

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN HALL ROSE ROOM  
JANUARY 24, 2018  
MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Christine Goupil: Selectmen Carol Walter (arrived at 7:04 PM), Phillip Sengle, Tim Guerra and Jack Scherban

Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Goupil updated the board on the bond sale that took place today as well as our bond rating. S&P has assigned a AA+ rating which is a notch higher than our current Moody's rating. They have also rated the short-term notes a SP1+, which is their highest short-term rating. A copy of the press release will be attached to the minutes.

### **VISITORS**

No visitors wished to speak at this time.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES –JANUARY 17, 2018**

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Guerra to approve the minutes from January 17, 2018. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Scherban to approve the resignation of Bob Herlihy from the Tree Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Scherban to add the appointment of Hugh Birdsall to the Tree Committee. The motion was unanimously approved. Sengle made a motion, seconded by Scherban to appoint Hugh Birdsall (G) to the Tree Committee for a term until June 30, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved.

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle to appoint Tim Guerra to the Water Pollution Board of Appeals. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention from Walter.

### **VALLEY SHORE EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS AGREEMENT**

The Valley Shore Emergency Communications is a Regional PSAP providing full service to 11 member towns, providing them with E911 answering, Fire and EMS Dispatching, EMD Services, MED Patching to Middlesex Hospital and its satellites as well as patching into the Hospitals of New Haven for all units traveling in from the East. The first two years of this service was provided to the town at no cost. The yearly cost of \$5,219 is included in the Communication Budget. Sengle made a motion, seconded by Walter to approve the Valley Shore Emergency Communications Memorandum of Understanding and allow the First Selectman to sign the agreement on behalf of the town. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **CDM SMITH AMENDMENT 9A LAGOON CLOSURE PLAN**

Matt Kennedy, Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Commission, reviewed the amendment with the board. In 2014, the town was awarded a settlement from Unilever with a portion of those funds to pay for the closing of the lagoons. This agreement will allow the town to hire CDM Smith for ongoing

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professional support for the Lagoon Closure Plan. Sengle made a motion, seconded by Guerra to approve CDM Smith Amendment No. 9A and authorize the First Selectman to sign the agreement on behalf of the town. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention from Walter.

**BUDGET REPORTS**

Economic Development Commission – John Allen

- The commission has submitted a total budget request of \$78,950. This budget includes \$63,950 to hire the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) as a consultant, \$5,000 for part time salaries, \$9,000 for advertising and \$1,000 for dues and fees.

Fire Department – Chief Brian Manware and Deputy Chief Mike Neff

- The budget remained flat except for a total increase of \$6,030 in salaries and wireless devices.
- The department put a place holder of \$5,000 for special town events but that was taken out of the budget by the First Selectman. There will be a separate line item in the budget for that.
- The total budget request is \$334,090

Fire Marshal – Jeff Heser

- Jeff Heser submitted a budget request increasing the Fire Marshal position salary to full time from \$43,000 to \$80,000 per year. The position is currently a stipend position. Heser requested increasing the Deputy Fire Marshall salary from \$7,000 to \$12,000 per year.
- The repairs and maintenance line item was moved to Public Works.
- The total budget request was \$100,700. The First Selectman recommended a total budget of \$58,700. All salary increase requests will be addressed at a later time.

Communications Budget – Chief DeMaio and Peter Niles

- Niles read an opening statement on behalf of the Police Commission
- The overtime budget request of \$85,000 was based on a three year average
- The total salary includes 6 full time and 2-4 part time dispatchers
- The Valley Shore Emergency Communications cost is included in with the service contracts line item
- The total budget request is \$599,631 which represents a decrease of \$10,747 from last year.

Police Budget – Chief DeMaio and Peter Niles

- The department currently has 6 newly leased vehicles and 3 more leased vehicles are in this year's capital budget.
- The salary's line item request includes restructuring the department with 2 Division Commanders, 5 Sergeants and 5 Corporal positions.
- The overtime budget of \$267,076 is based on a three year average.
- Building Supplies line item was moved to Public Works

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- The total police budget request is \$2,690,780 which reflects an overall increase of \$31,125 or 1.17 percent

Animal Control – Chief DeMaio and Peter Niles

- Part time salaries request was decreased from \$8,260 to \$6,939. This includes the hiring of an additional part time Animal Control Officer.
- The overtime budget was decreased from \$2,680 to \$1,500
- Total budget request is \$69,333 which reflects an overall decrease of \$2,501.

Library – Maribeth Breen

- The library requested a total budget of \$754,969. The First Selectman kept their budget flat and reduced it to \$746,000. Last year their budget was original approved at \$751,000 but was reduced to \$746,000 after the town budget failed at referendum. Breen asked for their budget to be restored to \$751,000.

Capital Budget – Miner Vincent

- The Capital Expenditure Committee approved a total town budget of \$1,330,500. They also approved other larger projects that should be funded through another funding source and not the operational budget.
- Total capital budget request of \$1,330,500 which reflects a total increase of \$554,580.

**SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

Reported by Walter

- Walter reported on this week's WPCC meeting. The commission would like to bring the Rocky Ledge Water Main Project back up for consideration.

Reported by Guerra

- Guerra referenced an article from Strong Towns on town budgets. Guerra talked about putting a budget forward that best represents what the town needs as opposed to what is wanted.

Reported by Scherban

- State budget update

**ADJOURN**

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino

Administrative Assistant

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**TOWN OF CLINTON, CONNECTICUT  
PRESS RELEASE**

January 24, 2018

On Wednesday, January 24, 2018 the Town of Clinton sold \$2,800,000 in long-term bonds and \$2,000,000 in short-term bond anticipation notes through a competitive bid process. The bonds were purchased by Roosevelt & Cross, Inc. at an effective interest rate of 3.03%. The Town received three bids on the bonds, with interest rates ranging from 3.03% to 3.27%.

The notes were purchased by Eastern Bank at an effective rate of 1.588%. The Town received 6 bids on its short-term notes with rates ranging from 1.588% to 1.77%.

According to town officials, Clinton's debt is attractive to municipal bond investors because of the Town's superior bond rating and strong reputation in the market.

In connection with the sale, S&P Global Ratings recently applied an "AA+" bond rating, the second highest rating available. In its report, S&P described "the town's strong budgetary performance and the broad and diverse local and regional economies" as providing support for the rating.

Proceeds of the \$2.8 million bonds will be used to finance various Town projects which include Fire Department Breathing Apparatus, Road Projects, Police Department HVAC and Bulkhead Improvements and the \$2.0 million notes will be used to finance the Town's high school project.

The Town was assisted in the sale by Independent Bond & Investment Consultants of Madison as municipal advisor and Pullman & Comley of Hartford as bond counsel.