



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING RICHARD H. SMITH TOWN HALL & ON-LINE

XX Regular Meeting
Date: April 23, 2024

Special Meeting
Time: 6:30 PM

Attendance:

First Selectman, Carol Jones; Selectman, Duane Gates; Selectman, Kathryn Russell;

Audience of Citizens: 3- residents in attendance; 1-on-line

Others: 2- videographers

1. **Call to Order** - Jones welcomed all to the meeting/and called to order at 6:31 pm.

Motion made by Russell to add two items to the agenda: Peter Dinello to be added to Transfer Station appointments; Gates second. Discussion resulted in neither item begin added to agenda.

2. **Approve meeting minutes:** Gates made a motion to approve meeting minutes from regular meeting held on 3/26. Russell second. Discussion resulted in correction to item 10 of minutes: Should read: "A special meeting will be held with the BOS, the Building Department and Verogy, to consider a waiver or reduction on building department fees". Motion was approved with correction.

Motion Passed 3-0

3. **Audience of Citizens:** *The public is reminded to state name for the record. Comments should be kept to a maximum of five minutes. Public comment is not intended to be a question-and-answer period; rather it is an opportunity for the Board to hear citizen comments related to town matters.*

- No comment.

4. **Appointments:**

Gates made a motion to approve/Russell 2nd:

Transfer Station Advisory Committee:

1. Lenore Grunko, term to expire 12/2025
2. Ronald Larsen, term to expire 12/2025
3. Kathy David, term to expire 12/2025
4. Dorothy DeMichael, term to expire 12/2025

Motion Passed 3-0

Gates made a motion to approve/Russell 2nd:

Planning and Zoning:

1. Daniel Arthur Smith, regular member, term to expire 12/2025
2. Timothy Puglielli, alternate member, term to expire 12/2025

Motion Passed 3-0

Russell made a motion to approve/Gates 2nd:

Design Advisory Board:

1. Jennie Maneri, term to expire 12/2025

Library Board:

1. Jennifer Phillips, term to expire 12/2025

Motion Passed 3-0

Gates made a motion to approve/Russell 2nd:

Connecticut River Area Health District:

1. Carol V. Doak-Jones

Motion Passed 3-0

5. **Resolution to accept Grant for DRES roof project:** Jones read a resolution to have town accept the grant from the State of CT for the DRES roof project in the amount of \$122K and authorize Jones to sign on behalf of the town. Russell made a motion/Gates 2nd. Motion passed.

Motion Passed 3-0

6. **ARPA funds:** After receiving feedback from the BOF, the BOS would like to allocate 100K for expenses at the transfer station. The remaining funds will be divided up between the three projects that the BOS supports moving forward. Those exact figures will be discussed at a future meeting; Jones suggested reducing all by 20%. Gates asked if the Public Art presentation could be redone as he was at a BOE meeting the night the original presentations were made to the BOS. Russell made a motion to recommend to the BOF allocating 100K from ARPA funds for upgrades at the transfer station; Gates 2nd. Motion passed.

Motion Passed 3-0

7. **Solar Array Update:** Jones gave update. At a special BOS meeting in late March (3/28), Verogy, Building Department and BOS agreed to a 50% reduction in building department fees. Updated lease is in review with town attorney and installation at the former landfill station property is commencing.

No action taken

8. **Region 4 school update:** Budget is done; May 6th public hearing and May 7th referendum to vote on budget. Mold remediation committee has been meeting and that work has begun. Field committee for VRHS fields has been meeting.

No action taken

9. **DEMHS Grant:** Jones announced that the town received \$5200K in a matching grant for expenses for the Emergency Operation Center to be set up in the basement of town hall.

No action taken

10. **Town Budget Update:** The BOF and BOS has been working long hours and making tough decisions on the Fiscal year 24-25 budget. There will be a town meeting on Tuesday, April 30th to present the proposed budget. The town meeting to vote on the budget is set for Monday, May 20th. Jones urged all residents to attend.

No action taken

11. **Audience of Citizen-***The public is reminded to state name for the record. Comments should be kept to a maximum of five minutes. Public comment is not intended to be a question-and-answer period; rather it is an opportunity for the Board to hear citizen comments related to town matters.*

- Resident asked that if public art is approved, then local artists should be considered and given priority over out-of-town artists

12. **Adjournment-** Gates made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 pm. Russell seconded. Motion passed.

Motion Passed 3-0