



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 MEETING

Jan 9, 2019

7:00 PM

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 PM by First Selectman Dan Syme. Board members present were Clare D'Appollonio and Rod Perry. Also present was Superintendent of Schools, Francis Baran, members of the public, and Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant.

II. Additions to agenda: Clare D'Appollonio moved to add acceptance of CIRMA proposal for 3-year WC/LAP insurance through 2022 to the agenda under item VI.c. Rod Perry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

III. Audience for Citizens: Gracie Martin inquired as to whether this was legal meeting since it wasn't posted on the website. First Selectman Syme responded it was inadvertently left off the website, but was appropriately noticed with the town clerk, and posted on the bulletin board, so it was official.

Kevin Benito inquired on behalf of Dennis LaBelle regarding PH transportation charges from last year. First Selectman Syme responded he will instruct the bookkeeper to get a copy of invoices of transportation from last year, and reiterated the contract is established with the elementary school for student transportation, and is based on a 180 day school year.

IV. Approval of Minutes of Dec 12, 2018 regular meeting: Clare D'Appollonio moved to approve the minutes of the Dec. 12, 2018 regular meeting. Rod Perry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business:

a) Upgrade of IT services/Email Accounts: First Selectmen Syme shared information from Brian Hathaway regarding establishing gmail accounts for town hall staff to alleviate storage concerns on the website. Each gmail account would cost \$50, and allow each account access to the google suite of services, and keep the scotlandct.org domain. It is a separate server, and not reliant on server space at Quasars, and our website. After a brief conversation of the benefits of the email conversion, **Clare D'Appollonio moved to purchase a block of 10 google email accounts, as recommended by Scotland's tech coordinator,**

pending funding source recommendation from the treasurer. Rod Perry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b) Tax Refunds: Rod Perry moved to approve tax refunds of \$45.19 to Lillian Shaffer and \$41.95 to Thalaya Bell, as submitted by the Tax Collector. Clare D'Appollonio seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

c) CIRMA Insurance Proposal: CIRMA has presented Scotland with a proposal for a 3-year lock of WC and LAP insurance. The current year's (2019-20) is an overall 2.51% decrease, and following 2 year rate will be capped at a 3% increase to LAP and 3% increase to WC, plus exposure. This includes the new EMS employment agreement with the SVFD. **Clare D'Appollonio moved to approve the 3-year commitment through 2022, as proposed by CIRMA. Rod Perry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.**

VII. First Selectman's Report:

First Selectman Syme shared the following information:

- The town has received the approval from the state to develop a parking area on the east side of Mohegan Forest on Hanover Road. They will work in conjunction with the town to create the site. Local residents have been informed, and meeting will be called in January to flesh out details of the project;
- The town is seeking representation for the Eastern Highland Health District board of directors. The current representative is anticipating stepping down, but will continue on the board if no volunteer steps up. The vacancy will be posted in the website;
- The board of selectmen met with the board of trustees of St. Joseph Church regarding the disposition of St. Margaret's Church in Scotland. The parish has been closed, and the diocese is going to sell the building. It has been appraised for \$300,000. First Selectman Syme would like direction from the board regarding Scotland's intent. After a brief discussion of the vacancy impact on Scotland, **Clare D'Appollonio moved to authorize the First Selectman to draft a letter to Father LaPointe passing on the purchase of the building. Rod Perry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously;**
- The first selectman and road foreman met with Delia Fay, regional planner of NECCOG to review road needs in Scotland. She will act as point person if the town is interested in road grants and requirements with DOT;
- The first selectman, representatives from the school, library, and historical society met with the NAACP Tuesday evening to discuss opportunities to connect Scotland with programs for Black History Month. Activities and library material will be slated for the school, library, and possibly the Huntington Homestead to showcase Black History Month in conjunction with the Prudence Crandall House in Canterbury;
- The budget book has been started for the upcoming budget, and shared with the treasurer;

- First Selectman Syme asked members to share input for upcoming Highland Herald issues. He is compiling data from the fire department regarding calls from last year;
- The selectmen will hold a special meeting on Thursday at 3PM to confirm necessary policy and procedure for paid EMS staff.

VIII. Second Audience for Citizens: Gracie Martin said Parish Hill will hold a blood drive on March 21st from 10AM – 2:45PM at Parish Hill in the gymnasium.

Dr. Baran asked if the school was part of the CIRMA commitment. First Selectman Syme responded yes, the school is part of that insurance policy.

Rod Perry added the health insurance will also come in with a 0% increase next year.

Jeff Jakubowski asked what or where is the appropriate venue to discuss long-term planning for the town of Scotland. There was a lengthy discussion of agencies, and their responsibilities, and how town's people can participate in long-term planning since the town does not have a paid planner position.

Kim Martin asked if the town would have any long-term liability risk for the parking area on Hanover Road. First Selectman Syme responded it was state land, and it is the state that bears liability for the parking area.

Clare D'Appollonio moved to adjourn at 7:55 PM. Rod Perry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, Administrative Assistant