carla L. Rea		X	X	
	Lois Schine	X			
9	Eileen Flug	X			
	Velma Heller, Ed. D.	X			
	Kate Boyle Kirby	X			
	Rick J. Weber	X			
<b>Total</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>		

