

Board of Selectmen: *Nancy J. Talbot, Alan G. Whitney, Tracy R. Opalinski, John E. Carroll, Michael P. Fountain*

Town Manager: *Stuart Beckley*
sbeckley@townofware.com



Board of Selectmen
Ware Town Hall, 126 Main Street, Meeting Room

Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Selectman Talbot, Selectman Whitney, Selectman Opalinski, Selectman Carroll, Selectman Fountain

Meeting Opened by Chairman Talbot at 7:00 p.m.

Opening Remarks, Announcements, and Agenda review by Chair – Chairman Talbot noted the generous donation of chairs for the Board of Selectmen from Country Bank for Savings, and for the transportation of the chairs by the American Athletic employees. Chairman Talbot also thanked the community, the DPW, Board of Health, Town Manager and all involved, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, for dealing with the town boil water order. Chairman Talbot asked Town Manager Beckley to comment on the boil water order: Mr. Beckley noted that the boil order was lifted less than 24 hours after initiation. The cause was in the cistern only, never in the distribution.

Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2017**

Selectman Whitney moved approval of the minutes of May 23, 2017; Selectman Opalinski seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Comments and Concerns of Citizens

Bill Jackson stated that another resident was not allowed to speak at the previous meeting, and “no other chairman would cut off comments or not allow comments”.

Carol Zins announced the Town Wide Tag Sale on June 17, 2017 to benefit the Proprietors of the Ware Center Meetinghouse. The Proprietors will put up signs, make the map and have posted this event on Facebook. The fee to be on the map is \$15 and residents can call 967-8304.

Carol Zins announced that, on June 11, 2017, there will be a dedication of the pathway connecting two cemeteries at the Meetinghouse; the work was done by Boy Scouts to connect two historic cemeteries.

Carol Zins announced that yellow cards are printed with a listing of all free concerts and events going on in the Town of Ware. One event is the Summer Blues Fest sponsored by Workshop 13, bringing culture to the town.

Selectman Whitney asked to have numbers on the listed addresses on the map; Ms. Zins stated she would try to do so and would like a clean map to use for the map. The maps will be available on June 17 at the Meetinghouse in the morning.

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Carol Zins also noted the Ware Business and Civic Association's "Ware in Bloom" has planted all the flowers on Main Street. Any residents who could help water the flowers would be greatly appreciated; please call 967-8304.

Danielle Souza of Buy Ware Now presented Selectman Carroll a check for the Ware Lions Club fireworks display in the amount of \$4,740. Buy Ware Now will hold an Open House of 14 houses on June 11 from 12pm-4pm. Selectman Opalinski thanked Danielle Souza, Carol Zins and Deborah Deschamps for all their work on the Sparkle Run.

Selectman Whitney distributed copies of questions he would like answered before the next meeting regarding the ambulance agreement. Mr. Beckley stated that he could answer some of the questions now. Mr. Beckley met with Mr. Moran. There are 100-120 calls, peak time of transports is 6:00 am – 1:00 am for 90%, the ALS is 25%, and peak volume days are equal. Selectman Whitney asked that all information be provided by Friday, June 9, 2017.

Scheduled Appearances

- **7:05 p.m. Review of RT's Welding Fabrication & Auto Repair, Inc. Class III License (postponed to June 20, 2017)**

Selectman Opalinski moved to postpone to the next Board of Selectmen meeting, scheduled for June 20, 2017; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion to postpone passed unanimously (5-0).

- **7:30 p.m. Hearing for Dog Complaint**

Selectman Opalinski moved to postpone to the next Board of Selectmen meeting, scheduled for June 20, 2017; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion to postpone passed unanimously (5-0).

Old Business

- **Review Hardwick Ambulance Information Sheet**

Mr. Beckley explained that the subcommittee has created an information sheet with 12-13 questions and answers. A final tweaking will be done to the information and it will then be presented publicly. The data shows that ambulance runs are projected to increase by 2.5 per week. The subcommittee believes that Ware can handle this; if emergency aid is also needed, the town has mutual aid. The term will be three years, with monthly and annual reviews. It is proposed that Hardwick will pay \$60,000 to Ware, with anticipated revenue of \$130-150,000 new revenue. The Town of Hardwick will have town meeting on June 17, 2017. Selectman Carroll asked how many total calls are anticipated; Fire Chief Coulombe noted 225 total calls.

Resident Keith Krukus questioned the procedure if an accident in Hardwick and an emergency in Ware happen at the same time; Chief Coulombe noted that we have mutual aid and first responder EMS equipment, and he believes Ware can handle this situation very well. Selectman Opalinski noted that the same service has been in place, and this will continue to be economical for staffing levels. Chief Coulombe noted that travel times have been minimal compared to neighboring towns, and while it may be stressful, the department will make it happen.

Resident Bill Jackson questioned the number of paramedics; Chief Coulombe noted there are nine paramedics with two on each shift. Chairman Talbot noted that the final question & answer information sheet will be posted on the town website, and available copies will be at Town Hall for those who do not have computers.

Selectman Opalinski moved to accept the information sheet, with edits; Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

New Business

- **Discussion: House Bill No. 2252 Municipal Constables**

Chairman Talbot read the notice and encouraged Selectmen to contact their legislators regarding this proposed bill.

- **Re-Appointment to Finance Committee – Denis Ouimette, Term to Expire June 30, 2020**

Selectman Opalinski moved approval of the reappointment; Selectman Whitney seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **Re-Appointment to Capital Planning Committee – Clayton Sydla, Term to Expire June 30, 2020**

Selectman Whitney moved approval of the reappointment; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **Special Event: Ware Lions Fireworks, Saturday, June 24, 2017**

Selectman Opalinski moved approval of the special event; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a vote of 4 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstention (Selectman Carroll).

- **LATE FILE: One-Day Liquor License Applications, Knights of Columbus – June 4, June 10, June 18, June 23, 2017**

Selectman Opalinski moved approval of the licenses for Ware Council Home Association, Inc. (Knights of Columbus); Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Town Manager Report

Mr. Beckley noted that the Community Dinner on June 8 at the Ware United Church is sponsored by the Substance Use Alliance. The dinner begins at 6pm. Marisa Hebble will lead a discussion on actions that are working in other communities.

The Ware High School Baseball team won its first playoff game on Monday and will play at 4p.m. at UMass on June 8.

Resident Amy Trombly has asked the Town for help with improving the safety along Gould Road; the DPW, Police and School Department met with Ms. Trombly. The DPW has installed an additional speed limit sign and will work with Palmer Paving to place rumble strips.

The Memorial Day parade was successful with a great turnout of citizens, in spite of the rain and audio difficulties.

Last night, the Parks Commission approved the dog park at the former Mt. Carmel church lot on Pleasant Street. The Town will seek a Stanton Foundation grant for design and construction. There are only three grants remaining to apply for.

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The Town and Quaboag Valley CDC will apply for a State transit grant to continue funding for Quaboag Connector. If received, the grant requires a 50% match of \$60,000. The Quaboag Connector would then give priority of rides to elderly and disabled. The Quaboag Connector now runs 12 hours per day and ridership has greatly increased.

Selectman Carroll noted that, when the van coordinator had an injury, he stepped in for several months to coordinate rides. There was a great need for transportation for elderly and low income, with approximately 500 rides in May 2017. Seniors will soon receive ride service Monday through Friday on the Senior van. Selectman Talbot noted that the program was advertised on the Ware Community Television website. Selectman Opalinski noted the E2E program has new healthcare classes, EMT training, and many resources to help people with education and employment.

Selectman Opalinski also noted that the new president of Holyoke Community College, Dr. Christina Royal, met community stakeholders regarding the E2E program. Selectman Opalinski noted Dr. Royal's strong knowledge in future need for career placement, online classes, skills gap. Participants may earn workforce certificates to help in looking for better jobs.

Selectman Opalinski moved to Adjourn Regular Session to Enter into Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. per MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21(a), #6, To Consider the Purchase, Exchange, Lease or Value of Real Property, NOT TO RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION; Selectman Fountain seconded. The motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of 5 Yes, 0 No:

Nancy J. Talbot	Yes√
Alan G. Whitney	Yes√
Tracy R. Opalinski	Yes√
John E. Carroll	Yes√
Michael P. Fountain	Yes√

Attest: *Mary L. Midura*
Mary L. Midura, Executive Assistant