

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – APRIL 24, 2023
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
BARKHAMSTED TOWN HALL

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was made

MOTION: Ray Pech made a motion, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting held March 28, 2023, with a correction in the last paragraph to change 10,000' to 1,000'.

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

Thomas Hyde	\$ 7.00	Refund
Nicole Lareau	\$ 6.07	Refund
Timothy Morris	\$ 116.36	Refund
Nissan Infinti LT LLC	\$ 140.46	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 128.76	Refund
Mark Rosof	\$ 268.15	Refund

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the budget actuals through March 31, 2023 and noted that the General Government budget appears to be on-track for the current fiscal year. Revenues will likely provide a modest surplus, although not as large as in prior years as the Property Tax revenues will be somewhat less due to the settled tax appeals, which resulted in the plaintiffs receiving tax credits. The Highway Department line items have not yet received funds from the Town Aid Road and other State grants, but those funds will be transferred into that department before the end of the fiscal year. Also, as usual, the Resident State Trooper will not be billed by the State until June and will be paid in full at that time.

Several capital projects will be closed out at the Annual Budget meeting on, resulting in a total of \$5,815 being returned to the Capital fund. The ARPA funds still show \$260, 318 that is unallocated and a balance to be paid of \$149,900 for the projects that have been previously approved. There are some new requests for funding, which will be considered at an upcoming committee meeting.

MOTION: Nick Lukiwsky made a motion, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the Warning for the Annual Town Meeting and the Warning for the Annual Budget Meeting, both of which are attached. These meetings will be held at the Barkhamsted School on May 2 at 7:00PM.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen briefly discussed signage at the school and town hall to notify the public that these are gun-free zones per State and Federal statutes. There is one on the front door of the school, but none at the back door and none at the town hall. Once the First Selectman has identified appropriate signage, he will bring to the Selectmen and the School Superintendent for their approval.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein provided the other Selectmen with copies of a quote from Environmental Systems Corporation the installation of two Type 2 electric vehicle charging stations to be installed at town hall. The next cost after Eversource rebates is \$12,462 and there is the opportunity to receive on-going revenue by charging a surcharge for the use of the chargers. This proposal will be brought to the ARPA committee as a first step in determining whether the town is interested in pursuing chargers at town hall.

CORRESPONDENCE: The CT Municipal Animal Control Officers Association sent a letter to the town and to Les Archer (ACO) and Jennifer Kershaw (Ass't ACO) acknowledging their contribution and professionalism, and to thank them for all they do.

MOTION: Nick Lukiwsky made a motion, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to authorize the Town Clerk, Holly Krouse, to apply for and administer the Historical Preservation Grant for FY 23/24. This grant is for \$6,000, and with additional funds from another historical grant, will be used for map filing cabinets for the Building office to improve their ease of access to their maps.

DISCUSSION: Nick Lukiwsky, on behalf of the Barkhamsted Youth Baseball League presented a request for \$15,000 to cut 2 new baseball/softball fields on the school playground, as the current fields are not easily playable. This request will be submitted to the ARPA committee for consideration, along with the other new requests.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen discussed the possibility of providing a small amount of ARPA funds to the Barkhamsted Housing Trust Inc. to help them cover operating expenses while the process of going out to bid, defining the cost of the project and then obtaining funding (grants/loans), took place. This request will also be presented to the committee for consideration.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen discussed the status of the Frontier fiber optic build out in town, which currently will cover about 80-85% of the homes at Frontier's expense. Initially, the company had said they would cover 100% of the homes, but is now backing off of that commitment. Don Stein will be pursuing this issue with Frontier management and will report back to the Selectmen when he has more information.

MOTION: Ray Pech made a motion, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the union contract which had been negotiated with the union by the First Selectmen. That contract will be made publicly available after it is executed, and includes cost of living raises, the option for comp time in place of paid overtime, and additional stipends for qualifications such as being a first responder, CDL Class A license or other special skills.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

W A R N I N G

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TOWN OF BARKHAMSTED TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023 7:00 PM

The legal voters of the Town of Barkhamsted and those entitled to vote at Town Meetings within said Town are hereby warned and notified that on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, at 7:00 PM, the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Barkhamsted will be held at the Barkhamsted Elementary School at 65 Ripley Hill Road, for the purpose of transacting business as follows:

1. To receive and act upon the report of the Board of Selectmen, Treasurer, Board of Education, and to hear and act on any other reports made at said meeting;
2. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement or agreements with the State of Connecticut, through the Department of Transportation Commissioner, thereof, as they deem necessary relative to Town Aid and Dirt Road Appropriation, so called;
3. To authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement or agreements with the State of Connecticut, through the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, thereof, as they deem necessary relative to Local Capital Improvement Program (LoCIP), so called, and subject to the LoCIP capital improvement plan as approved by the Board of Selectmen;
4. To authorize the Board of Selectmen for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 to borrow money, if necessary, with the concurrence of the Board of Finance in anticipation of taxes from time to time to pay current expenses of said Town and its obligations and to execute and deliver the Town's obligations for the same;
5. To consider and act upon a proposal to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for and expend any federal and or state grants for and by the Town;

Dated at Barkhamsted, Connecticut, this 24th day of April 2023.

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

Raymond P. Pech
Selectman

Nicholas A. Lukiwsky
Selectman

WARNING

**ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
TOWN OF BARKHAMSTED
TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

The legal voters of the Town of Barkhamsted and those entitled to vote at Town Meetings in said Town are hereby warned and notified that the Annual Budget Meeting of said Town will be held in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes and Ordinances of the Town of Barkhamsted on Tuesday, May 2, 2023, immediately following the Annual Town Meeting at 7:00 PM at the Barkhamsted Elementary School, 65 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, in said Town, for the transaction of business as follows:

- To consider and act on a report from the Board of Finance, including its estimates and expenditures and to adopt a budget for the Town of Barkhamsted for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024
- To consider and act on returning funds, totaling \$ 19,867.39, to the Capital Reserve Fund from the following projects:
 - Mowing Equipment \$ 2,063.39
 - Replace 2001 International \$12,895.50
 - BES Software \$ 4,908.50
- To consider and act on a transfer of \$13,961.00 to Salt Shed Tent Replacement to close out said project.
- To consider and act on a transfer of \$226,000 from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Fund
- To allocate \$226,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for the following projects:
 - Town Projects
 - Revaluation \$ 39,000
 - Senior Center Flooring \$ 12,000
 - Town Hall Painting \$ 10,000
 - Replace 2005 Roadside Mower \$165,000

Dated at Barkhamsted, Connecticut this 24th day of April 2023.

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

Nicholas A. Lukiwsky
Selectman

Raymond P. Pech
Selectman