

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – May 23, 2023**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**BARKHAMSTED TOWN HALL**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky. Also present were Linda Pulford and Judy Doyle.

**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 April 24, 2023.

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

Brook View Developers, LLC	\$ 841.42	Refund
William or Melissa Stajos	\$ 39.71	Refund
100 New Hartford Road, LLC	\$ 365.35	Credit

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein and the Selectmen reviewed the current budget, tax collections, capital expenditures and ARPA expenditures. Once Town Aid Road and other grants are applied to the Highway Expenses, the General Government budget will provide a slight surplus. The Capital expenditures are also on track and it is expected that the tax collections will produce a surplus of about \$75,000 for the fiscal year. Relative to Capital, four of the projects were closed out at the Annual Town meeting and the funds were returned to the fund (Mowing equipment, Salt Shed tent replacement, Replace 2001 International, and the School software).

Don Stein presented the Road Plan for FY '24, which shows Briarwood as the major repaving project and the normal chip sealing and crack sealing projects. There also needs to be funds reserved for the cost share on the Riverbank Restoration and Water Line extension projects, as well as a reserve set aside for next winter. The combination of Town funds and State grants are expected to be sufficient to cover all of these projects and there is still ARPA funds available to supplement town funds for tree removal, which is extensive.

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

- T-ball field improvements – Barkhamsted Youth Baseball (\$15K),
- Economic Development Consultant - Ted Shafer (\$15K),
- Barkhamsted Housing Trust, Inc. (\$5K),
- School capital – flooring in the hall and office, boiler (\$85K)

The Selectmen tabled the 5<sup>th</sup> project for additional funds for the F-550 town truck (\$40K) until there was greater clarity as to how much will finally be necessary.

The Selectmen also reviewed the overall ARPA list of projects and expenditures. Overall, before these authorizations were approved, \$806,980 out of a total of \$1,067,098 had been authorized and a total of \$682, 815 has been spent.

**DISCUSSION:** Linda Pulford and Judy Doyle presented a plan for the Town to attain Bronze level certification for the Sustainable CT program. This initiative has been in place through the CT Conference of Municipalities for several years and is now a 501(c)3 non-profit. The organization provides grants and other incentives to communities as they attain various levels of achievement. The Town needs to form a Sustainability Team, which will focus on completing actions in 13 categories, including steps to improve the environment, land stewardship, help local businesses, improve the use of renewable energy, optimize health and wellness and improve housing opportunities, plus other areas. Sub-actions must be completed in 12 of the 13 categories, plus the town must accumulate 200 points in order to obtain a bronze certification. These categories are being covered by either Judy or Linda and specific sub-tasks are either going to be written up for submittal or they will be performed and then submitted.

**Motion:** On a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously, the Barkhamsted Sustainability Team was formed, with Linda Pulford and Judy Doyle as co-chairs and with Ted Shafer and Ray Pech as members

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein reported that Frontier has backed off on their pledge to provide fiber optics to 100% of the residents, and are currently unsure of when they will do the underground neighborhoods. He is working to find the right contact at Frontier to see if there is anything that can be done to rectify this situation. However, the majority of the town has received the new cable and residents in those areas are starting to be connected to the new fiber network.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein said that he has not had an opportunity to select signs for the gun-free zone. He provided the EMS reports and Nick Lukiwsky requested that the Resident State Trooper make sure he reviews cases, like car break-ins, that are covered by other Troopers when he is not on duty.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman