

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL ROSE ROOM
SEPTEMBER 11, 2019
MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Christine Goupil, Selectmen Jack Scherban, Tim Guerra, Carol Walter and Phillip Sengle

Everyone stood for the pledge of allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

Everyone stood for a moment of silence to recognize the events from 9/11.

VISITORS

No visitors wished to speak at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 04, 2019

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Guerra to approve the minutes from August 28, 2019. The motion was unanimously approved one abstention from Walter.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

There were no new resignations and appointments at this time.

ARTS COUNCIL

Steve Van Ness with Impact Arts Events Group and who also serves as president of the Arts Council introduced the Sculpture Mile Program to the board. The Sculpture Mile Program is currently in Madison and New London. Van Ness is asking for support from the board to allow the sculptures to run along Main Street throughout the Arts District which runs from Post Office Square to the Town Green. The sculptures would be placed at Town Hall (front lawn and rear lawn), Annex Building, Chamber Building (front lawn), Pierson School and the Police Station as well as other private properties. This would require a 2-year commitment from the town and contract review from the town attorney. Walter made a motion, seconded by Scherban to endorse the Sculpture Mile Project in the Arts District with a 2-year commitment. The motion was unanimously approved.

HUMAN SERVICES – GRANT ACCEPTANCE

The Department of Human Services was recently awarded the Strategic Prevention Framework - Partnerships for Success grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The total award is \$281,389 each year for five years. The Town of Clinton was one of only 4 grants awarded within Connecticut, and the only municipality to receive funding in our state. The purpose of this grant program is to prevent the onset and reduce the progression of substance abuse and its related problems while strengthening prevention capacity and infrastructure at the community level. The program is intended to address one of the nation's top substance abuse prevention priorities - underage drinking among persons aged 9 to 20. The board thanked David Melillo and Kelley Edwards and recognized Kelley for all of her hard work and dedication with the current grant and PIC grant.

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Scherban made a motion, seconded by Walter to accept the Strategic Prevention Framework Partnerships for Success grant in the amount of \$286,389 each year for 5 years. The motion was unanimously approved. This grant will require Board of Finance and Town Meeting approval.

Sengle made a motion, seconded by Scherban to add agenda item #9A – Technology Department Line Item Transfer. The motion was unanimously approved.

ACCEPT DONATION OF POLICE CANINE VEHICLE

Chief DeMaio reported that a local donor has generously donated a fully equipped 2018 Ford Police Interceptor for the K9 unit. The department will be disposing of the current K9 vehicle which is a 2013 Dodge Charger. The First Selectman recommended looking at the state bid list. The Dodge Charger cannot be repurposed due to mechanical problems. Chief DeMaio is asking for the board to allow the department to pay \$1.00 for the vehicle from the police budget and allow them to dispose of the current K9 vehicle. Scherban made a motion, seconded by Walter to accept the 2018 Ford Interceptor for the K9 unit and authorize the expenditure of \$1.00 from the existing Police Department budget. The motion was unanimously approved. Walter made a motion, seconded by Scherban to authorize the disposal of the 2013 Dodge Charger. The motion was unanimously approved.

FIXED TAX ASSESSMENT POLICY

The draft policy was reviewed by Attorney John Bennet, Attorney Mary Jo Andrews, Lisa Bibbiani, Tax Collector and Melanie Yanus, previous Tax Collector. All of their language changes have been incorporated into the policy. John Allen and Hank Teskey from the Economic Development Commission commented on the policy. The policy was reviewed and approved by the commission at their meeting held last night. Below are some of the comments and changes made to the draft policy.

- Allen, Teskey and Goupil discussed changing the title of the policy to the “Tax Incentive Policy”.
- Under Qualified Real Property Projects – delete the first line in the last paragraph because it is also stated under #7.
- Verify the maximum years eligible on the chart for Personal Property Projects for \$25,000 or more.
- The board discussed changing the approval from the Board of Selectmen to the Town Governing Body.
- Insert the following language under “Approval Process” after the second sentence.
The applicant, business or any affiliates of the applicant must not be delinquent in any tax (real, personal or motor vehicle) or charges (fees, etc.) due to the Town. Applicant cannot owe back taxes on subject property or any other property within the Town in which the applicant has a legal or equitable interest, all of which interest shall be disclosed in any application.

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Sengle to approve the Tax Incentive Policy with changes and authorize Goupil to change the name of the policy and review the chart for compliance after consulting with the town attorneys. The motion was unanimously approved.

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TRAVEL & OTHER EXPENSE POLICY

The draft policy was reviewed by the board. The policy will be discussed at next week's Department Heads meeting. The board will wait for comments from Department Heads before approving the policy.

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT LINE ITEM TRANSFER

Walter made a motion, seconded by Scherban to approve the Technology Department line item transfer request for 2019/20 to decrease \$2,000 from repairs & maintenance and increase professional services by \$2,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

TOWN MANAGER

Sengle provided an update to the board.

- SGR reported receiving a total of 25 applications for the position.
- Doug Thomas with SGR sent out a draft interview schedule for December.
- The committee has a meeting scheduled for October 3rd with Doug Thomas to review the applications. All job applications need to be submitted to SGR by September 23rd.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Guerra updated everyone on this week's Planning & Zoning meeting as well as last night's Economic Development Commission meeting.

Scherban updated the board on this week's Police Commission meeting.

Reported by Goupil

- The CT River Area Health District will be offering flu shots on October 2nd from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm at the Town Hall Rose Room.
- A Flu Clinic will be held October 31st from 1 -2 pm at the Annex Community Room.
- RT 81 Corridor Study final presentation is scheduled to take place at the library on September 26th at 7pm.
- Valley Shore Community Television has an open house on September 19th from 5-7pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PENDING LITIGATION & PERSONNEL

Sengle made a motion, seconded by Walter to go into executive session at 8:30 pm to discuss pending litigation and personnel. The motion was unanimously approved. Walter left the executive session at 8:45 pm. The board came out of executive at 9:15 pm. No action was taken by the board.

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ADJOURN

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino