

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, February 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Killingworth Town Hall

BOS Members in Attendance: First Selectman, Nancy Gorski, and Selectmen, Jamie Young and Louis Annino, Jr.

BOS Members Absent: None.

Visitors: Kathleen Amoia, Eileen Blewett, Joan Gay, Eric Nunes, Richard Pleines, Joyce Mason, Regina Regolo, Jim Duffield, Greg Annino, Lauren Perley, Jean Panciera, Annie Stirna, Bill Tobleman, Eileen Unger, Kathleen Zandi (BOE), Michael Jurewicz, Hannah Jurewicz, Kate Moran, Mary Solera, Marcel Couture, Ed Merola, Joe Dalton, Sara O'Brien, Amy Markim, and Jamie Sciascia

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Called to Order: First Selectman Gorski called this meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Monday, January 23, 2023 as amended:

Corrections are as follows:

- 1. Under Public Comment, Joyce Mason addressed the Board - Replace "Written" with "Read" located in sentence two.***

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #2 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Monday, January 31, 2023 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #3- Selectman Young **Moved** and First Selectman Gorski **Seconded** a motion to approve the following Refunds and Abatements, all for overpayment, and allow them to follow their normal course as presented below:

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
1. Laurence Rosenzweig	142 Pond Meadow Rd.	\$29.95	Overpaid
2. Hyundai Lease Titling Trust	4100 Wildwood Pkwy	\$404.86	Overpaid COC#10775M
3. CT Clinical Services Inc	189 Orange Street	\$119.12	Overpaid
4. Geoffrey W. Lester	37 Keith Circle	\$9.22	Overpaid COC#10553M
5. Daniel E. Schumann	150 Chittenden Rd.	\$34.49	Overpaid COC#10669M
6. Cindy Ellison	1 Pleasant Trail	\$22.90	Overpaid
7. Judith Rees-Harris	9 Lower Ledge Rd	\$113.57	Overpaid COC#10803M

Appointments:

Motion #4 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** to appoint Richard Pleines as the Building Official for the Town of Killingworth.

Discussion - First Selectman Gorski stated that Richard Pleines' position, as the Acting Building Official, is up on February 15th, and per State Statute, you can't renew it after the 180 days. Selectman Young addressed her concerns about not receiving Mr. Pleines' resume, advertising in more than one place, as well as researching potential candidates in the Community. Selectman Annino inquired whether or not the Town would be able hire a Building Official who works in the same position in a neighboring town.

Motion **Failed** for lack of a Second.

Motion #5 - Selectman Annino **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to reappoint Richard Pleines as the Interim Building Official for 30 days.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

First Selectman Gorski advised Thomas Hogarty stepped down from his position with the RiverCog Regional Housing Committee. Richard Pleines would like the opportunity to fill that position. Selectman Annino would like to take some additional time to consider the request.

First Selectman Gorski *Tabled* the Agenda item for a future BOS meeting.

Department Reports:

Kathy Zandi updated the BOS on the Board of Education Summary of Events from January 2023:

- HKHS Holiday Telephone - In Support of Rachel Webster raising \$28,800.
- HKHS Alumni Day
- BES and KES Schools named Schools of Distinction by the CT Department of Education based on their academic excellence
- Budget Process Commenced
- BOS and BOF Tours of the District Schools
- Strategic Plan Core Values

Department Reports:

First Selectman Gorski advised that the Building Department is actively reviewing open Building Permits. To date, 245 Open Building Permits have been reviewed and closed.

Health Department

First Selectman Gorski advised that she received several complaints regarding a protrude smell coming from Parker Hill Ext in Killingworth. DEEP was notified that apparently someone was spraying either nitrandis or manure in the area. First Selectman Gorski Nancy reached out to the Health Department to get the area evaluated to see if there was any impact to residential homes.

Budget Report

Director of Finance Regolo sent out the Budget Report to the BOS. There were no further questions raised at that time.

New Business:

A. Joint Discussion with BOF: Fiscal Priorities for 23/24

The Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance had a joint discussion regarding the Fiscal Priorities for 2023/2024 fiscal year.

Motion #6 - Selectman Young **Moved** and First Selectman Gorski **Seconded** a motion to add on the Agenda under New Business, Item #E - Commission on Aging.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

B. Journey Home Recovery Living:

Dr. Hannah Jurewicz and Mike Jurewicz in 2015 opened two sober living homes in Killingworth. Dr. Hannah also has a private practice in Branford. They spoke about their recovery homes ensuring transparency, quality, care, safety, stability, offering multiple pathways to recovery, specifically, programs followed by meditation, recovery meetings and discussion, in hopes to engage and educate. The partnerships they make is to train and educate, working with Parents, Communities and Stakeholders to figure out what will work best for everyone.

Motion #7 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to support Journey Home Recovery Living with a \$10,000 donation from the Town of Killingworth's Opioid Settlement.

Discussion - Selectman Young inquired whether they would also work with Youth and Family Services and First Selectman Gorski advised they still don't have a coalition due to being in the process of rebuilding. Hannah Jurewicz suggested, instead of accepting the donation at this time, to sit down with the Town's key stakeholders to figure out what is needed, what is expected, what the Town is looking for and to build a future plan, outcomes and milestones.

As first steps, a special meeting will be set up with Hannah and Mike Jurewicz, Stakeholders, Youth and Families Services, CRAHD, Resident State Trooper and Kathy Zandi will help to locate someone from the Board of Education to sit down and find out what is needed, what is expected and what the town is looking for will take place.

First Selectman Gorski **Tabled** this motion for a future BOS meeting.

C. Trash Hauling:

First Selectman Gorski was requested by Selectman Young at a previous BOS meeting to put Trash Hauling on the Agenda. After some research, the Town of Clinton doesn't require private haulers to register their business and the Town of Haddam does require them to register providing a registration form to do so. First Selectman Gorski will research more information regarding same and bring it back to the BOS. A brief discussion took place regarding the Town's septic pump out process.

D. Through Town Event - Angel Ride:

Motion #8 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to permit Angel Ride's Annual Charity Bicycle Ride on June 3, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

E. Commission on Aging:

Selectman Young stated that at the last BOS meeting a Group of Community Members came to the Board regarding Commission on Aging. Selectmen Annino and Young met with a number of Community members since that time who are willing to find grants and do the research in order to make this happen. Selectman Young made a motion shortly thereafter.

Motion #9 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to propose and create a new five-member Town of Killingworth Appointive Board to be known as the Killingworth Commission on the Aging effective February 14, 2023. This appointive board or "Commission on Aging" is to be initially set up as a Committee until such time as a Town Meeting establishes the ordinance for such continuing Board pursuant to Section 5-15 of the Town Charter. Membership to such Commission on Aging shall be established for two-year terms and pursuant to Section 5-16 of the Town Charter, three members will initially serve two years and two members will initially serve one year. The Municipal Agent will serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Commission.

The Board of Selectmen charges the Killingworth Commission on the Aging with the following mission. The Commission on the Aging will study the conditions and needs among our senior residents and community as such needs are related to housing, economics, employment, health, and recreational matters. It will review services provided and make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen, the Municipal Agent and to our Town. It will provide and sponsor programming. The Commission has the authority to apply for available state, federal and private grants to support its purpose.

Discussion - First Selectman Gorski recently received notification that the Town is receiving a grant of approximately \$17,000 that would be allocated for a Senior Center. Currently, the Town doesn't have one. First Selectman Gorski is in the process of getting more information to see if they could apply Grant funds to complete studies around Killingworth for a Senior Center. Selectman Annino suggested that Senior Center doesn't have to be a physical center within the Town.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Old Business:

A. Approval of KAA/KVFC list of full active members:

Motion #10 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to approve the Killingworth Ambulance Association List of Full Active Members in good Standing as of December 31, 2022.

Discussion - Selectman Annino stated at the last BOS meeting that the KVFC needed to provide along with the executed letter, a list of criteria for qualifications of all Active Members.

After discussion, First Selectman Gorski **Tabled** this motion until the next BOS meeting in order to obtain the criteria.

B. High Tree Summary

Selectman Gorski **Tabled** this item for a future BOS Meeting.

C. Eric Auer Park Update:

The BOS requested and received from Jim Duffield an Inventory of all Fields, User Groups and Cost of Maintaining the Fields. Lauren Perley, a resident of the Town of Killingworth as well as a Member of the Haddam-Killingworth Little League Board spoke on the Baseball/Softball Community's support of the Eric Auer Park Baseball Field Grant. Selectman Annino thanked all who were in attendance regarding the Baseball Field. He raised his concerns about approving a modification to the original plan when the Town is not aware of it. He also stressed the importance of how it is the Board of Selectmen's obligation to go back to the Town if they aren't staying the normal course. Selectman Young also addressed her concerns about how it would be arbitrary to change the Baseball field plans to something else when it was set for a Baseball Field and funded, especially given the Baseball Field Community wasn't part of the discussion. First Selectman Gorski is looking to meet with Jim Duffield, who was not in attendance at the BOS meeting due to a Park and Rec meeting, to update him about the logistics of this meeting and also get his thoughts on the modification of the original plans to a Multi-Purpose Field. First Selectman Gorski will also forward to Selectmen Young and Annino the application/grant paperwork. This topic of discussion will be resumed at the next BOS meeting scheduled on February 27, 2022. First Selectman Gorski will put hardcopies of the meeting materials relating to the Baseball Field Grant at the Town Hall, outside the Clerk's office, a few days prior to the meeting.

