



TOWN OF SCOTLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING March 22nd, 2023 Location: Scotland Volunteer Community Hall 47 Brook Road

Meeting Audio Link:

https://scotlandct-my.sharepoint.com/personal/firstselectman_scotlandct_org/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Ffirstselectman%5Fscotlandct%5Forg%2FDocuments%2Fbos%20meeting%203%2E22%2Emp3&ga=1

MEETING MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Gary Greenberg at 7:07pm. Present: Selectman Chris Demorit, Selectman Wendy Sears, Administrative Assistant Wendy O'Connor is attending virtually.
2. Audience for Citizens: None
3. Additions to Agenda:
 - Farmers Market
 - Proposal to lease Town Property
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to add discussion of Farmers Market and proposal to lease Town Property to the agenda. Seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carries.**
4. Approval of minutes of the February 8th, 2023 Meeting Special Meeting
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 8th, 2023 BOS meeting, seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carried.**
5. Appointment of Treasurer, Jean LeFebvre
 - **MOTION: Chris Demorit made a motion to appoint Jean LeFebvre as Treasurer, seconded by Wendy Sears. Motion carried.**
6. Appointment of Ann DeFeo to Culture and Recreation Committee
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to appoint Ann DeFeo to Culture and Recreation Committee seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carried.**
7. Treasurer's Report tabled until the next BOS meeting.
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to table the Treasurer's Report until the next meeting, seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carried.**
8. Tax Abatement - Kevin Ring Sr. presented the Tax Abatement Program for fire department members to the Board. Discussion was held.
 - **MOTION: Chris Demorit made a motion to authorize Kevin Ring Sr. to notify the Tax Assessor that there is up to \$7,420 in tax abatements due to qualified Scotland Volunteer Fire Department members, seconded by Wendy Sears. Motion carried.**

9. Farmer's Market: Discussion was held on the agreement for the Scotland farmer's market using the Grange Hall.
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to allow First Selectman Greenberg to enter into an agreement for the use of the Scotland Grange by the Scotland Farmer's Market, seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carried.**
10. Proposal to Lease Old Town Garage: Three people have expressed interest in the building and two have since dropped out. Chris Withington has approached Gary to rent the entire building for \$250/month plus he will do something about the roof problem. He will be storing farm equipment in the building. Any lease agreement will go to the town meeting in June. Discussion was held.
11. Tax Refunds:
 - **MOTION: Wendy Sears made a motion to approve tax refunds to Katri A. Tennant for \$5.28 and Toyota Lease Trust for \$312.11, seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carried.**
12. Budget Discussion
 - BOS were presented with the draft 2023-24 budgets that have come in so far to look over for next meeting.
 - There is a placeholder for a 3% increase in pay across the board to support the cost-of-living increase.
 - Health Insurance is going up about 22%. The policy we provide to our Road Crew is going to be almost \$15,000/each. We pay 100% of the insurance, may need to consider requiring a contribution from the employees. Discussion was held.
 - Discussion was held on the salary for the First Selectman and to consider raising it substantially.
 - Discussion was held on the actual expenditures for Scotland Elementary School over the last two years. The Town will be asking the auditors to provide an audit opinion on the school boards budget from here on out. We are going out to bid for auditors and this will be included in the scope of work.
 - We are not going to approve the SES Board of Education budget if they do not provide an actual list of expenditures. Gary has had a discussion with the Superintendent letting her know the town wants it expenditures included in their budget.
 - Wendy Sears will reach out to Barney Seney about the Tech Park and if anything is going on.
13. Report of Selectmen
 - Kathy Dempsey of the State Department of Education has reached out and confirmed that we will be getting the \$25,000 for the school consolidation study. Some will belong to Hampton.
 - Had a meeting with Cathy Osten about various funding for the town hall project. The Fire Department has submitted requests for some appropriations also.
 - The Town of Canterbury is seriously considering contracting with the SFVD to provide fire protection service to the Town of Canterbury. Discussion was held.
 - Discussion was held on regionalization of incorporated towns and merging of services.
 - Wendy Sears asked about the RTC being on the town website. Gary will take care of.
14. Audience for Citizens: None
15. Chris Demorit made a motion to adjourn at 7:55pm, Wendy Sears seconded. Motion carried.