

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – November 20, 2023**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TOWN HALL**

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM. 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 October 16, 2023 Special Meeting.

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

ACAR Leasing, LTD	\$ 537.57	Refund
JP Morgan Chase Bank NA	\$ 603.24	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 527.21	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 234.29	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 692.05	Refund
Toyota Lease Trust	\$ 376.43	Refund

**MOTION:** Nick Lukiwsky made a motion, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to appoint Ryan Colleoni to the Conservation Commission for a term through 12/31/2023. Don Stein also swore him into that position at the meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed the General Government and capital expenditures and tax collections through 10/31/2023 for the current fiscal year (2023/2024) and noted that all line items were as expected. The tax collections are at 58.02% as compared to last year's total through October of 56.7%. That total is \$6,873,344 vs. the total budgeted of \$11,846,395. We are one-third of the way through the fiscal year and have expended 40% of the budget (\$962,170 vs. the budget of \$2,407,753). The line items are basically as expected with some of them being on-going expenses and several being annual payments. The capital expenditures are also on-track with the exception of the roadside mower which came in \$4,500 over budget, but that will be balanced out by the Town Hall painting coming in significantly under budget (~\$12,000). In addition, the F-550, which was in last year's capital plan, will be covered by a combination of the \$50,000 from capital, \$50,000 from ARPA and the town will have to use additional Highway Department or capital funds to cover the final total of \$130,000, or \$30,000 over the total budget.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the other Selectmen about the status of the ARPA projects. To-date, \$1,055,076 has been approved and/or expended. That leaves \$12,222 available against the \$1,067,298 which was authorized. The projects that were discussed were the

- welding exhaust system (\$7,500)
- funds available to complete the road repairs and the F-550 truck (\$7,443 and \$17,877)
- EMR Class and supplies (\$4,351)
- Little League field and T-ball field improvements (\$19,357 and \$15,000 respectively)
- EDC consultant (\$11,451 for the rest of the year salary)
- Funding to the Fire District for a new truck (\$40,000)
- Soccer field turf improvements and purchase of adjustable basketball hoops (\$10,000)
- Senior Center Kitchen (project is roughly \$16,000 over the \$55,000 allocation), but is included in the budget above
- Water lines from Winsted (\$75,000). This project will need additional funding from other sources due to the growth in cost due to material increases and prevailing wage costs. The Selectmen opted to proceed on this project, which had previously been approved and will work to find the additional funding that is necessary.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the various STEAP and other grant projects were proceeding, and it is expected that they can be completed on schedule and, with the exception of the water line extension, should be within the budget. This includes the Riverbank Restoration (STEAP 2020), which must be completed by June 30, 2024, the Water Line Extension (STEAP 2022), which will be performed in the summer of 2024, the feasibility study of the pedestrian bridge across the Farmington River connecting Peoples and American Legion State Forests, and the newest STEAP grant for repaving Ratlum Mountain, Deer Run and Woodridge Drives. He also presented a preliminary financial plan for all of these projects plus the normal road projects, including all of the expected revenues from the Town budgets and State grants. This shows a shortfall, which will have to be worked as part of the upcoming budget process through the General Government and capital budgets.

**MOTION:** Ray Pech made a motion, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects with the Connecticut Department of Transportation. This contract is good for 10 years (last agreement was signed in 2013) and allows CONNDOT to work on State road construction projects within the Town.

**MOTION:** Ray Pech made a motion, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to make the following appointments to Town Boards and Commissions:

- Appoint Paul Hart as Town Historian
- Appoint Steve Blackburn as Alternate to Board of Assessment Appeals (term through 12/31/23 and from 1/1/24 through 12/31/27)
- Appoint Linda Ciborowski to Inland Wetlands Commission (term through 12/31/24 and from 1/1/25 through 12/31/26)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman

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Please note: the regular meeting scheduled for November 28<sup>th</sup> will be canceled. The Selectmen's next meeting will be December 12<sup>th</sup>.