

## Board of Selectmen's Meeting – October 19, 2016 (Unapproved Minutes)

Lizz Milardo called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam

Robert Duval & Sean Donlan were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **Approval of Agenda:**

Donlan made a Motion to approve the Agenda. Duval seconded. No Discussion. Approved unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes:** Board of Selectmen meeting: September 21, 2016. Donlan moved to approve the minutes. No Discussion. Approved unanimously. Donlan made a motion to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting: October 6, 2016. No Discussion. Approved unanimously.

**Public Comments: Richard Zanelli: 44 Indian Hill, Higganum.** Mr. Zanelli sent the Board of Selectman a letter regarding the roads prior to the meeting. He is wondering if there is a survey on what needs to be done to the roads other than the milling, paving and repairing. Milardo: We received from Jacobson & Associates the milling and paving but we were told the repair work is up to Public Works. There are some roads that are part of the bonding and some are what I was told was last year's work. Zanelli: We did not finish Hayden Hill because Phil Goff told me we ran out of money. Milardo: I suggest you send in a FOI request on the budget information on what was left for last year for the road fund so you can see how much money was left. If you would like to look at those numbers, it is public information. The procedure is, you need to put it in writing so there is a record of what information you are looking for. The Town has four (4) days to respond that we received it and within a reasonable amount of time we will get those documents to you. Zanelli: I think what needs to be done with this whole program is we need to get Geoff Jacobson involved and go road for road and discuss what needs to be done like Old Ponsett - so we don't to rip up a good road and put catch basins in. Milardo: We will not rip up an entire road. Let's use Old Ponsett as an example. Old Ponsett has a lot of drainage issues. From what I have been told, now that they have milled the road, they are telling me that a pipe is crushing and now that it is milled down is very much a dirt road and they are very concerned about Old Ponsett washing away. From what I understand, from Chris Corsa our new Assistant Public Works Director, that the road has actually shifted from where it was originally. You can see from where the drainage is. So what is going to happen since this was discovered, again, the contingency money is there, they will put some pavement down so we can get through the winter and it can be plowed correctly. They are not going to finish that road and they are going to do the work that needs to be done in the Spring and I have already had a meeting with Geoff Jacobson, Chris Corsa and Liz Glidden last Thursday morning at 11:00 am to have these issues addressed. Again, this information, even though I asked questions, was not relayed to me. Zanelli: I find that sad. Milardo: Me too. Zanelli: I will meet with him (Chris Corsa) on each of these roads, I'm not sure if the engineer should be involved. Milardo: Chris has a lot of experience with catch basins and drainage. He was 12 years Superintendent of Operations in Marlborough and I encourage you to have a conversation with him. Zanelli: I will catch up with him there are many issues that need to be addressed. Milardo: I am aware that Injun Hollow Road has some drainage problems. I am aware that there are some roads scheduled to go next Spring but I was told that the roads that were being done this Fall were not roads that were not roads in any more need of repair other than the milling and overlay which is why we took advantage of getting them done this Fall so that piece could be done knowing that next year was going to be quite the undertaking to get done a number of roads that need a lot more repair than the milling and paving overlay. Zanelli: I don't know what you are going to do with Walkley Hill. I'm not sure where the crew is paving now. It would be nice to get those things fixed before the paving happens. Milardo: I agree and once I received your letter I addressed it right away. Chris Corsa and Geoff Jacobson are aware of it and they both know I am not happy. Donlan: Thank you for being on top of this.

**Tax Refunds:**

<b>Motar Vehicle (03)</b>		
Zilahy	Diana	\$76.75
Lavallee	Andrew	\$31.20
Larche	Kimberly & John	\$99.52
Kovach	Maureen	\$65.52
Tarallo	Joseph	\$84.24
Toyata Lease Trust		\$317.99
Adelberg	Marc	\$17.48
Adelberg	Marc	\$15.29
Hollenbeck	Katelyn	\$66.29
Scharff	Sara	\$252.72
Shackett	Lawrence	\$29.33
Kelsey	Michael & Coreen	\$20.53
Fusion Auto Finance		\$168.23
Kleinschmidt	Ronald	\$67.01
Bosco	Luis	\$56.90
McEwen	Douglas & Alyse	\$76.44
Phillips	Thomas & Kara	\$53.10
Livingston	Richard	\$313.84
Kocsis	Suzanne	\$9.70
Dopslaff	Wendy	\$15.29
Daley	Jill	\$35.57
Barney	Jennifer	\$9.36
Bucko	James & Paula	\$35.79
<b>Grand Total:</b>		<b>\$1,918.09</b>

Donlan made a motion to accept those tax refunds. Duval seconded. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

**Reports:**

- **Senior Center Report**

Suzanne Wintsch, our new Senior Center Director, has been doing a lot of work. She is transforming the center inside and out. She's planted mums, she's put up scare crows, she decorated inside. I welcome any of you to stop by and see the great job she's been doing. She is working on building relationships. She has been meeting with Public Health, there was a lunch in with the clergy, she has had the YMCA come in, she's worked with Doctors, other practitioners, the schools. She's working on a lot of resources and being in touch with other senior centers for ideas. She's gone up to High Meadow a number of times with Eleanor Farrell who is our Municipal Agent. They have had a few meet & greets and working on enrollment trying to get the seniors at High Meadow to come in. The piano that was at the Center was not in good use and was sent to the dump. There was a request and I actually donated money to purchase a piano for the Senior Center. She's asking anyone that has a talent or something that they'd like to share in a group to please contact her. She created a Newsletter with things that are happening, on the inside of it there is a menu, we have a new food company CRT that we are using to do meals and they are doing a really good job. She is dropping those brochures off at the library, Town Hall and various other places. They are working on gratitude trees and wellness. She has many activities scheduled, working with the youth, they have pen pals, they will have a Halloween event, they are doing BINGO now, they had a trip to the Lavender Farm. The lunch numbers are

up and things are buzzing. Diane did 73 passengers for the month of September, 8 medicals. Shirley, Diane and Suzanne are working hard together to work with Club 60 to really try to make it a dynamic center.

- **Animal Control**

Daun has been pretty busy, there is a concern her van is done. She cannot get it started. We bought this van about three (3) years ago. We need to find a van. She has been gracious enough to use her own means of transportation. If she gets a roaming dog she needs it to be crated off and we have to make sure that happens. We are looking on what we can do on getting a good used SUV or van for her.

- **Municipal Agent for the Elderly**

Eleanor Farrell is continuing to do some training. She has been up at High Meadow a number of times. She has been working on Medicare counseling. She has some tickets to the Farmers Market and because our Farmers Market closed a little bit sooner they are trying to find other Farmers Markets in the area so we can try to do something for the seniors. She had 20 people that she assisted with Medicare and Medigap. She's been working with *CHOICES* on that. They are dedicated and I am so grateful for them every day and I appreciate all the hard work they are doing. I am very happy they are all working collaboratively together including Candy Casell.

- **Resident State Trooper Report**

As we all know, John Connelly retired, Enrico Milardo put a report together. He was a little behind... in August he had 502 calls, in September he had 477 calls. He is now the full time Resident Trooper during the day and Joe DeAngelo is filling in, he may be applying for the Resident Trooper position. He is filling in on the evening shift where Enrico left off. They seem to be doing a great job.

**Resignations:** Mark Stephens has resigned from the Energy Task Force. He committed to staying until we received the solar panels we were owed from BeeFree. There was a lot of conversation on whether we were getting them. Fortunately we were able to come to an agreement and BeeFree put solar panels up on the Town Garage. If the day ever comes that we do relocate the Town Garage, they are very easy to take off and transport. We are interested in have more people join is for the Energy Task Force. They are a great committee, we are working on a few changes. We have an \$18,000.00 grant from the Green Bank and that money needs to be used by the end of September. The Green Bank is dissolving. I received confirmation and am working with Barbara Bertrand, the Finance Director, and we are looking at reports and studies that we have for improvements that we can make. I'd like to put this money to use for some energy savings down the road for the town. Mark has been great. I've enjoyed working with him. I'm thankful for his time and help.

**Old Business: Cell phone towers:** We hired a developer to look for opportunities for us for cell phone towers. Many of the individuals that work in this field have been in the field for a very long time. Homeland Towers is a company that has years of experience putting up municipal towers. They are located in Danbury and have a lot of experience with the citing counsel. Robinson & Cole are their counsel. We are in negotiations with them. They have identified three (3) potential sites for cell phone tower service on 154. There are two (2) sites at the fire house that may work. I was not able to make that meeting, the Town Planner was there, Sam Baber was there and other members of the Fire Department and the Building Inspector were there along with the developer and Homeland Towers to look at the sites. We are sensitive to fly zone, residents & site view. The second space is the Jail Hill property, across the street from the ball fields. There's an old path that goes up. That is the second site that will work. The 3<sup>rd</sup> site, I do not know where the location is. It is a private property owner in the town. They are in negotiations with that property owner. They will not disclose that information until they have a lease with that property owner. I have negotiated our portion of the lease with them. Our legal has looked at it. We get a percentage of income from this. It has to go to a Town Meeting. Once I have that lease we will set a date for the Town Meeting. The town will have to meet and vote on that. I don't believe they would be doing this, since this is quite an expense, if they did not have carriers that were interested. It is my understanding that there are carriers that are interested. Once the site is agreed upon they reach out to the carriers. They have to go to the citing counsel, it's not up to the town where it goes. One thing that is on the lease is any emergency equipment

will be put on the tower free of charge. The firemen seem very excited about that. It will help them with their communications down 154. There was a brief discussion with the residents discussing the various sites locations. There are many steps to this process.

**New Business:**

Resolution to forward to a Special Town Meeting a recommendation from the Board of Finance for end of year budget transfers for fiscal year 2015 - 2016 as presented on Transfer Forms 2016-6.1 for \$214,274.74 and 2016-6.2 for \$95,500.00. These forms are located and available in the Office of the Town Clerk.

This is not new tax dollars. This is from last year to do capital non re-occurring. One, which is to do remediation of this building there's been water damage in this building for a number of years. Painting needs to be done to the Veteran's Museum and the Community Center, there was lead that was never removed previously from those buildings and that remediation needs to take place. Floors also need to be done. There was a pipe that broke at the Senior Center that need to be replaced. It was an emergency fix. There are a number of items, these are all available in the Town Clerks office. The Board of Selectmen has agreed with the Board of Finance that these are improvements that we need to do to buildings.

Duval made a motion to schedule a Special Town Meeting on October 27, 2016 at 6:30pm at the Old Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive regarding the above referenced transfers. Donlan seconded. Brief discussion. Approved unanimously.

**Correspondence: Milardo:** I've had a handful of calls regarding the roads and when they will be done. The Capital Plans are being worked on for the budgets. The departments should be receiving their budgets next week. We are going to work hard so we have more time and be able to get our budget to the Board of Finance sooner. We changed the format a little so we have more detail. I think it will be helpful for us when we are going through that process.

**Donlan:** regarding the projects that Richard Zanelli brought up – they have been long deferred for way too long. Finally we got to a point of going to a Public Hearing, getting the funding, getting the potential for bonding, fully anticipating there will be some hic-ups. We know we are going to get comments – “Why this road? Why not my road?” and we know that there will be questions about the cost of a particular project. Having people like you around to help us is absolutely vital and crucial for us getting it right. The information we get is on a broad scale and now that the projects are beginning, now we are getting into the details and the vital part and someone with your knowledge can save us hundreds of thousands of dollars on projects. It's better, in my opinion, to get these projects going than to allow those arguments to prevent us from doing it. I'm just very appreciative of the information and knowledge you have and someone like you is extremely vital to getting these projects done correctly.

**Milardo:** I'm very grateful for the letter you sent and making us aware of the issues it helps me have a better understanding. We are reclaiming roads that we are spending millions of dollars on, that if we just maintained them to begin with it wouldn't be a problem.

**Public Comments: Marie Zanelli:** Are they doing Meals-on-Wheels too? **Milardo:** Yes.

**Zanelli:** Are they using volunteers or are they using their own people? **Milardo:** Previously when CRT was here we had volunteers for Meals-on-Wheels and they are open to that. They are still in the process of training. We kept some people on who have done this previously. We will look to expand that and possibly have more volunteers. I think those that are shut-in at home, or sick could really use that companionship and that is vital. After the recent discussions I had with CRT they are open to that.

Duval moved to adjourn meeting at 7:58PM. Milardo seconded. Approved unanimously.  
Minutes taken by: JoAnn Ricciardelli