

**MINUTES**  
**WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2012**  
**7:00 PM**

**Present:** David a. Rempell, Chairman, Jane B. Allen, Thomas E. Sheldon

**Absent:** Tom Costley, Ronald Turbin

**Other Present:** Janet Saddler, Jason McNair, Bill Barkin, David Westall, Tom Elder, Jennifer Civello, Jane Patton, Ira Lapidus, Joseph Finnegan

**1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT:**

Mr. Rempell announced the ABC clothing sale for Saturday, September 22, at the First Congregational Church from 9 am to 2 pm and that it is the 175th Anniversary for the Second Congregational Church.

**2. SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** Ms. Allen moved to approve the September 10, 2012 minutes. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0.

**3. PUBLIC HEARING:** Chairman Rempell opened the public hearing at 7:05 p.m.

**A. 7:05 PM: FY 2013 Tax Rate Classification Hearing** – Mr. Fohlin gave a brief Power Point presentation. 536 homeowners will see an increase of combined Town and Fire District tax between \$0 and \$19,121. 2067 homeowners will see a decrease between \$0 and \$34,780. The FY13 Town tax levy is down \$103,970 to \$14,301,747 from \$14,405,718 in FY12. The FY13 Fire District tax levy is increased \$162,249 to \$656,865 or 34.8% over FY12's \$494,616. Aggregate real property assessed value for residential property is down 3.816% and Commercial/Industry value is down 0.001%. Selectmen will be asked to vote a single or split tax rate for FY13. Ms. Allen moved to set a single tax rate. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0. (Copy of the Power Point presentation is on file with the Town Manager's office)

**4. ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

**A. Chamber of Commerce Update:** Jennifer Civello introduced herself as the new Executive Director of the Williamstown Chamber. She said she is working toward increasing the level of communication to current and new members. She said the Chamber offices will move to the first floor at their Dennison Park location and announced the Holiday Walk will be held on Saturday, December 1.

**B. Alcoholic Beverage Compliance Check Failure – Williamstown Theatre Festival:** Liquor License Manager Ira Lapidus and consultant Jane Patton explained that the TIPS-trained server was in a hurry trying to cash out and in his haste, he failed to card the compliance check patron. Because the same staff is utilized at the '62 Center (WTF) and Goodrich Hall (Cabaret), Ms. Patton said they are re-evaluating their stop-serving time at the Theatre Festival so that there will be enough time to pack up and then go to the

Cabaret. It was discussed that although the server has been employed by both the Theatre Festival and Hops and Vines, on this occasion the Theatre Festival was paying the server. In answering the Board's question as to who managed the servers since Dr. Lapidus said he was not on the premises, Ms. Patton said there was a house manager who took on that role. Ms. Allen asked Dr. Lapidus if he understood that as the liquor manager, it is his responsibility to set the standards for carding and compliance for the serving staff. He responded that he understood, but now that he is no longer the WTF President, he was not on the premises as often. Dr. Lapidus said that the WTF Board would need to rethink who their next manager should be. When Mr. Fohlin asked to clarify if the alcohol served by the Theatre Festival and Cabaret was purchased directly from a distributor for the use of the Theater festival, Ms. Patton said it was.

Mr. Sheldon moved that the Board issue a letter of warning with copies to the Police Chief, ABCC, and file. He also asked that the letter include a request that the WTF notify the Selectmen of future changes they plan to make. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0. (Copy of the letter is located in the Town Manager's office)

**C. United Nations Day Proclamation:** Mr. Rempell read the proclamation aloud. Ms. Allen moved that the Chairman sign the proclamation. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0. (Copy of the Proclamation was filed in the Town Manager's office)

**D. Berkshire Metropolitan Planning Organization Designee Appointment:** Ms. Allen moved to re-appoint Ronald Turbin as the Selectmen's designee to the Berkshire MPO. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0. (Copy of the letter was filed in the Town Manager's office)

**5. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT:** see attached or at [www.williamstown.net](http://www.williamstown.net)

**6. PETITIONER'S REQUESTS:** None

**7. OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**8. ADJOURN:** Ms. Allen moved to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Mr. Sheldon seconded and the motion carried 3-0-0. The next meeting is Tuesday, October 9, 2012 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane B. Allen  
Secretary pro tempore