

Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting July 15, 2015  
APPROVED MINUTES

The Board of Selectmen held a Special Meeting on Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 7 pm in the Westport Town Hall Auditorium. In attendance were Jim Marpe, Avi Kaner, Helen Garten, Melissa Kane, Dewey Loselle, members of the RBA Group, Downtown Steering Committee members, members of the public and Eileen Francis, Recording Secretary. The meeting was broadcast live and is available for viewing via the Town website ([www.westportct.gov](http://www.westportct.gov)).

Downtown Steering Committee Chair Melissa Kane, Mark Keener of RBA Group and Operations Director Dewey Loselle provided an overview of the Downtown Westport Master Plan including the process through which it was achieved (i.e. public charrettes, meetings, the YOUR DOWNTOWN website and Facebook page, resident surveys, other public involvement) and the structure of the actual Plan. They indicated that the overall conceptual Plan is considered a guideline for municipal planning, that it is multi-dimensional, and included phased recommendations.

Board members were provided the opportunity to question and discuss the contents of the Plan.

Members of the public addressed varying subjects including but not limited to: Downtown maintenance issues; transportation; Plan implementation; finances; parking; future public/private partnerships; investment; and the need to maintain Westport's "small-town character." A petition requesting that the PK4 recommendation to relocate Long Term Parking to South of the Post Road be either eliminated completely or moved from "short-term actions" to the "mid-" or "long-term action" phase was submitted by Karen Swanson.

After public comment, there was discussion among the Board members as to the specific language for the resolution. Avi Kaner suggested splitting the original agenda item into two resolutions. The Board members agreed to that suggestion.

Upon motion by Avi Kaner, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 2-0-1 (Mr. Marpe and Mr. Kaner voting in the affirmative, Ms. Garten abstaining), it was:

RESOLVED, that the Final Downtown Westport Master Plan as recommended by the Downtown Steering Committee is hereby ACCEPTED.

Upon motion by Avi Kaner, seconded by Jim Marpe and passing by a vote of 3-0, it was,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby recommends initiating the prioritization and implementation phase of the Plan.

Upon motion by Avi Kaner, seconded by Helen Garten and passing by a vote of 3-0, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Eileen Francis  
Recording Secretary