



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 February 26, 2020 7:00 PM

MINUTES

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by First Selectman Gary Greenberg. Board members present was Rob Keator and Wendy Sears. Also present were MaryAnn Fitzsimmons, Auditor Michael J. VanDeventer, CPA and members of the public, Liz Wilson, Administrative Assistant.

II. Additions to Agenda: No additions to the agenda

III. Approval of Minutes Special Meeting February 12, 2020 : Wendy motioned to approve, Rob seconded, no discussion, motion carried.

IV. Audience for Citizens: None

V. Audit Report: MaryAnn introduced Michael J. VanDeventer, the auditor for the Town of Scotland. Michael presented the overview of the 2019 audit report. (Available at the Town Hall). He explained that there were two non compliant issues that need to have a plan of action. The first is, the Treasurer needs balance to the tax department on a regular basis. The second is the School Readiness Council has spent grant funds, but did not have all the slots filled. Dr. Cathy Pissoneault replied that the School Finance Dept. and the School Readiness Program (which are governed by EastConn) are looking into the regulations. That was the only year that the school did not have all the slots filled, and they were unaware of the regulations. MaryAnn and Dr. Pissoneault will work on the Corrective Action Plan together.

VI. Budget Discussion with Department Heads: Gary asked about the SES Board of Education budget. Brynn stated that they hope to have a budget available by the end of April. Wendy questioned if the requested 3% decrease would impact the MBR. Brynn stated that it should not.

Gary questioned MaryAnn about the QuickBooks program versus another Municipal accounting package. MaryAnn stated that QB is user friendly and an accounting package would be very expensive.

Melody Savino presented the Board with the revised Registrars budget with the 3% reduction. Mel did so with reservations with only having one half day referendum.

Gary asked if the Fire Department was ready with a budget. Jason stated that the budget first needs to be approved by the membership, which meets March 2nd so they should be ready the first BOS meeting in March.

Terry Delaney stated the PZC budget should be able to comply with the requested 3% decrease with the change of personnel. The new ZEO will be hourly by appointment only and would still be filing the agenda, minutes and attend the monthly meetings. They should have a budget for the BOS at the March 11th date.

Monica Lindsay stated that the EDC will be meeting next Wednesday and the Rec Committee will be meeting the following Monday. They should be able to present both budgets at the next BOS meeting.

VII. Policy for Volunteer EMT/EMR Stipend Program: Gary stated that he has just received an 11 page memo from the Attorney and has not had time to review, would like to table this until the next meeting. Wendy motioned to table and Rob seconded, motion carried.

VIII. Appointment to fill Vacancy on Board of Assessment Appeals: Gary stated Kevin Benito has volunteered to fill this vacancy his appointment will be until 11/21/2023. Rob motioned to have Kevin fill the vacancy, Wendy seconded. Motion carried.

IX. Report of Selectmen: Wendy stated that she attended the School Readiness Council meeting. She also attended the negotiations for the employee insurance and it was agreed to stay with ConnetiCare with a 2.7% increase.

Rob stated that the Emergency Medical Plan Committee will meet on March 4th. Gary stated that he had a long conversation with Mae Flexar on the ECS funding. He also spoke with Doug Dubitsky about the school funding. Discussion followed. Gary stated that the tree work in town has started unfortunately it started on the Chaplin line. He talked with Bill Rose and they will split the ½ day spent. Gary also stated that he understands there is another Fire Department taking credit for the structure fire in town, but he was there and our Fire Department did an impressive job to save the house that was only 10' away. There has been no word from DOT yet on the bridge issue.

X. Audience for Citizens: Carol Withington questioned why there was a Windham ACO van at a resident's house. She also questioned the census with the zip code problems. Gary stated he will be meeting with Congressman Joe Courtney soon.

Jeff Jakubowski asked if we had a DEEP liaison and are they looking at the Mohegan State Park for bear activity? Gary did state that the parking area for the horse trail has been put on hold until the state can make arrangements for hauling the gravel.

Mel questioned the PZC regulation updates. Gary stated that they are working on increasing home businesses for quality of life and that they are going to expand the business district from Hanover Road to Pinch Street. Monica stated that the EDC looked at what it would take to move the mill rate. They have a report on what would need to be done that would keep us rural.

XI. Adjournment: Rob motioned to adjourn the meeting, Wendy seconded, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:38

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Wilson, Administrative Assistant

All minutes are draft minutes until approved by the Board of Selectmen.