



## TOWN OF SCOTLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Scotland Town Hall 9 Devotion Road, P.O. Box 288 Scotland, CT 06264  
(860) 456-7797 x 101

### BOARD OF SELECTMEN

July 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 7:00pm

Meeting Audio Link:

[07.26.2023 BOS meeting recording.mp3](#)

### Meeting Minutes

- I. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman Gary Greenberg at 7:05pm. Present: Selectman Chris Demorit, Selectman Wendy Sears, Administrative Assistant Wendy O'Connor, Michael Gile, endorsed candidate for First Selectman by the RTC and members of the audience.
- II. Additions to Agenda: None
- III. Audience with Citizens:
  - Pete Reardon - EV charging station as local taxpayer does not feel he should pay for other people's use to commute. Does not think they should be next to any buildings. Jason Beaumont asked if there is a way to track the use of EV charging stations. Gary – yes, it is possible to track if we activate the app to track usage, it will identify who is using it, but is not sure if we have access to that information. Rob Keator stands with Pete. It could be a source of revenue for the town. All people should have the right to the same thing. Thinks the government has its hands too deep in already. Thinks we should take a markup for use of the charging station. It would help with maintenance and repairs. Dana Barrow – will there be cap on the use at no cost. Gary – previous discussion was the first \$1,000 for free and then charge a fee. John Beck also feels that it should not be at the expense of the taxpayers, just another tax that residents have to take the burden of. Pete Reardon, anyone getting a free ride plugging into his neighborhood can go pound sand.
- IV. Approval of the July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes:
  - **MOTION:** Motion to approve the minutes of the July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023, BOS meeting made by Wendy Sears, seconded by Chris Demorit. Wendy Sears would like to amend minutes to read, under report of selectmen, "added to the conservation easement bill in the final hours of the legislative session, motion carries.
- V. Set Policy for EV Charging Station: First Selectman Greenberg gave an overview of the EV charging stations. The proposal was to have the first \$1000.00 free of cost.
  - **MOTION:** Motion made by Chris Demorit to provide the first \$1000.00 of EV charging at no cost and after that evaluate what to do, seconded by Wendy Sears. Wendy Sears received 2 emails; both would prefer that we charge for use plus a nominal fee. Discussion was held.
  - **MOTION Amended to:** Motion made by Chris Demorit to charge for electric vehicle charging at the library from the first day. The first \$1,000 will be earmarked for costs related to the electric vehicle charging station. After \$1,000 is reached, money will go into the general fund pending policy review by the current administration at that time. Seconded by Wendy Sears. Motion carries.

VI. Report of Selectmen

- Wendy Sears asked about the one-day pass to the transfer station. Feels like it costs more to issue a \$3.00 one day pass than its worth. Gary - there are no written policies on our agreement for the transfer station with Hampton. One day passes are not issued that often and are not a lot of work to issue.
- Gary gave an update on the Bass Road bridge repair. Project is under budget and ahead of schedule. The bridge should be open the second week in August.
- The fire house had a flood that started in the lady's room. The cost for repairs will be about \$76,000 which will be covered by insurance with a \$1,000 deductible. Wendy Sears suggested installing some sort of alarm that would go off if this were to happen again. Chief Beaumont has agreed to have the day staff do a walk through a couple times a day.
- The septic alarm went off at the school. Nate Hall and Ryan Beaumont have been doing a great job maintaining town buildings and keeping on top of things.

VII. Second Audience with Citizens: Pete Reardon asked who owned the charging station. Gary - Town owns it and it is insured. Rob Keator thinks it is important that it be recognized that quoting anonymous sources in regard to what citizens are saying in town is something that should be backed up with citizens names and addresses. He also thinks it is important to remember that the Board of Selectmen represents the citizens of Scotland and not a political party. A political party should not be called out during a conversation at a BOS meeting is not something that is healthy. Gary - If there are things the people want to say to the BOS, we need to get not just get their permission but make it clear they are making a public statement. Certain things have been happening in both political parties in town over the last few months, that are encouraging in hopes that it may bring about more citizen involvement. Democrats have formed a town committee and we may have a contested election. Rob Keator – it is important to remember that BOS meetings are citizen gatherings, even though we all have our own beliefs and political standpoints that at those things are left at the door. It just causes further division when we are trying to bring harmony. John Beck would like follow up on Rob Keator's point, he is a registered democrat. The negative feedback for the EV charging stations is not a republican, democrat, or green party issue. It is the way people feel that the taxes are enough in this community and let's try and give a break to our citizens and not try and politicize everything. It is not just republicans who are opposed to the charging stations.

VIII. **MOTION:** Motion to adjourn at 8:12pm made by Wendy Sears, seconded by Chris Demorit. Motion carries.