

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, April 24, 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: Jen Voegtli, Bill Kosturku, Annie Stirna, Eric Nunes, Maureen Farrell Charney, Elizabeth Disbrow, Kathy Amoia, Marcel Couture, Cathy Iino, Becky Goetseh, Scott Papoosha and Jamie Sciascia (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.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes of the Monday, April 10, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #2 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes of the Monday, April 18, 2023 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #3 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Young *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>
Colin R. Stegman	513 N Roast Meat Hill Rd	\$201.18	Overpaid COC#10857M

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Budget Report: No Report

Appointments:

First Selectman Gorski gave an update on the three potential candidates for the Building Official position. Dick McManus recently withdrew his consideration due to a family challenge he has been faced with. Out of those three candidates, 2 of them are not yet qualified. After discussion, there was no need for action at this point in time. The BOS has until August to make a final decision.

New Business:

A. Tax Abatement for Historic Structures:

Elizabeth Disbrow gave an update on the Tax Abatement for Historic Structures. This topic was brought forward at a previous BOS meeting regarding a current situation where a homeowner in Town did not want to keep a historic structure on their property and paying taxes was an issue so they looked into whether a tax abatement would be an option. Elizabeth explained that the Town Assessor tried to come up with a possible solution but unfortunately did not come up with anything at first. After some research, what was eventually found in the Statutes was to allow the Town of Killingworth to pass an Ordinance to abate taxes in whole or in part for prevention in Historic Structures. Elizabeth explained that the Town of Woodbury has them, so it is an option for the Board of Selectmen, on a case by case basis, to offer an abatement so these historic structures could be kept from being demolished. The Historical Review Committee voted to come before the BOS and get some input and offer to draft an Ordinance for the BOS' approval. Disbrow noted that these are only for properties that are going through demolition delay; they would have had a Historical Review and been already vetted and deemed preferably preserved. Young inquired how many structures are sitting on the Town's list. Annino noted his support but stated based on the process, and how each situation is different in terms of land use, that his suggestion would be to have the Planning and Zoning Commission look at each specific case to determine it meets the intent of the Ordinance. Disbrow said Tom Lentz drafted the Demolition Delay Ordinance and is personally in support of it but hasn't brought it to the full Commission yet since she wanted to hear the BOS input first. After discussion, Elizabeth said she will bring it to P&Z for their input and come back to the BOS for their review. Young stated how terrific it was and thanked Disbrow for bringing Woodbury's example to their attention.

Motion #4 - First Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and Selectman Annino ***Seconded*** a motion to add under New Business, BOF 23-24 Budget.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

B. BOF 23-24 Budget:

Annie Stirna spoke about the Board of Finance 2023-2024 Budget process noting additional Capital Items for the BOS review and use of ARPA funds for many particular ones. There will be a Public Hearing tomorrow night at KES at 7:00 p.m. to get Public Input on the Budget.

Motion #5 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance the use of ARPA Funds for the following line items:

- KVFC - Cold Water Rescue Suit/Equipment
- KVFC - Life Safety Ropes/Equipment
- KVFC - Water Supply Equipment
- KVFC - Personal Escape System
- KVFC - Medical Response Bags
- HW Dept - Small Mason Dump w/Plow & Sander
- P&R - Pavilion at Eric Auer Park
- P&R - Sheldon Pavilion Repair
- IT Upgrades
- Transfer Station - Reclaim & Pave

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Old Business:

A. Charter Revision

Gorski spoke about the BOS conducting a Public Hearing on the Charter earlier this evening following the process under State Statute. This process includes: 1) a Public Hearing needs to be held on the Charter; 2) the BOS makes recommendations to the CRC for changes, if any, in it's report which is due by May 9th; 3) the CRC then has 30 days to make its final report to the BOS due by June 8th; 4) on June 23rd the BOS votes to accept or reject the final report (approximately 15 days thereafter).

B. Town Hall Roof Repairs:

Gorski spoke about how there was a roof leak over the weekend at Town Hall. After speaking with Chief Rick Darin, she contacted the same company they used over at Station 1. The gentleman will come out and provide an Assessment of the Town Hall Roof at no cost.

C. Ethics Ordinance:

Gorski updated the BOS about receiving an email from Shell & Meyer about the process to create an Ethics Ordinance. Annino noted concerns for the BOS to be writing the Code of Ethics since they are the group to be governed by it, suggesting to appoint a Committee to write the Code of Ethics. Gorski stated she took Clinton's Code of Ethics, and replaced it with Killingworth and sent it to the Town's Labor Attorney for his review. After they get through the

Charter, Attorney Tycz will draft an Ordinance to move it forward. Gorski mentioned that the Code of Ethics is what is holding up the Personnel Manual.

D. Water Pollution Update:

Gorski gave an update on PFAS - She forwarded the possible retainer from G&E to Town Counsel and there has been no response as of yet. Gorski also sent Annino and Young the design from GZA. Annino asked for clarification on GZA since they aren't water system designers, and also inquired why it is being sole-sourced. After further discussion, it was noted that GZA is on the State Bidders List more working as a General Contractor and Advisor type role position. Young inquired if they are advising other towns besides us and Gorski stated that they are working with the Town of Canton. Lastly, Gorski mentioned State Representative Christine Cohen is looking for ballpark figures for PFAS remediation and Gorski is relying on GZA to put this all together.

Motion #6 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to authorize First Selectman Gorski to sign the GZA Document File No. 05.P000418.22 dated March 14, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Gorski received a letter from DEEP that they will be notifying impacted residents of the April test results. Next steps are that DEEP has assigned the Town of Killingworth with implementing the ongoing monitoring and maintenance of the gas treatment system to ensure that the system has remained effective in removing PFAS from their drinking water. Annino and Young both addressed their concerns about holding the Town financially liable. Young stated that they don't have authority to assign it to the Town unless they do it through an Order. Further discussions took place about the process. Gorski stated specific comments should be sent to Carolyn Passaro. Gorski also noted that this will become an ongoing expense to the Town if the filtration system breaks or the PFAS gets back into the homeowners drinking water. They would have to change out the filtration system.

Regarding Salt, DEEP conducted their site visit to look at the contaminated areas and to discuss additional investigations including groundwater samplings and down granite of the current salt storage building. They recommended we contract with one of their State contractors to test the well here and down towards the salt shred to see if the salt is moving towards that area. Gorski will reach out to either Enssafe or GZA to do the testing.

Gorski will look into seeing if the Health Director can supervise the testing of water (used to do it this way.)

Public Comment: None.

Selectmen's Comments: None.

First Selectman's Comments:

- Recognized Animal Control Officers, Marian Smith and Madelena Howenstine who were recognized on behalf of the CT Municipal Animal Control Officers Association (CMACOA) for their hard work and dedication to their profession.
- All the Fire Extinguishers have been inspected and are on an ongoing contract.
- Had two residents this past week inquire about a noise ordinance in Town. The Town has one regarding decimal levels but they don't have one that restricts noise during night time or day time hours.
- We had a very good opioid prevention intervention meeting on Friday. It was a very good dialog and more meetings need to be scheduled to discuss next steps primarily with HK School Leaders. Journey Home Recovery was very good about making sure to ask specific questions, particularly about what the Schools would allow in terms of prevention. Young gave some heartfelt comments which were very well received.
- She had the Distinct Honor of throwing out the First Pitch at the HK Youth League. There were 300 Boys and Girls at Jail Hill waiting for their names to be announced, all dressed in their uniforms, very excited. Gorski noted the turnout was approximately 1200 people between kids, parents and grandparents.

Adjournment: First Selectman Gorski *Moved* to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk