

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, March 13, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Via GoTo Meeting (Remote)

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

BOS Members Absent: None.

Visitors: Richard Pleines, Regina Regolo, Laura Lefko, Jackie, Eileen Blewett, Don Offner, Walter Adametz, Joan Gay, Donna Fornal, Roslyn Reeps, Eileen Unger, John Samperi, Guy Vecchitto, Cathy Iino, Tom Hogarty, Elizabeth Disbrow, Kathy Zandi, Lisa Connelly, Joan Gay, Annie Stirna, Donnie, Eric Nunes, and Jamie Sciascia

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Called to Order: First Selectman Gorski called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

Guy Vecchitto spoke about his support of the Textile Recycling Project that the Killingworth Conversation Commission along with Roslyn Reeps put together for the BOS' approval.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on February 27, 2023 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #2 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on February 27, 2023 as amended.

Corrections are as follows:

1. ***Under Public Comment: Delete - Eileen Unger read her comments into the record: "My name is Eileen Unger...to go along with this." and add in the following language: "Eileen Unger was dissatisfied with the handling of her husband, Mr. Pleines', reinstatement of his position, a copy of her written comment attached."***

2. *Under Selectmen's Comments, Selectman Young Commented on, in the first sentence change "prescriptive" to "perspective"*
3. *Under C, APPA Policy Update, in the second line change "APRA" to "ARPA"*
4. *Under C, APPA Policy Update: Change "APPA" to "ARPA"*

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #3 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on February 28, 2023 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #4 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on March 1, 2023 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #5 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on March 6, 2023 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #6 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and First Selectman Gorski *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on March 8, 2023 as presented.

Motion passed [2-0-1].

Voting to Approve: Gorski, Annino

Voting to Abstain: Young

Motion #7 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* to *Table* the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectman held on March 10, 2023 until the next BOS Meeting.

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #8 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the following Refunds and Abatements, all for overpayment, and allow them to follow their normal course as presented below:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
1. Michael J. or Melanie S. Bugbee	24 Tower Hill Rd	\$30.00	Overpaid
2. Alexa J. Lee	9 Keith Circle	\$7,759.66	Overpaid (customer & escrow both paid)
3. Toyota Lease Trust	20 Commerce Way	\$276.76	Overpaid COC#10818M
4. Toyota Lease Trust	20 Commerce Way	\$431.71	Overpaid COC#10817M
5. Toyota Lease Trust	20 Commerce Way	\$133.56	Overpaid COC#10816M

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Department Reports:

Lisa Connelly, from the Board of Education, gave a Summary of Events:

- Burr District Elementary School and Killingworth Elementary School were each named Schools of Distinction by Connecticut Department of Education based on their academic excellence. Banners were presented, and hung in each school.
- The Student Representative reported on Senior Meetings, One Act Play written and directed by a HK Senior called “The Hallmarks of Horror” and Girls and Boys Winter Sports.
- Facilities - Tecton - There was a Comprehensive Assessment of all facilities to assist in the Capital Planning and projections for all the needs of the District's buildings. These are the beginning stages of a larger project that will be an investment for the Board as well as the Community. The next step of the process will involve engagement from the District and Community.
- Superintendent’s Report - The Superintendent provided his Budget Recommendations and Goals. The Budget Presentations are underway noting significant inflationary to estimated increase to fixed costs such as Transposition, Fuel, Ultitlites, Employee Contracts, Health and Insurance.
- The HKI/MS had an Assessment done for a development of an outside independent study of the structures at HKI/MS, time frame approximately 6-8 weeks. The next step will be creating a Committee that will redesign structures based on given objectives consisting of teachers, parents, one Board Member, two Administrators and the Assistant Superintendent as the Chair.
- The Strategic Plan and Core Values are found on the RSD17 Website.
- The Budget information will be updated and available on the RSD17 Website.

Appointments:

A. Commission on Aging

First Selectman Gorski suggested increasing the Commission from a 5 to 7 member Board due to 7 candidates that came forward interested to serve and provide their views and input. Gorski noted concerns that if it stayed at a five member Board it wouldn't be a completely bipartisan Commission. Further, discussion took place about the full list of potential candidates. Selectmen Annino and Young raised concerns about how the group that brought the Committee forward, voiced their opinions at an informal meeting, noting that anything over a 5 member Commission would be too difficult to get things underway and moving, possibly also having trouble with quotas, meetings and managing schedules. Annino suggested getting input from this group and then holding a special meeting to move forward. First Selectman Gorski was uncomfortable moving forward since she feels there isn't equal representation on the Commission.

First Selectman Gorski ***Tabled*** this Agenda item for discussion at either a special meeting or the next Regular BOS meeting.

B. Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Enforcement Officer

Motion #9 - First Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and Selectman Annino ***Seconded*** a motion to appoint Charles Burns as the Inlands/Wetlands and Watercourses Enforcement Officer.

Discussion took place around the process of endorsing and appointing a specific person to a job. According to the Town Charter, the Planning and Zoning hires said person and the BOS appoints said person to the position.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

C. Assessor

First Selectman Gorski stated that Mike Beckus' appointment ends April 1st. A motion was made shortly thereafter appointing Mike as Assessor, term ending on June 30th.

Motion #10 - First Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and and Selectman Annino ***Seconded*** a motion to appoint Mike Bekech as the Town of Killingworth's Assessor for a term ending on June 30, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Budget Report: No Questions or Concerns Reported.

New Business:

A. Textile Recycling

Roslyn Reeps gave a presentation on Textile Recycling, An Opportunity to Save Money and Increase Sustainability in Killingworth. She went over how Connecticut is Experiencing a Waste Crisis, Where 40% of Waste is Sent to Out of State Landfills, MIRA Tipping Fees Keep Increasing, currently paying \$115/ton for Municipal Solid Waste, The Transfer Station 2022/2023 Budget \$323,938, Textile Recycling Offers a Solution to Remove Textiles from the Waste Stream and Provide the Town with Revenue, Bay State Textile Recycling will Reimburse the Town \$100/ton for Collected Textiles, Bay State will take items in any condition and 95% of the items will be Recycled or Reused. Bay State Textiles Provide Capital Equipment and Handles at Logistics, The Town Could Consider other ways to Lower Transfer Station Costs, Such as Organics Diversion and Support of Extended Producer Responsibility.

Roslyn Reeps thanked Guy Vecchitto, Killingworth Conversation Commission Textile Recycling Committee, Walt Adametz - Killingworth Public Works Director and Killingworth Conversation Commission and Stephanie Warren, Chair.

First Selectman Gorski inquired about the Cost Savings to Town and also stated that Dave Tycz had some recommendations and suggestions to the Contractual Agreement if they were to move forward. Selectman Annino thanked Roslyn for leading the discussion and for everyone who participated in putting this together. Annino stated how he is in full support of this project and inquired about the implementation, questioning whether or not the Town has the actual space within the Transfer Station to get this started. Selectman Young stated that Roslyn's presentation was excellent along with all the research she provided. Young inquired about the process in which residents would bring their items to drop off. Roslyn confirmed that all items have to be cleaned, dried and bagged. She also clarified EPR - Extended Producer Responsibility. Selectman Gorski stated that they need to sort out the Contractual end of the work and then they can move forward with approval.

B. Contractor RFP

Walt Adametz spoke about the Request for Contractors to list equipment and hourly rate, approval by the BOS, upon bid openings. He spoke about emergency powers that gives the Town the right to forgo the bidding process, choosing from an approved contractor list without going through the expense of big RFPs. The application is approximately 17 pages that the contractors have to fill out and meet criteria. Selectman Young inquired about the hiring process, how it would be prioritized in terms of selecting a contractor. Walt said they have to be qualified to do a specific job, their availability and cost in order to be selected.

Walt also mentioned that the presentation that Roslyn Reeps gave was great. He met with Roslyn on many occasions for research, giving history of the Town's Transfer Station.

Motion #11 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to approve the RFP for Contractor Equipment Rental as presented.

Discussion - Selectman Annino stated that he would like to see the whole package associated with the specifications before they agree to send it out. Selectman Young inquired whether or not the whole packet had been reviewed by Attorney Dave Tycz in terms of confirming that they are not in violation of the bidding process. Walt Adametz mentioned that they put together a specific list of contractors approved by the Town approximately 15 years, which has since expired. Further, he stated that this would be an ideal process to get local contractors in which would ultimately speedup projects. A further discussion took place regarding Parmalee Farms and other Committees utilizing this Contractor List.

After discussion, First Selectman Gorski **Moved** to **Table** this motion to the next BOS meeting.

C. Fire Station 1 RFP:

First Selectman Gorski advised that the RFQ that Elizabeth Disbrow put together in partnership with the KVFC is a lengthy document, suggesting that the BOS read through it, and submit all questions back to Chief Darin. Selectman Annino asked for a copy of the RFQ in Word format, in order to make his comments via track changes. Elizabeth will supply this to the BOS.

Motion #12 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** to **Table** this Agenda item to the next BOS meeting for another discussion.

Motion #13 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to add onto the Agenda Award of Custodial Bid.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Award of Custodial Bidr

Motion #14 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to award the Custodial Bid to Platinum Janitorial Services, Inc.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Selectman Annino and Elizabeth Disbrow met with Platinum Janitorial Services, LLC noting that they both walked away from the meeting feeling they were more as partners as opposed to someone providing services. Elizabeth stated they were very professional and personable with tons of ideas walking around the space.

Selectman Annino thanked Dave Montgomery for all his years of service and continuation of providing the services in the interim of finding another person. He noted for the record that while they found some else, Dave was offered the opportunity to participate in the RFP process, however, he decided to leave the business because he took it over from his Mother.

First Selectman Gorski thanked Selectman Annino and Elizabeth Disbrow for their hard work and also stated for the record that in the next year's budget that this will be increased in this area in order to take care of the Town's properties and also maintain sanitization of all of the properties.

D. Charter Revision

First Selectman Gorski stated she received the draft Charter from the Town Clerk and thanked the CRC for all of hard work thus far. The CRC would like the BOS to review the Charter materials and provide a list of questions by Wednesday, March 22nd so that Chair Zandi and the Commission could respond to them at the next BOS meeting scheduled on March 27th.

Old Business

A. Stakeholders - Opioid Issue Plan Development

First Selectman Gorski reached out to a number of the Stakeholders to get their availability in terms of scheduling a meeting with Journey Home Recovery. Journey Home Recovery is available on Fridays during the day and Gorski is trying to find a time that works best for everyone.

B. PFAS Update

First Selectman Gorski gave a PFAS update. The next round of GAC Treatment System Monitoring for the private water supply wells in the investigation area is scheduled in April. This is a comprehensive event run by DEEP and will include all of the homes where DEEP installed GAC filter systems. Gorski submitted a DWSRF Rollover Application since she hasn't heard whether or not the Town qualified for State Revolving Fund. Gorski also has been in discussion with Senator Murphy's staffers regarding applying for Fiscal Years 2024 congressionally directed spending grant to facilitate compliance with National Drinking Water regulations that address serious risk to public health including non-regulated contaminants including PFAS.

Motion #15 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** to add a second Public Comment onto the Agenda before Selectmen's Comments.

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

Selectmen's Comments:

Selectman Young - No Comments:

Selectman Annino:

- The Joint BOE/BOF/BOS meeting held last week was very informative, and spoke of the preliminary budget the Superintendent brought forth for RSD17 noting a substantial increase.

- He wanted to confirm that the corrections that were made to the Minutes tonight will result in the unapproved Minutes that have been posted, be taken down from the website, corrected as the BOS decided, and reposted on the Website as an approved set of Minutes. Gorski will follow up on the process of the Minutes being posted.

First Selectman's Comments:

- First Selectman Gorski met with Madison's First Selectman, Peggy Lyons, Chief of Police, Jack Drumm, and Board of Commissioners Chair, Edward Dowling, to discuss potential shared services.

Adjournment: Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk