

Board of Selectmen's Meeting – September 13, 2021 (Approved minutes)

Robert McGarry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam CT 06438

Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda: Moriarty made a motion to approve the agenda. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

August 9, 2021: Anderson made a motion to approve the August 9, 2021 minutes. There was a brief discussion. Moriarty was not at the August 9, 2021 meeting as noted. Moriarty abstained. Motion approved as amended.

August 18, 2021: Moriarty made a motion to approve the August 18, 2021 minutes. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment:

Adams, Maurice 32 Gates Way: Maurice made a presentation to the Board called "\$2.5-million-dollar prize contest" present your very best idea for how you would spend \$100,000 for the best Haddam project.

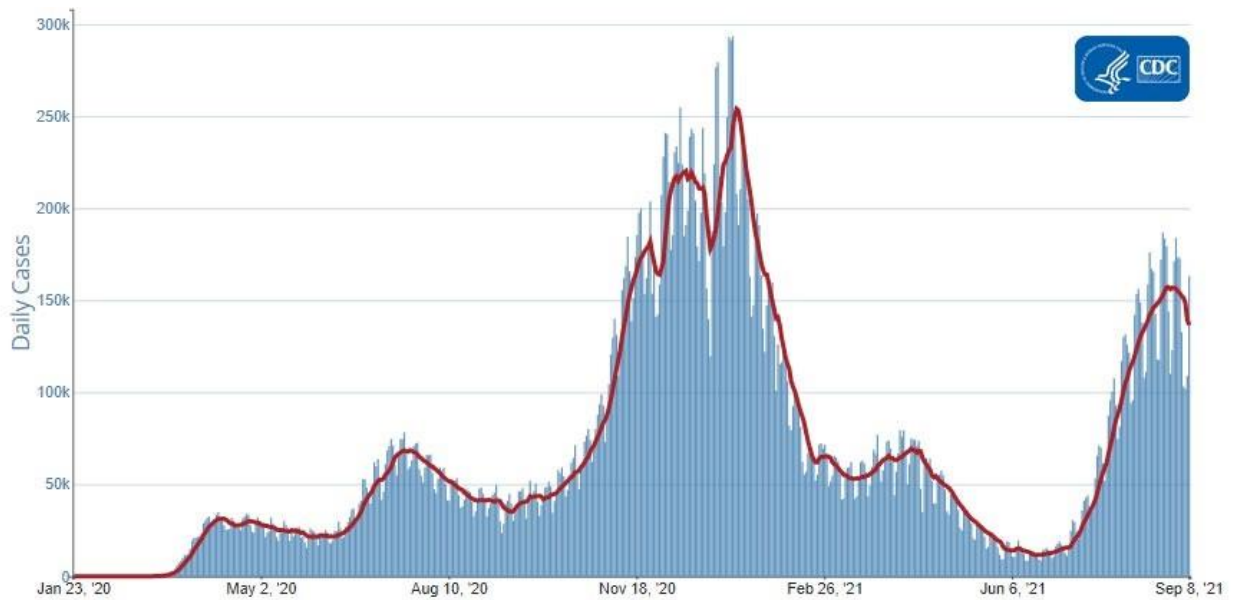
Selectman's Update:

Projects

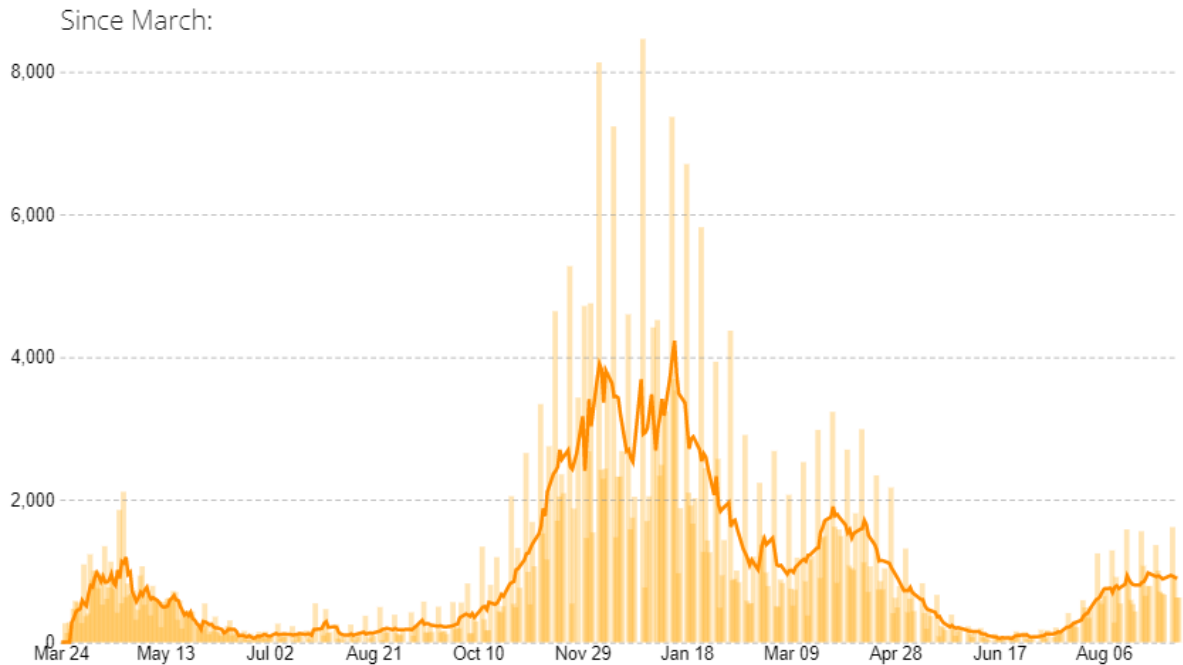
- Rossi Property – No change since last update
- Scovil Hoe – No change since last update
- Bridge Road – Swing Bridge inspections
- Roads
 - Chip sealing
 - Arkona Dr, Jackson Rd – Done
 - Dublin Hill – Done
 - Calliari, Depot Hill, Parsonage – Next up
 - Thayer, Maple Ave West – Delayed until next year
 - Candlewood Hill Phase 1 – Design completed. Plan to bid January 2022 for a March start.
- Community Septic
 - Jacobson & Associates chosen for the design.
- Private Projects –
 - Brookes Court – Applied for their building permit

Other

- Tree trimming – Chris Corsa will be meeting with Eversource to discuss
- COVID-19
 - 7-day average new cases nationwide reported to CDC



- CT Covid Cases



- Haddam Cases
 - July 5
 - August 17
 - September 12 (to date)
 - Age range 7 - 70
- Booster Shots - Moderately to severely immunocompromised people. mRNA vaccines (Pfizer or Moderna). Nutmeg Pharmacy offering them.
 - General public Boosters – Nutmeg will have clinics at HES when boosters approved. Thursdays
- Flu Shots – CRAHD offering them. Available end of month
 - Nutmeg – Walk-in available now but wait until October.
- Public Works (Teamsters) negotiations going to mediation
- Resident Trooper – On 9/2 5 troopers interviewed for the position. Expect a decision this month.
- Neal Blodgett – 100-year birthday
- Haddam Neck Fair – Well attended
- Brainerd Library – Ribbon cutting for Phase 1 renovations
 - 3 new restrooms, ground level entrance, parking lot, infrastructure upgrades
 - Open to the public today
- 160th Anniversary for Higganum United Methodist Church
- Lisa Malloy – Recognized for 20 years as Haddam Historical Society Executive Director

Anderson: Farmer's Market resumes this Friday for the next 5 weeks. 3:30 pm – 6:30 pm. River Days is scheduled for Saturday October 2, 2021, rain date October 3rd.

Moriarty: The state has approved a bench and tree planning at Eagle Landing to be dedicated to Melissa J. Schlag, former First Selectwoman. The date is to be determined and should be in the near future.

Board of Education Update: Jennifer Favalora presented the Board of Education update. Attached as Schedule I.

Tax Refunds:

| <u>Last Name</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Real Estate (01) | |
| Henkind, Aaron | \$250.22 |
| Batzner, William (corelogic) | \$2,272.65 |
| Total: | \$2,522.87 |
| Motor Vehicle (03) | |
| caron, kathlees | \$17.57 |
| BROOKES, SCOTT | \$502.66 |
| kulmacz, steven | \$38.59 |
| hoffmann, david | \$61.74 |
| chrystal, gary | \$22.54 |
| Wood N Excellence | \$9.19 |
| Wood N Excellence | \$5.63 |
| malin, timothy | \$7.04 |
| woolard, lonnie | \$22.03 |
| Ferrucci, Paul | \$8.49 |
| malin, timothy | \$8.84 |
| Gallaway, Barbara | \$8.46 |
| Bogdan, Jason | \$9.30 |
| Lapierre, Kaleigh | \$13.76 |
| Barbaree, Jacqueline | \$16.17 |
| morasutti, bruno | \$168.68 |
| rutledge | \$15.63 |
| reynolds, gail | \$32.97 |
| marszalek, kenneth | \$106.90 |
| berdensey, Genine | \$50.01 |
| White, Jared | \$6.28 |
| bochman, robert | \$141.47 |
| johnson, shannon | \$135.07 |
| Diamler Trust - Leasing Company | \$541.67 |
| caron,rejean | \$63.39 |
| dombkowski, carolann | \$178.26 |

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| callahan, erin | \$197.40 |
| wingard, thomas | \$8.71 |
| wingard, thomas | \$39.10 |
| chase, gabriel | \$44.44 |
| yantosh, edward | \$60.46 |
| nilsen, mary | \$37.00 |
| pearson, evan | \$13.06 |
| roche, donald | \$11.03 |
| calamari, louis | \$58.79 |
| cook, garret | \$6.35 |
| Total | \$2,668.68 |
| Grand Total: | \$5,191.55 |

Anderson made a motion to approve the September 13, 2021 tax refunds as presented. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Appointments:

Economic Development Commission: Moriarty made a motion to appoint Prem Aithal, Courtney Emshwiller-Swokla, Michael Farina Jr., David Law, Doreen Staskelunas and Kate Anderson to the Economic Development Commission for a 3-year appointment ending June 1, 2024. No discussion. Motion carried. Anderson abstained.

Inland Wetlands Commission: Anderson made a motion to reappoint David Costa to the Inland Wetlands Commission. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Resolution – Affordable Housing Pan Technical Assistance Grant Program. Moriarty made a motion to approve the First Selectman to accept the Affordable Housing Pan Technical Assistance Grant. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Elderly Tax Relief Appeals: Moriarty made a motion to approve the Elderly Tax Relief Appeal. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Award Bid for Chipping & Removal of Brush & Wood Pile: Anderson made a motion to award the Bid to Northeastern Clearing, Inc in the amount of \$32,000. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

HK Youth & Family Services: There was a discussion regarding the relocation of HK Youth & Family Services. The building they are currently in has significant capital investments coming up. RSD17 does not want to maintain that building any longer. The school district was able to

find space for them in the Highschool Library and part of the building in the old Middle School, they both require renovations. HK Youth & Family can cover the \$5,000 estimate for the library. They will need ~ \$20,000 – \$30,000 for the remaining renovation cost. They are asking the towns for assistance. It's approximately \$12,000 - \$18,000 capital investment from the Town of Haddam. We will gather more details and narrow the financial range before making a formal approval and going to the Board of Finance.

Jane Baird, of HK Youth & Family, expressed her appreciation to the Board for discussing their request.

Moriarty and Anderson expressed their support for financing HK Youth & Family Services in the renovations needed.

Discussion of abandoning Old Chester Road: There will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 to discuss abandoning Old Chester Road. The state has requested we abandon the end of this road for the Roundabouts that will be installed. If the road remains it can be a safety hazard.

Moriarty expressed concern from a resident re: What will happen to the resident who owns the property? There will be a right-of-way to access their property. Will residents be able to drive down and park – which is the only legal parking to access the falls and hiking up there? As part of the Roundabouts project, the state is putting in a parking spot just south of the 82 connector or between the gas station and the falls. There will be access to the falls/hiking.

Public Comment: N/A

Adjournment: Moriarty made a motion to adjourn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned 7:14 pm. Minutes taken by JoAnn Ricciardelli

Schedule 1 - Board of Selectmen's Meeting - September 13, 2021

Summary of August 2021 Board of Education Meetings

2021-2022 School Year: Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote updated the Board on the detailed plan to open schools safely. She explained that she attends weekly webinars with the State Department of Education, Department of Public Health, state epidemiologists, as well as meetings with both local health districts, and shoreline Superintendents to discuss the latest guidance and recommendations related to students and staff attending schools. Currently, the Governor's Executive Order regarding wearing masks is in place until September 30th and if that were to expire, both the Commissioner of Public Health and the Commissioner of Education also have the authority to order School Districts to require masks be worn in schools.

Strategic Planning Committee: Among the District's top priorities is the development of a strategic plan. This plan will include a common vision for the District and identify the direction for the future of our schools. In September, HYA associates will facilitate eighteen focus groups representing District employees, students, parents, alumni, town leadership, BoE candidates, civic leaders, and community members. In November, everyone in our community will be given the opportunity to provide input into the process through a district-wide survey that will be posted to the RSD17.org website.

Nurses Union Contract Approval: The Board of Education voted to approve a new three-year contract with the Nurses Union. The most notable terms of the agreement include adding LPNs into the Union as well as increasing the insurance cost share by 2% to be consistent with the other bargaining units. A \$2.75/hour equity adjustment was given to RNs in the first year followed by 1.5% increases the following two years. LPNs will receive an equity adjustment of \$1.00/hour the first year and a 2% increase the following two years.

Haddam-Killingworth Youth and Family Services - The Board received an update on the HKYFS mentoring program happening in the Elementary, Intermediate and Middle Schools. The program aspires to foster healthy and positive relationships between children and adults while instilling confidence, connections, and optimism. As the program grows, they are looking to add mentors for students. Additionally, HKYFS is looking to increase and diversify the members of their Board of Directors. Anyone interested in participating in either program is encouraged to contact HKYFS directly.

Facilities Committee: Over the summer, several maintenance and repairs projects took place including surface paving at the HKHS Busyard, KES Boiler Pump replacement, as well as the High School Stadium lighting and bleacher repairs.

On our website: All communications concerning pandemic protocols in our schools for the 2021-2022 school year, including the Superintendent's presentation on the safe return to in-person instruction and a dashboard of the District's Covid-19 positive cases, can be found on our RSD17.org website under District -> Covid-19 Resources and Communications.