

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – January 12, 2021, MEETING MINUTES:

Note: This is a virtual meeting and the recording of the meeting is available at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/cu5GBB-5a1Q_FuiaYEOo5JJ3tb-iYslvvMhM9Th_RaGdixW5HmgA8zJWQyVNqsx5.Smays4DzEsidZixog

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments were made.

MOTION: On a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously, the minutes of the December 8, 2020, regular meeting were approved, with a correction on page 2 to correct the date for the payments due January 1, 2021, regarding the tax extension (2nd line from the bottom showed 2020).

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the budget actuals through December 31, 2020, and saw no anomalies in the various line items. The actuals reflect 50% of the year and are at a 53% expenditure rate, which includes some payments made for the full year. Computer expenses, largely due to the pandemic adjustments, and legal expenses still are greater than expected, but within reasonable limits. Tax collections are still on target, but the month of January will be critical as many people pay their second payment during January and there has been an extension granted per the State guidelines.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the following Tax Refunds:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|--------|
| John and Bernadette Warren | \$ 687.84 | Refund |
| Stephen or Loretta Budny | \$ 7.68 | Credit |
| Jeffrey & Jennifer Lajoie | \$ 351.71 | Refund |

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the preliminary road plan and capital plan, attached. The capital plan has been reviewed with the Capital Committee, with action items assigned to prepare a highway department truck replacement plan and to obtain a price on replacing the canvas roof on the salt barn at the highway garage with a wooden roof. This would eliminate the need to periodically replace the canvas. The next step in the process is a review of both documents by the Board of Finance, followed by approval by both the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance, but that won't happen until closer to the time frame for budget approval.

MOTION: On a motion by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously, the Selectmen re-appointed Peter Bakker, Jr. to the RRDD #1 Board of Directors for a 4-year term.

MOTION: On a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously, the Selectmen re-appointed Debbie Brydon to the Farmington Valley Health District Board of Directors for a 4-year term.

MOTION: On a motion by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously, the Selectmen appointed Tyler O'Neil as an Open Burning Official, based upon his service in the Riverton Fire Department and his having completed all of the required State coursework to become certified.

DISCUSSION: It was noted that the Town has seen an increase of over 70 COVID cases since October 20, but fortunately, the elementary school and Town staff have not been affected. Regional 7 returned to hybrid learning on January 11, based on their assessment of the situation. Don Stein told the other Selectmen that he has been discussing the vaccination plans with the Farmington Valley Health District Director. The State announced on January 14th that Phase 1b is now open to those over 75. That category also includes individuals aged 65-74, essential front line workers and those under 65 with certain co-morbidities. It is not yet clear when those other subcategories within 1b may apply to schedule their vaccinations. The Town Hall staff and the Long Term Recovery Committee are working to make sure residents over 75 are able to access the State system and to get registered for an appointment.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the sewer connection between the Mallory Brook Plaza and Winsted was almost complete. There are a few parts still required for the final hook-up, but they are expected to arrive shortly, which will allow the final connection to be made. The renovations to the old Peebles and laser tag stores are proceeding to house an Ollie's store, with the hope that the new tenant will be in place by March 2021.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Selectmen discussed a request from the Housatonic Valley Coalition Against Substance Abuse for funding of \$0.15 per capita to assist in their mission. Don Stein took the action to determine if that was an appropriate request from this agency, since they primarily service the far northwest corner of the State and don't typically come to Barkhamsted. He will report back at the next meeting.

The Selectmen also discussed a proposal by Constellation Energy/Power Options to extend our electrical purchasing agreement to take advantage of the currently low rates. There was consensus that we should take advantage of this option since the expectation is that rates will be rising in the future.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be the regular meeting on January 26, 2021 at 7:00PM.

| | Prior Years | 19/20 | 20/21 | 21/22 | 22/23 | 23/24 | 24/25 | 25/26 | 26/27 |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Capital Reserve -Surplus | 18,644 | 0 | 0 | | | | | | |
| Capital Reserve Project Appropriation | | 374,600 | 0 | 387,000 | 273,245 | 249,515 | 316,000 | 175,000 | 125,000 |
| Returned to Reserve Fund | | | 123,768 | | | | | | |
| Additional Capital Contribution | | | | | | | | | |
| CAPITAL ITEMS | | | | | | | | | |
| Board of Selectman | | | | | | | | | |
| Revaluation | 2,700 | | | | | | 30,000 | | |
| Plan of Conservation & Development | | | | | | | | | 30,000 |
| Town Hall File Server/Computers/Assessors Software | | 30,000 | | | | | 15,000 | | |
| Tax Sale | 13,925 | | | | | | | | |
| Town Hall Ramps and Sidewalks | | 19,000 | | | | | | | |
| Town Hall and School Parking Lot | | | | | 50,000 | 100,000 | 50,000 | | |
| Land Use Upgrades | 2,019 | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 1997 Loader | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 1997 Backhoe | | 65,000 | | | | | | | |
| Excavator Rotating Grapple | | | | | | | | | |
| Mini-excavator | | 65,000 | | | | | | | |
| Mowing Equipment | | | | 35,000 | | | | | |
| Salt Shed Tent Replacement | | | | 20,000 | | | | 20,000 | |
| Senior Center Parking Lot | | | | | 40,000 | | | | |
| Senior Center Boiler/HVAC | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 2001 International | | | | 175,000 | | | | | |
| Refurb 2001 International | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 2015 Foreman's truck (Rich) | | | | | | | 50,000 | | |
| Replace 2000 International | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 1997 International | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 2002 International | | | | | | | | | |
| Replace 2006 & 2007 International | | | | | | | | | |
| Truck Fund | | | | | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 | 75,000 |
| Subtotal | 18,644 | 179,000 | 0 | 230,000 | 165,000 | 175,000 | 220,000 | 95,000 | 105,000 |
| Board of Education | | | | | | | | | |
| Flooring* | | | | | 17,245 | 14,515 | | | |
| Technology Upgrades (SMART Technology/touchscreens) | | | | 32,000 | | | | | |
| School Software | | | | 35,000 | | | | | |
| Bathroom Upgrades | | | | | | | | | |
| Main and Fire Door Replacement | | | | | | | | | |
| Concrete Sidewalks and curbing | | 46,000 | | | | | | | |
| Floor scrubber | | | | | | | | | |
| Freezer/Cooler | | | | | 16,000 | | 16,000 | | |
| Card Access | | | | | | 14,000 | | | |
| School Security | | 40,000 | | | | | | | |
| Fire Panel | | | | | 10,000 | | | | |
| Windows | | | | | | | | | |
| Elevator | | | | 90,000 | | | | | |
| Classroom lighting | | | | | | | 80,000 | | |
| Septic Holding Tank Replacement | | | | | 25,000 | | | | |
| HVAC System Components | | | | | 40,000 | | | | |
| Water tank | | | | | | 15,000 | | | |
| Oil Tank Replacement | | 109,600 | | | | | | | |
| Parking Lot repaving | | | | | | | | 80,000 | |
| Vent Cleaning | | | | | | | | | 20,000 |
| Boiler Circulator/Booster Pumps (1990) | | | | | | 31,000 | | | |
| Subtotal | 0 | 195,600 | 0 | 157,000 | 108,245 | 74,515 | 96,000 | 80,000 | 20,000 |
| Total Annual Capital | 18,644 | 374,600 | 0 | 387,000 | 273,245 | 249,515 | 316,000 | 175,000 | 125,000 |
| Capital Reserve Surplus - Balance | 0 | 0 | 123,768 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

