

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – May 22, 2018 MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 5:00 PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Nick Lukiwsky. Also present was Carmen Smith, a Barkhamsted resident.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was made.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Nick Lukiwsky, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018, special meeting.

No tax refunds were received from the Tax Collector.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen discussed the four properties that the Town now owns, which were not sold at the Tax Sale in October 2017. These properties are 67 New Hartford Road, 67 Riverton Road, 56 Riverton Road and 34 North Canton Road. The intention is to sell the properties as soon as possible so that they can go back on the tax rolls and help the town financially. The abutting property owners will be notified, as well as those individuals who expressed an interest in one or more of the properties. Notice of the sale will be on the Town website, the subject of a town-wide email, and will be in the Republican American and the Register Citizen. Per the Town's attorney for the tax sale, the Town can sell these properties without a town meeting or public hearing since they were acquired through foreclosure.

DISCUSSION: Carmen Smith, who is a candidate for the vacant Assessor position met with the Selectmen to discuss her credentials and her interest in the position. The Selectmen understood that she is not a certified Assessor and that the process to obtain certification could take a minimum of 3 years. Carmen will take the necessary courses and the Town will bring in a certified assessor to mentor her and to sign documents regarding those credentials. The salary, working hours, benefits and the schedule for the Assessor's assistant and the consulting Assessor will be discussed between Don Stein and Carmen, based on the agreement by the other Selectmen.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that only one bid was received for the Town Hall repair of the staircases and the upgrade to the kitchen area on the second floor. The Town had put the Request for Proposal on the Town website and had notified local contractors of the opportunity to bid. The budget for this project was \$15,000 from LOCIP funds, and the bid from Labrie Home Improvements is less than that limit.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that a resident from Fuller Road was concerned about the gate at the bottom of Fuller Road, which requires that residents must use the intersection of Fuller Road with Route 318 when they leave their homes. This gate was put in place as the result of a neighborhood meeting to address speeding and dust from the dirt road. It is closed during the summer season when Fuller Road becomes a shortcut to Peoples State Forest and traffic becomes heavy. Don Stein requested that the resident work with the neighbors and that they then come to a BOS meeting to discuss options. One possibility would be to put speedbumps on the road similar to those in place up at West Hill Pond. However, until there is

feedback from the residents on the road, no changes are contemplated.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the proposed agreement for the Town to continue as a member of the Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board consortium, and also discussed feedback from the town attorney. Because there were still questions about the town's liability if there is a misuse of funds and the exact programs available to town residents, this item was tabled until the next meeting. Don Stein took an action to get further information from the town attorney and will invite the Executive Director to come to the meeting to discuss the organization and to answer the Selectmen's questions.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen briefly discussed the Sustainable CT initiative, which was the subject of a joint Economic Development Commission/Conservation Commission meeting with a representative from the initiative. The outcome of that forum was that both commissions will review the criteria for certification to determine what we have already accomplished and where there are gaps that will require action. This initiative is free to the Town and there will be small grants available for actions that the Town wants to undertake.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the Board of Education had hired a replacement Superintendent for Jeff Linton who is retiring and that the BOE chair said they had considered all options and felt that continuing the current approach of a part-time superintendent for the elementary school was the best approach. Going forward, other options such as a K-12 region or a shared superintendent among the four Regional 7 towns may be considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

ATTACHMENT

The Town of Barkhamsted is seeking bids for the purchase of four (4) parcels of land the Town acquired by foreclosure process through a tax sale. These parcels are as follows:

- 1) 34 North Canton Road. The parcel is approximately 1.52 acres and is recorded in Volume 168, Page 110 of the Land Records of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Sale Conditions: Minimum bid \$20,000.00; land is being sold as is with no due diligence on the part of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Interested bidders should forward their bid in a sealed envelope marked "34 North Canton Road" to the Selectmen's Office, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063 by 3:00 PM, Thursday, June 7, 2018.

- 2) 67 Riverton Road. The parcel is approximately 2.46 acres and is recorded in Volume 168, Page 108 of the Land Records of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Sale Conditions: Minimum bid \$15,000.00; land is being sold as is with no due diligence on the part of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Interested bidders should forward their bid in a sealed envelope marked "67 Riverton Road" to the Selectmen's Office, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063 by 3:00 PM, Thursday, June 7, 2018.

- 3) 67 New Hartford Road. The parcel is approximately 0.52 acres and is recorded in Volume 168, Page 112 of the Land Records of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Sale Conditions: Minimum bid \$10,000.00; land is being sold as is with no due diligence on the part of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Interested bidders should forward their bid in a sealed envelope marked "67 New Hartford Road" to the Selectmen's Office, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063 by 3:00 PM, Thursday, June 7, 2018.

- 4) 56 Riverton Road. The parcel is approximately 2.00 acres and is recorded in Volume 168, Page 106 of the Land Records of the Town of Barkhamsted.

Sale Conditions: Minimum bid \$15,000.00; land is being sold as is with no due diligence on the part of the Town of Barkhamsted.

ATTACHMENT

Interested bidders should forward their bid in a sealed envelope marked "56 Riverton Road" to the Selectmen's Office, 67 Ripley Hill Road, Barkhamsted, CT 06063 by 3:00 PM, Thursday, June 7, 2018.

Should you have any questions regarding this notice, please feel free to contact the Selectmen's Office at 860-379-8285.