

**Town of West Windsor
Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 04, 2023 @ 6:30pm
Town Hall and Zoom**

Present in Person: Matt Kantola, Mark Harley, Mark Higgins, Cathy Archibald, Amy Yates, Mike Spackman, Matt Frederick

Present via Zoom: Michael Epstein

1. Call to Order

Matt Kantola called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.

2. Changes or Additions to Agenda

None.

3. Announcements/Public Comment

Cathy Archibald mentioned that Bob French is in the hospital, and that his wife, Betty, had offered to do the weekly cleaning of the Town Hall in his stead. Cathy declined the kind offer so that Betty could stay with Bob while he recovers.

Matt K announced that Amy Yates is present for the budget discussions. He stated that Amy has accepted the position of Assistant Town Clerk/Town Treasurer with the intent to continue in that role after Cathy retires at the end of the year. The hope is that the voters will elect her to be the new Town Clerk/Town Treasurer on Town Meeting Day 2024.

4. 2024 Budget Discussion

Michael Epstein gave an overview of the Mary L Blood Memorial Library statistics for Fiscal Year 2023 and spoke of the significant growth in library usage and offerings provided. Michael praised Librarian Liz Frederick, saying that she has done a “spectacular job”, and that “by any measure you want to look at, the library is booming”. Michael continued that MLBML now provides Interlibrary Loans and uses a “One-Card” system that allows for book checkouts from many other area libraries. In addition, the library is often used as a community meeting space for local groups. Michael finished by saying that “this library is thriving, growing, used by the town citizens, and that along with Ascutney Outdoors, Brownsville Butcher & Pantry, and the Albert Bridge School, this is why people want to live in Brownsville”. There was a line-item discussion on the proposed library budget.

Mike Spackman spoke to the highway budget, and there was a line-item discussion on the budget proposal.

Cathy Archibald spoke to the general fund budget, and there was a line-item discussion on the budget proposal.

Matt F will input data from tonight's discussions into the budget spreadsheets for further Selectboard review at the 12/11 Selectboard Meeting.

5. Other Business

The fourth Monday of December falls on Christmas Day this year. If a meeting is necessary, the Selectboard will decide on the date at an upcoming meeting.

The Selectboard will be meeting on Wednesday, December 6th at 12pm on Duling Rd to discuss plow procedures.

The Selectboard is planning to meet on Friday, December 15th at 1pm at the Highway Garage for highway department performance reviews.

6. Adjourn

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Selectboard unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:08pm.