D. ARPA Policy Update:

First Selectman Gorski presented an update on the ARPA Policy from the last BOS meeting. She did make some changes to remove the Economic Recovery Committee and also updated the forms to have the level of accountability that they are looking to have and use these ARPA funds. She stated that there are three other items that don't typically show up from the Ambulance Association on the Budget and they need to figure out how we push them forward

Motion #11 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion that effective 2/14/2023, The Town of Killingworth by action of the Board of Selectman establishes the following practice for approval, distribution, and reporting of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. The Board of Selectmen shall consider uses for such funding consistent with its current capital and operating budget practices. This shall include input from the various town operating departments and organizations as well as input from the community.

Recommendations made to the Board of Selectmen shall include a written narrative and detailed rationale for the approval. This rationale shall be based on the eligible ARPA uses and key objectives or other criteria used for the recommendation. Those needs meeting the criteria of the ARPA shall be evaluated by the Board of Selectman for approval based on a priority assessment of overall town needs while considering the town's economic, social, facilities/infrastructure, and health needs. Also, while we are not bound to the designated uses of the ARPA funds, the Board of Selectmen may consider the overall spirit of the act and consider projects that fall outside of "general governmental services" subject to the following: Eligible uses: Responding to the public health emergency and the negative economic impacts of COVID-19; Replacement of loss revenue; Premium pay; Water and sewer infrastructure; and Broadband infrastructure.

Treasury's key objectives: Fight the pandemic and support families and businesses struggling with its public health and economic impacts; Maintain vital public services, even amid declines in revenue resulting from the crisis; Build a strong, resilient, and equitable recovery by making investments that support long-term growth and opportunity. Support general government services. Recommendations for approved spending of ARPA funding shall be submitted by the Board of Selectmen to the Board of Finance consistent with and at the same time as the annual budgeting process. ARPA funds will be reflected in such submission as a "funding source" within the budget and spending will be accounted and tracked against the same partitioned funding source by the Town's Finance Director. The Board of Finance presents final recommendations at town meeting as part of the overall annual budget submission. As with all budgeted items, the town will consider ARPA projects as part of the town budget approval. Following approval at town meeting, the Finance Director shall, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Treasurer, disburse the funds. The submission of appropriate supporting invoices and/or other documentation ensuring that funds are used in the intended manner will be required by the receiving organization prior to fund distribution. (These records are required to meet federal audit criteria). In addition to the above, the following shall also be required: Town bidding regulations will be followed as warranted. Finance Director shall provide to Boards of Selectmen and Finance, a monthly report of fund balance, approved projects, encumbered funds, transfers and interest earned. This can be part of an overall monthly budget report of town spending. Finance Director shall disclose this information as part of the town's annual report, Finance Director shall make the required annual reporting to the US Treasury of the disbursement of these funds.

Discussion - First Selectman Gorski stated she is not ready to move on this until she speaks with the Finance Director to understand the process.

After discussion, this motion was **Tabled** until the next BOS meeting.

E. KAA/ARPA Request:

First Selectman Gorski stated that the stretcher request has been paid for but there still is a request for payment of Automatic Chest Compression, updated Defibrillators and replacement of AED's around town. This Ambulance Association request doesn't typically come into the normal Budget cycle. Selectman Annino suggested that these types of requests get included with any other requests that come into the Town, whether it is Town Capital or Arpha Funds and he prefers they aren't approved as a one-off. First Selectman Gorski said this will be included as they go into the Budget Process.

F. Custodial Bid-Next Steps

Selectman Annino stated that there was one Custodial bid that was received and suggested that the bidder come in and review and understand the proper requirements - Structured Cleaning Program, QA Program and Schedule. The Custodial person in place now, agreed to stay on until a new one is found. The future Custodial contract should be a one year, renewable position up to 3 or 5 years.

G. PFAS Update:

First Selectman Gorski is in the process of working with the CT Water Company, DEEP and DPH to prepare the slides for the PFAS Public Hearing scheduled on February 22nd. In regards to the Filtration System, they are in the process of getting a proposal/design from GZA for the KES and Town Hall Campuses. Selectman Annino Lou expressed his concerns about how the Town of Killingworth has been put in a situation to assume the financial burden of remediation which seems unfair since DEEP is giving only half of the solution. First Selectman Gorski stated that two separate funding requests have been submitted to the State for remediation. Selectman Young proposed that for every expenditure and cost that the Town incurs related to testing, remediation etc should be calculated and somehow flagged so the Town could possible get money back in the future. First Selectman Gorski stated that The Regional Water Authority is willing to provide consulting and testing services for a fee. The testing services will go out to RFP. First Selectman Gorski also met with a representative from the CT Water Company to discuss potential water solutions.

Selectmen's Comments:

Selectman Annino: No Comments.

Selectman Young: No Comments.

First Selectman's Comments:

- IAM/GIS Software
- Employee Manual: Finalizing edits and will be sent out shortly.
- Code of Ethics (CRC's recommendation): First Selectman Gorski downloaded Clinton's Code of Ethics as a starting point for the Town of Killingworth but it will require the BOS to establish an Ethics Committee.

Adjournment: Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk