



TOWN OF SCOTLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Scotland Town Hall 9 Devotion Road, P.O. Box 288 Scotland, CT 06264
(860) 456-7797 x 1

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

June 10, 2020

7:00 PM

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MINUTES

I. Call to Order: Gary Greenberg, First Selectman stated this is a virtual meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Present on screen is Selectman Wendy Sears, Selectman Rob Keator, Treasurer MaryAnn Fitzsimmons and Liz Wilson, Administrative Assistant. And members of the public that will be able to join chat when it is Audience for Citizens. Gary called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II. Additions to Agenda: None

III. Approval of Minutes May 27, 2020: W. Sears made a motion, which was seconded by R. Keator to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2020 Regular Meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

IV. Discussion and Approval of the 2020-2021 Budget: G. Greenburg made a motion, which was seconded by W. Sears to approve the 2020-2021 General Government, and levy a tax on the Grand List of October 1, 2019 of \$111, 337,361 for the General Government budget. **The motion passed without discussion.**

V. Set Mill Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. General discussion ensued. W. Sears made a motion, which was seconded by R. Keator to set the Mill Rate for Fiscal Year 2020-2021. **The motion passed unanimously.**

VI. Approval 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan: R. Keator made a motion, which was seconded by W. Sears to approve the 5 year Capital Improvement Plan and set RE/PP and MV mill rates: at 42.65 for Re/PP taxes and 38 for MV taxes. **The motion passed without discussion.**

VII. Tax Refunds – Nolet, Michael & Amy - \$371.06 (Refund of Excess Payments) W. Sears made a motion, which was seconded by R. Keator to approve the refund. **The motion passed without discussion.**

VIII. Review of Town Green Sign Policy: G. Greenberg stated the policy was intended to limit signs on the Town Green to municipal use. Public signs may be posted in the Hotel Green, subject to Planning and Zoning approval. R. Keator made a motion, which was seconded by W. Sears to approve the Town Green Policy. (see attached) **The motion passed unanimously.**

IX. Cemetery Deed – Sporel – G. Greenberg stated a plot in the cemetery is to be purchased for \$500.00. The Board of Selectmen will sign the plot deed.

X. Report of Selectmen-

W. Sears stated she has reached out to the Quinnebaug Industrial Park, and has not heard back.

G. Greenberg stated the Bass Road Bridge will be installed by Friday morning; one lane traffic will be open on June 28th.

G. Greenberg stated the Town has hired an administrative assistant; Katharine Lacasse will start Monday June 15, 2020.

G. Greenberg stated he has been diligently working on the Regional Board of Education Selection. The executive order for the Regional Board of Education Selection states that we have to have a Town meeting, virtual or in person, that Town meeting must have nominations and elections of Board of Education members. It is uncertain at this time on how or if this meeting will be held. General discussion ensued.

XI. Audience for Citizens – None

XII. Adjournment – W. Sears made a motion, which was seconded by R. Keator to adjourn at 7:38 P.M. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Lacasse, Administrative Assistant

All minutes are draft minutes until approved by the Board of Selectmen. Meetings maybe viewed using the link at the top of the agenda.

Proposed amended policy for signs on the Town Green

Whereas the Scotland Town Green is a historic location whose aesthetic integrity is a valuable asset to the Town;

Whereas the First Amendment to the United States Constitution restricts the ability of a government to regulate the free expression of ideas, including through signs;

Whereas the Town wishes to regulate the posting of signs on the Town Green and the parcel known as the "Hotel Green" in a manner designed to preserve the aesthetic beauty of both and to comply with all Constitutional and other legal requirements; and

Whereas the Town wishes to reserve to itself the ability to provide public information such as warnings and notices of upcoming Town Meetings and meetings of Town Boards and Commissions on the Town Green, which is a historical use of the Green, and to prohibit the posting of any sign of any type by any other person or entity except on the parcel called the Hotel Green.

Now, therefore shall the following policy be enacted:

No signage other than signage and postings by the Town for municipal purposes and authorized by the First Selectman shall be allowed on the Town Green between Center Street and Devotion Road (Rt. 97).

Signs of any type may be posted by any other person or entity on the Hotel Green east of Center Street. Signs posted on the Hotel Green must be at least 35 feet from the center line of Palmer Rd (Rt. 14), must not impede sight lines, and must conform to all applicable regulations, including but not limited to zoning and building regulations.

The Town may summarily remove noncompliant signs from the Town Green and the Hotel Green, and shall hold them for a reasonable time to be picked up by their owners, and the owners shall be liable to the Town for expenses related to the removal of the signs.

This policy supersedes the signage policy enacted by the Scotland Board of Selectmen on June 28, 2017, and that policy is repealed.