

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – APRIL 6, 2022**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TOWN HALL**

Meeting called to order at 5:33PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky. Also present was Terri Collins.

**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 February 22, 2022, Special Meeting were approved with one correction. In the middle of the second page, the paragraph regarding capital budget approval for revaluation should read:

“The first year of hiring a firm to conduct the revaluation of property values by the Assessor. This is estimated to be a total of \$70,000 or \$35,000 per year for each of the coming fiscal years.”

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

Oak Brook Landing, LLC	\$ 781.23	Refund
Tom Sullivan	\$ 63.28	Refund
Christopher Stolarczyk	\$ 253.25	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 167.44	Refund
Corrine Jasmin	\$ 80.45	Refund

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed the status of the current year’s General Government budget and the Tax Collections through March 31, 2022. The total collections are \$36,071 above the amount budgeted. The expectation is that the Current Year taxes will meet the budget. That will likely provide a surplus of \$50,000-\$75,000 in total for the fiscal year.

The expenditures for the General Government budget are at 76.9%, and we are at the 75% mark for the fiscal year. Therefore, the budget is on track based on many of our expenses having been paid in full at the beginning of the year. The employee salaries and benefits and the Highway Department expenditures are on track and the only large expense outstanding is the Resident State Trooper.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen discussed the material that was going to be reviewed at the Annual Budget Hearing that was being held following the BOS meeting. That included ARPA funding, capital projects, the General Government budget, and the education and RRDD #1 budgets. They agreed that the proposal for UV-C ventilation treatment of the ventilation air in Town Hall, the Senior Center and the Highway Garage, as previously approved for the use of ARPA funds, needed more work to assure that there was proper purity of the air, while meeting the amount budgeted. They also noted that the other budgets had not changed since the prior review by the Board of Finance with one exception as noted in the next paragraph.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously, the Selectmen deleted the Recreation Department line item (\$2,000) that had previously been approved as part of the budget. This item was removed based on the amount of money in the Recreation fund that could be used to fund programs or to purchase supplies for programs, until the revenue from these programs was realized.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to authorize Don Stein to sign the C\_PACE Partial Release Agreement. This agreement/contract modification releases the Town from any obligation to collect funds from businesses that take advantage of this program to reduce energy costs for their business. This is a change of policy as the program initially required the towns who enrolled in the program to collect the benefit assessment repayments. Those collections will now be performed by the Green Bank.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed the request from a resident to add a place on the town website for residents to provide feedback to the town and its employees. Part of this request was that the feedback could be anonymous by the individual providing that feedback. The Selectmen were not in favor of this request based on the availability on the website of phone numbers and email contact info for all town employees. The use by the Town of Facebook also allows for providing requests or complaints. They did not feel that anonymity was appropriate for the use of the website, and it is not allowed by Facebook.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed with Terri Collins the possibility of changing the Town Clerk and Tax Collector to appointed rather than elected positions. This has been discussed several times in the past and it was decided to table this idea, since there is currently no overwhelming reason for changing the current positions. To-date, the Selectmen have felt that the idea has some merit, but that there needs to be more compelling arguments for changing the long-standing practice.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to authorize Don Stein to sign the Municipal Grants-In-Aid Certification for

FY 2022. As has been the past practice, the Town will use these funds for road improvements, as is the primary purpose for the grant. If there was a desire to use it for another purpose, a waiver request would be required.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be the Regular Meeting of April 26.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman