

**Town of Woodstock
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 5, 2017
4:00 PM – Room A**

MINUTES

PRESENT: D. Mitchell Eaffy, Chandler Paquette, Allan D. Walker, Jr.

OTHERS PRESENT: Crystal Adams, Jennifer Beams, Joni Cullan, James Reck

1. Call to Order

First Selectman Walker called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Approve the Minutes of the December 1, 2016 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Paquette moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2016 regular Board of Selectmen's meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. Accept the Resignation of Reva Seybolt from the Agriculture Commission effective December 31, 2016

Eaffy moved to accept the resignation of Reva Seybolt from the Agriculture Commission effective December 31, 2016. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Accept the Resignation of Donna Stefanik as Town Treasurer effective January 13, 2017

Paquette moved to accept the resignation of Donna Stefanik as Town Treasurer effective January 13, 2017.

During her tenure, the office has run smoothly and the audits have been perfect. The Selectmen thanked her for doing a great job. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Consider the Appointment of Phillip Violette to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate Member for the term of January 5, 2017 through December 31, 2019

Walker reported that Mr. Violette was not able to attend the meeting and suggested that this item be tabled to the next meeting.

Eaffy moved to table this item to the next Selectmen's meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Consider the Appointment of Jim Reck to the Conservation Commission as a Full Member for the term of January 5, 2017 through March 31, 2021

Paquette moved to appoint Jim Reck to the Conservation Commission as a Full Member for the term of January 5, 2017 through March 31, 2021.

The Selectmen said they were glad to see that Jim Reck moved back into town and that he is willing to volunteer his time on the Conservation Commission again. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Presentation by Crystal Adams on Playground Equipment at Woodstock Middle School

Crystal Adams, member of the PTO, presented a long-term project to build a playground at the Middle School. The PTO is requesting permission to fundraise for the equipment. No town or school funds will be used for the playground. As of this date, they have spoken to the Superintendent of Schools, the Town Planner and the Town's insurance company, and have made a presentation to the Board of Education. The playground they would like to build will cost approximately \$100,000 and will have a 25-year life span. She said she has been researching companies and looking at their equipment and Kompan, the company they will use, continues to rise to the top. Depending on the amount of money they raise, they can start smaller and/or install it in phases. She is asking for a consensus of support from the Board of Selectmen prior to meeting with the Planning and Zoning Commission.

The Selectmen gave their consensus of support for the project.

8. Tax Rebates

Paquette moved to approve a tax rebate to Bachand, Longo & Higgins in the amount of \$3,127.61. **Motion carried unanimously.**

9. Correspondence and Announcements

Walker reported that he received a letter from Michael Dougherty, Acting Chairperson of the Board of Finance, relating to the Town Treasurer who informed them that she will not running again next term. The Board of Finance recommends the Selectmen consider making the Town Treasurer position an appointed one rather than an elected one when the current term ends in November.

Walker informed the Selectmen that he received two separate legal opinions letters by Town Attorney Robert DeCrescenzo for each of the two petitions filed for a Special Town Meeting. He stated the first petition, submitted by David Richardson and Michael Dougherty on December 7, 2016, related to changing the Treasurer's position from elected to appointed with input from the Board of Finance. It was denied because the action requested was not valid (there is no existing ordinance to revise.) The second petition, submitted by Roger Gale and Charles Super on December 12, 2016, related to proposing an ordinance changing the

Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer's positions from elected to appointed. It was denied because the wording in the proposed ordinance specified that the Board of Selectmen would make the appointments. (However, by state statute the First Selectman would actually be the appointing power.)

The Selectmen commented how curious it was that there was no mention made at Board of Finance meeting held on December 13 of the petitions that were submitted on December 7 and December 12 since time was spent speculating about what the process needed to be in order to make that happen.

10. Citizen's Comments

None.

11. Adjournment

Paquette moved to adjourn at 4:25 p.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,
Joni Cullan, Clerk