

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – OCTOBER 22, 2019 MEETING MINUTES:**

Meeting called to order at 7:10 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 September 27, 2019, Special Meeting.

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

\$ 860.59	Toyota Lease Trust	refund
\$ 194.48	Nissan Infiniti LT	refund
\$ 241.06	Toyota Lease Trust	refund
\$ 81.41	Anthony Nanni	refund
\$ 6.85	Michael McKitis	refund
\$ 11.56	Norman or Annie Schaefer	refund
\$ 24.47	Karen or George Rannenber	refund

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen reviewed the budget actuals through September 30, 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. There is also still the concern about the Town Aid Road and Local Capital Improvement Program funds not being released to-date by the State, but hopefully that will be done in the near future. That won't affect this year's road plan, but would have a big impact on funds available for the coming fiscal year. There was good news relative to the Resident State Trooper budget, as the State notified the Town that as a result of the union contract being ratified, the cost to the Town for the RST would be about \$30,000 lower than was planned during the budget season. The higher figure was the result of a letter received in January for the '19/'20 fiscal year.

**DISCUSSION:** Nick Lukiwsky informed the other Selectmen that Campion Ambulance was doing a very poor job in Waterbury. There have been extreme delays in dispatch, the ambulances have only 1 instead of 2 attendants and the training of the employees is lacking. Since Campion is the paramedic intercept for Barkhamsted and surrounding towns, he was wondering if their service was satisfactory in this region. Don Stein took an action to check with the State Police, Charlotte Hungerford Hospital, and Litchfield County Dispatch to find out if we are getting appropriate coverage and response times

from Campion. There are also rumors that Campion is being bought by another ambulance service.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to appoint Debbie Brydon to a 2-year term as the town's Tree Warden. She has been serving in that position and has taken all of the necessary courses to be fully-qualified and certified to serve.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein told the Selectmen that EdAdvance was holding a "Lights on after School" open house on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, and that if they were interested in seeing the after-school program, they were invited to attend.

He also said that the PTO had a fundraiser food truck festival and "Touch a Truck" family day on November 2 for those who were interested.

Also in the planning stage is an event in March being put together by the Economic Development Commission to try to let residents know of volunteer opportunities in Town for boards and commissions, as well as non-profit groups (e.g., like the Lions Club and Womens Club).

A forum is scheduled on November 21<sup>st</sup> to present broadband options to residents. The presentation will be made by Jocelyn Ayer of the Northwest Hills Council of Governments, which has been working with Northwest ConneCT, which is an initiative to bring high speed, megabit broadband service to the region. Many of the towns are underserved with slow-to-no internet, and this initiative could provide an economic boost to the region and bring younger folks back here. There will be a flyer distributed and more publicity given to this presentation in an effort to determine the Town's interest in moving forward.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to appoint Dawn Anstett to a position on the Conservation Commission through December 31, 2020.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein provided the Selectmen with a draft contract with PermitLink and also told them that instead of using Point and Pay for the payment service, the Town would be going with Invoice Cloud, who currently does the same for the on-line tax collection payments. The Selectmen had a concern with one of the paragraphs in the contract regarding payments to retrieve data if the contract were to be terminated. Don Stein agreed to get clarification on this issue and it will be on the agenda at the next Selectmen's meeting for action.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Nick Lukiwsky, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve a 36-month agreement with Power Options/Constellation Energy for electrical purchasing for the Town's accounts. This contract provides a fixed price of \$0.0832 for the duration of the agreement and is not subject to changes in the Eversource or market rates.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that Owen Quinn, Executive Director of the United Way of Northwest CT will be coordinating with the area towns to make the 2020 Census as smooth as possible. More information will be made available as the plans move forward.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to add the following items to the agenda: 1) Interlocal Road Maintenance Agreement between Barkhamsted and Winchester, and 2) a request from the Northwest Hills Prevention Connection.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the Interlocal Road Maintenance Agreement between Barkhamsted and Winchester. This agreement defines which town will be responsible for maintaining small sections of roads in the Wallens Hill area, where the town lines overlap. The agreement covers pieces of Taylor Road, Wallens Hill Road, and Swanson Road and gives each town approximately 1 mile of responsibility in these areas of overlap.

**DISCUSSION:** The Selectmen tabled a request from the Northwest Hills Prevention Connection regarding a letter of support for an application they are making to receive funding from a Local Prevention Council Grant. The reason no action was taken was that the request references Norfolk and it was not clear if that was a typo or whether the request was not focused on Barkhamsted. If the request is for Barkhamsted's support for our residents, it will be put on a future agenda.

The Selectmen will be canceling their regular meeting scheduled for December 10, and will hold a Special Meeting on December 13 at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman