

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – NOVEMBER 14, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 7:02 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: A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2019, Special Meeting.

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

\$ 385.59	VW Credit Leasing LTD	refund
\$ 9.99	Colleen English	refund

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the budget actuals through October 31, 2019. As in previous months, the budget expenditures are appropriate for this time of year, with the exception of the Town Counsel expenses. That line item is over the annual budget, but there are on-going legal actions that require attention, as described in prior minutes. At the appropriate time, there may be a request to the Board of Finance for a transfer from the General Fund into this line item. To-date, the State has still not released funds into the Town Aid Road and Local Capital Improvement Program account. That won't affect this year's road plan, but would have a big impact on funds available for the coming fiscal year.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that Trinity Health of New England has purchased Champion Ambulance and has taken over the Paramedic Intercept program in this area for the local ambulance services. He will be meeting with the regional manager for Trinity to gain a better understanding of the company and their services.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to authorize Don Stein to sign the contract with Permit Link Services to provide an on-line building permit service for the Town. This will allow residents and contractors to obtain permits on the internet and to also pay for them on-line. There will be a computer available in Town Hall for those who prefer to come in to fill out a permit and consult with the Building Office. The Selectmen will also review the costs for Building Permits to account for the \$10 fee for the on-line service and to also reflect the fact that the fee structure has not changed in several years. Permits will likely be paid through Invoice Cloud, which is the service used for on-line tax payments.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the other Selectmen that there was no further information on Stanclift Cove nor on additional appointments to the Inland Wetlands Commission nor the Conservation Commission.

MOTION: A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to authorize Don Stein to sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. This MOA allows the Town to be eligible for and participate in Federal grants for DEMHS for FY 2019 through Region 5 of DEMHS. This is an agreement that is signed every year for this purpose.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the other Selectmen that the State has required that we update the Town's Emergency Medical Services plan by the end of the year. He has met with the presidents of the two ambulances services that serve the Town, a representative of the State Department of Emergency Medical Services and Jim Shanley, the Town's Emergency Management Director to update the last plan that was submitted in February 2017. The updates are minimal and it is expected that we will be able to meet the State's submittal date.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the other Selectmen that discussions are continuing on the sewer line extension from Winsted to Mallory Brook Plaza and Lombard Ford. The Winsted Sewer Commission has approved routing the pipes up the hill through Mallory Brook Farm to the Regional 7 manhole that ultimately connects to the main on Central Avenue. Discussions are on-going with the Regional 7 Board of Education to attempt to satisfy all of their concerns and to gain their approval for this route. The major concern is that if this is not approved, the sewer extension down Old New Hartford Road will not be economically viable for the developer and his plans for re-developing the shopping center are likely to be affected.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen discussed the upcoming forum on November 21 to discuss high speed broadband options for the Town. This is intended to be informational for residents and to get feedback on what the residents feel is needed by the Town. The presenter is from the Council of Governments and has also been involved with Northwest ConneCT, a non-profit dedicated to improving broadband serviced throughout our region of the State.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein also told the Selectmen he had been approached by Evan Dobos of Civic Lift, which is a small website development company in Torrington, regarding the redesign and hosting of the Town website, which is now provided by CivicPlus. This would likely save the Town money on the website and may make it easier for Town Hall employees to update and post information. He will work with Evan to determine what makes sense and will then report back to the Selectmen.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein

First Selectman