

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, April 10, 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: Joan Gay, Richard Pleines, Jackie Wilcox, Eileen Blewett, Eric Nunes, Annie Stirna, Becky Gietch, Scott Papoosha, Roslyn Reeps, Roger Nemergut, Jason Nemergut, Nick Cerillo, Elizabeth Disbrow and Jamie Sciascia (Via Remote)

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:

Nancy McCormick spoke about Killingworth Earth Day and the 17 organizations that are involved in making the special event happen which includes a day full of activities as well as the Estuary Transit District Trolley making stops around Town to: Parmelee Farm, Killingworth Library and Running Brooks Farm from 10:00-2:00 p.m. This Trolley was fully sponsored and the event is free to the public to enjoy. She thanked Joan Gay for all her hard work. Gorski will send out in Constant Constant a reminder on the event with the QR Code once Nancy finalizes the flyer.

Roslyn Reeps also updated the BOS about some Earth Day activities which include: The Lions Club is holding a Town wide trash pick up. Also, from 9:00-1:00 p.m. at the Killingworth Library, bring in your small appliances like your toasters and get them fixed. There will also be knife and tool sharpening for free, and clothing vending. The Essex Jazz Trio will be performing live from 11:00-1:00 p.m. To find out more information on Earth Day, please visit the KWO Website.

Jackie Wilcox spoke of her disappointment of how the last BOS meeting turned out; specifically, when it came to the Appointments for the Commission of Aging. She was one of the 3 residents that First Selectman Gorski put forth as a candidate for the Committee on Aging. She spoke on her help with starting pickleball programs for seniors 55 and over since 2015 at KES, Westbrook YMCA and also worked with the Killingworth Park and Rec Department putting lines on the

tennis courts over at Sheldon Park for Seniors to utilize them for Pickleball. Jackie holds a Bachelor's degree from Southern CT State University and was a Manager of Consumer Relations from a National Corporation. She also expressed her disappointment because she feels that the First Selectman is a Chief Executive Administrative Officer of Killingworth and she proposed the Commission on Aging be made up of 6 members and it was brought down to 5 members, and all 5 members that were selected, none of which were on her nomination list were considered.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen Monday, March 27, 2023 as amended.

Corrections are as follows:

1. Under Old Business, A. Charter Revision Commission: In the 3rd Paragraph, third sentence after Annino add in “and Young have” delete “has”
 2. Under Old Business, Item D - Water Pollution Update: In the 3rd Paragraph - Replace Selectman Young with Becky Goetch.
 3. Under Selectmen’s Comments - Selectman Young, add a second paragraph in:
“For the record, I clarify the misrepresentation in Ms. Unger’s Public Comment, in particular what actually occurred regarding Mr. Pleines’ temporary appointment that Nancy Gorski added to the agenda that night with no notice, no details, no reasons given and asked that the Board of Selectmen appoint Mr. Pleines as a Town Employee for four years without sharing his resume or the other candidate for the position, no notice was given, nothing other than the word “Appointments” was in the calendar, or the agenda for the meeting. When it was requested, we discussed it, we asked for a special meeting which was never held, it was never set up by the First Selectman and we asked for the special meeting to be held while the situation was being reviewed, Mr. Pleines then resigned and Mr. Auer was brought in within a few days. No State Law was broken, no political motivation was sought or had.
 4. Under Selectmen’s Comments: Selectman Annino - First Paragraph, Third Sentence, Replace “ Council” with Counsel”
 5. Under Selectmen’s Comments - Selectman Annino - Second Paragraph, First Sentence after Facilities ad “serving”. Also, after Annino stated add “Chief Darin offered”.
- Selectman Young noted Laura Lefko’s Public Comment regarding writing an ordinance was not accurate (Topic was Commission on Aging).
 - Selectman Young asked for Page numbers to be added onto future sets of Minutes.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #2 - First Selectman Gorski *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:

Refunds

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Timothy R. Ohara	4203 Buckingham Road	\$116.45	Overpaid COC# 108225M

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Discussion - Selectman Annino stated that since the address is Out of Town he suggested putting the Town image in for their own records.

Department Reports: No Questions/Comments

Budget Report: - No Questions/Comments

Selectman Young stated that she was in a meeting with COST and a CCM representative and learned that there is new significant grant funding available for HVAC for schools. Young inquired where the actual source of funding is through which was unknown but wanted to convey to Gorski so this information could be sent to Board of Education Chair, Suzanne Sack, and/or Superintendent of Schools, Jeffrey Wihbey.

Appointments:

A. ZEO/WEO

First Selectman Gorski updated the BOS that Charles Burns accepted a full time position and will no longer be joining the Town of Killingworth as the Zoning Enforcement Officer position. Tom Talbot will remain as ZEO/WEO through May 2023 and they are looking for another ZEO Candidate, the position has been posted. Annino inquired about the position and also what it is budgeted at. Gorski confirmed that it is one combined position for less than 19 hours a week, budgeted at \$40.00 an hour.

B. Committee on Aging

First Selectman Gorski stated that the terms for the Appointees on the Committee on Aging were not properly set at the last BOS meeting and noted in the Minutes. Three members on the Committee need to be set for a two-year term and two members on the Committee need to be set at a one-year term (calendar year).

Motion #3 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion that Mary E. Solera serve on the Commission on Aging for a 1-year term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #4 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion that Mary Jean Panciera serve on the Commission on Aging for a 1-year term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #5 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion that Joan D. Gay serve on the Commission on Aging for a 2-year term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #6 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion that William R. Joyce III serve on the Commission on Aging for a 2-year term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #7 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion that Joyce M. Mason serve on the Commission on Aging for a 2-year term commencing on January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

C. Open Space Committee:

Motion #8 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* to appoint David L. Long (Republican) to the Open Space Committee term ending on December 31, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #9 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to appoint Eric Nunes (Republican) to the Open Space Committee term ending on December 31, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

New Business:

A. River Valley Transit

Joan Gay updated the BOS on the merger between the Middletown Area Transit and the Shoreline Area Transit operating under one name River Valley Transit. They unveiled their new bus this past week. The event was very well attended, with Legislators and Representatives from the CT Department of Transportation. Joan spoke about the Route Changes, Discounted Fair prices; specifically for Seniors and the Disabled, Monthly Passes, the online app for bus tracking, and Dial-A-Ride - the bus conveniently makes a stop right to your house. Joan stated how proud she is to represent Killingworth. Annino thanked Joan for her Leadership. Young also thanked Joan for all her hard work being involved with the River Valley Transit Bus. Young also inquired if there has been any user studies since combining the Towns. Joan stated they are in the process of making some changes to certain routes and they already held three public hearings for input on this specific issue but nothing definitive as of it yet. Young also asked if the Schedule could be put up on the Town Website and Gorski will check into putting a link up under the Town Services section of the Website.

B. Forest Glen Drive Right Of Way

Roger Nemergut and Jason Nemergut from Nemergut Consulting and their client, Nick Cerillo, were all in attendance. Roger spoke regarding Forest Glen Drive Right of Way and how Nick Cerillo owns a 27 Acre piece of property on 88 Roast Meat Hill Road. Nick's son currently lives in a house there and Nick plans also to build a house for himself one day on that property and also he would like to create a lot and build a house for his daughter and son-in-law as well. He came to the BOS because there is an issue with needing to add some frontage in order to add a driveway. He reviewed the current situation with the BOS, including the Map of the Parcel and also spoke of his meeting with P&Z where one of the members suggested as the "easiest solution" might be to see if the Town would consider to sell a certain piece (approximately 6,000 square feet) also noting that nothing would change in terms of the cul de sac that the Town would still have their right away. Roger was hoping the Town would be willing to consider it. Further discussion took place on next steps with moving forward in terms of talking to neighbors, looking at Meetings Minutes circa 1982 where it would clearly state what the Town acquired, filing paperwork, going to Town Meeting etc.

Old Business:

A. Charter Revision

Motion #10 - First Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and Selectman Young ***Seconded*** a motion to Schedule a Public Hearing on Monday, April 24, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the Killingworth Town Hall.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Discussion - Selectman Young inquired how to convey the changes she has to the draft Charter. Annino noted that at the last BOS meeting they all agreed upon holding a special meeting for this

purpose. Gorski stated Attorney Tycz is out of town. Annino and Young suggested getting together for a review of all of their Charter changes collectively looking at possibly a date of Tuesday, April 18th at 6:00 p.m. Young inquired on the The Board of Finance Public Hearing date which will not be going forward as originally planned for April 24th and now set for April 25th.

B. Textile Recycling

Roslyn Reeps gave an updated presentation on Textile Recycling as a follow up to several questions the BOS had from the last time she was in attendance. Textile Recycling is 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, one of our largest expenditures as a Town, 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. Roslyn spoke briefly about how they are not seeing a lot of contamination issues, noting approximately 5% of what was collected they couldn't take. They actually don't see the contaminated materials until they go into the processor and she reassures the BOS they never had to sever a contract if they found an contamination issue happening at the drop box sites, that they would work with the Town to find a solution going forward. Roslyn went over Illegal dumping concerns, noting they don't see a lot of it since the boxes are on municipal or school property. She followed up on Organic Diversion and Support of Extended Producer Responsibility. Food Scraps Grants were discussed in length. Roslyn also noted that Blue Earth is the only contractor that will come to this part of the State for Food Scraps Hauling and is about \$800 more per year to go with their company. Roslyn spoke on EPR Solutions and the benefits it could have for the Town of Killingworth. She drafted a Resolution based on cardboard for the BOS to review, and consider in support of EPR as a starting point. Gorski asked for additional time to review it and understand the Resolution that she drafted.

Motion #11 - First Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and Selectman Young ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Agreement with Bay State Textiles to initiate Textiles Recycling at the Transfer Station.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

C. Town Hall Roof Repairs

First Selectman Gorski stated that she researched the Company used for the Station 1 roof and stated that it was above and beyond what they need right now. She stated that she knew what the damage they are dealing with is, and asked the BOS what direction they were looking to go in either going out to RFP or declaring it as an emergency and going to Town Meeting with a monetary request not to exceed \$80k. Consensus was to get the RFP out.

D. Water Pollution Update

Gorski reached out to KVFC's insurance company and Chubb appears to be relying on a PFAS exclusion in their policy. The KVFC's insurance company recommended Chubb perform an evaluation going back from when Chubb first started insuring the Town because any foam use occurred pre 2005 and the evaluated PFAS levels were discovered in 2021. Director of Finance Regolo reached out to Chubb who indicated pollution liability insurance policies issued to Cirma provide coverage on claims made and reported basis. They are not policies on a current basis.

Gorski forwarded the proposal and retainer from the Law Firm of Grant and Eisenhofer to the BOS and Town Counsel for review. G&E currently represents several States with respect to litigation concerning PFAS. Gorski received the design proposal from GZA and also met with DPH regarding the application process for the DSWRF Funding. She sent the design to DEEP for their review. Next Steps are for Gorski to sign the design document so they can get this moving forward and request the DSWRF Funding.

Regarding Salt - Deep has scheduled a site visit on April 17th to look at the contaminated areas and discuss additional investigations including groundwater samplings around and down gradient of the current salt storage building.

Public Comment:

None.

Selectmen's Comments:

Selectman Annio - None.

Selectman Young - She commented that someone from Town asked about the possibility of the BOS adjusting the Water Pollution Control Authority requirement of the pumpouts for the Beechwood Community to reduce it to every two or three years something less than what they currently are doing right now. She noted that since the BOS has been talking about looking at the Ordinances and also looking at what they are going to do with the Water Pollution Authority going forward, and this also falls under their responsibility, she doesn't want to lose sight of it. Gorski commented she believes Clinton's 1,000 gallon tank is a 3-year pumpout versus a 5-year and Young suggested matching that here in Killingworth which seems reasonable. Gorski will follow up and confirm Clinton's. Richard Pleines briefly spoke about Clinton's pump-out frequency.

First Selectmen's Comments

- She commented on how wonderful the new Custodian Services are.
- She forwarded the review of the Ethics Policy by their Labor Attorney. She asked that comments be directly sent to Gorski and their Labor Attorney. Order of Operations - enact an Ordinance, establish the right to have the code, then approve the code, and appoint the

Commission to enforce the code. Young inquired if Gorski will share the Ethics Policy with Staff to have them review it. Gorski wanted to send to BOS first, after the Labor Attorney review it, and then go from there.

- She is working to convene a meeting to review the Opioid Intervention Prevention Planning and is looking at this Friday, April 14th from 12-1 p.m. to be held remotely.
- She spoke with Robert Rimmer and he will provide an update on the BOF Review on the Budget Review at their regular meeting tomorrow.

Adjournment: First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk