

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN – SEPTEMBER 27, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES:**

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky. Also present was Mike Muszynski, the Town’s CCM Community Liaison.

**DELEGATIONS:** No delegations were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comments were made.

**DISCUSSION:** Mike Muszynski from the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities met with the Selectmen to answer questions regarding the State and political activities at the Capitol. Topics discussed were:

- No bond package which would include Town Aid Road and Local Capital Improvement Program funds has been brought to the Legislature as yet. CCM’s Executive Director met with the Governor’s staff but did not get a clear package regarding the bonding or the release of the existing funds for STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grants.
- Discussion of the legalization of marijuana and the implementation of tolls indicated that it was unclear as to where either initiative stood with the legislators. Legalization of marijuana is unlikely until more data is reviewed from states that legalized it, and the use of tolls for road and bridge infrastructure programs also requires more study by the Legislature.
- There was discussion of CCM’s supporting the small towns more than they currently do, due to their focus on the larger communities. Nick made the suggestion that CCM consider establishing consultants to help the towns evaluate regional opportunities and look at best practices for positions like assessors, building officials, fire marshals, housing options, etc.
- It was also agreed that the small towns will not be able to take advantage of 5G for their upgraded Wi-Fi and cell coverage, so that fiber optics was likely to be a better solution for improved connectivity.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2019, Meeting.

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

\$ 142.20	David and Joy Westerfield	credit
\$ 566.42	VCFS Auto Leasing Co.	refund

\$ 47.38	David and Joy Westerfield	refund
\$ 19.90	Heidi Small	credit

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that discussions were continuing with the Winsted Water and Sewer Commission regarding the sewer and water line extensions to the Mallory Brook Plaza, Mallory Brook Farm, and Lombard Ford. Lenard Engineering is completing their analysis of the capacity of the sewer manhole and piping at Northwestern Regional 7, and preliminary indications are that the combination of the shopping center, the Ford dealership and the limited number of apartments under consideration for the farm will not pose a problem. Once the final report is available and shows positive results, Don Stein will meet with the Winsted Water/Sewer Commission and the Regional 7 Board of Education to get an informal go-ahead. With that information, he will begin the process with the Town Attorney to put all of the needed agreements in place to obtain approvals that are required. The final step would then be to hold a Special Town Meeting to approve the inter-local agreement.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the Barkhamsted Housing Trust was still working with their architect and the consultants to finalize plans for their potential development of affordable/seniors housing at the Mallory Brook Farm. Once the conceptual plan is complete, they will have to look for grants or loans to enable the project to move forward. They currently have enough funds to pay for the option extension (due in December) and the feasibility studies and conceptual designs by the architect, but at this time they are unable to proceed with the purchase or development of the farm. The exact number of apartments for the first phase or the second phase is to be determined, but will be limited to a small number based on the sizing of the sewer and the anticipated demand. Once they have a plan, it will need to be approved by the Inland Wetlands Commission and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**MOTION:** Don Stein and Dan Jerram, New Hartford First Selectman, reviewed the status of the maintenance required at Stanclift Cove and the balance in the Cove's funds. They will meet with the Cove Authority in an attempt to work with them to develop a plan that meets the needs of the Cove, and also which will help to ease some of the concerns expressed to both towns' Selectmen about the Cove. These concerns include the status of the physical plant, the costs of stickers, and the customer service approach of the Cove staff.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that there was no news on the anti-bear baiting ordinance nor were there any appointments to be made to the Conservation Commission; plus the Town Meeting topics were not yet defined. Therefore, these items were tabled.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein provided the Selectmen with information about PermitLink and Point and Pay, which is the financial services company that has the software needed to allow PermitLink users to pay for their building permits on-line. It is expected that there will be a request to approve implementation of on-line permits and payments at the next Selectmen's meeting.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein will attend a session in Hartford hosted by LT Governor Susan Byziewcz regarding the upcoming 2020 census. The census will take place between April 1<sup>st</sup> and July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, and an accurate count is extremely critical for the State and the Towns in the State. There have been Census representatives conducting an address canvass in town earlier this summer, but the real census will take place in that time period. The residents will be receiving more information as the time for gathering the data approaches.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman