

Selectmen's Meeting – August 14, 2013

DeStefano opened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. at the TH. Duval and Donlan were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

DeStefano gave a disclaimer about the video taping of this meeting. He stated this meeting is being recorded but has not been sanctioned or endorsed by the BOS and, therefore, the BOS cannot attest to the accuracy or completeness of this film.

Acceptance of Minutes – July 17, 2013: Donlan moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously.

Reports – Town Meeting Date: DeStefano announced there will be a Town Meeting on Thursday, August 15, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. at the TH to discuss approval of easements and to reappoint members to the HK Recreation Authority.

Public Hearing Date: DeStefano announced there will be a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 6:30 P.M. at the TH to discuss the proposal of a Town Flag by the Civic Pride Committee.

Senior Center Manager – July: Lundgren reported the implementation of the First Selectman's required Emergency Contact Form to be filled out by seniors who attend the Senior Center. Lundgren stated he was the only one who filled one out. DeStefano stated he will reaffirm with the Manager that these forms are mandatory. Also, Lundgren stated in his report "that he has volunteered to help with the Community Center refurbishing with the hope that the Center might move there from its "temporary location in the future". DeStefano stated the move to the Community Center is not possible.

Municipal Agent for the Elderly – July: Lundgren reported the Renter's Rebate Program is beginning its "sun setting" by no longer accepting new applications because of State cutbacks. Lundgren reported that State Representative Miller helped to break the "log jam" at the Dept. of Agriculture holding up Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition check booklets. Thank you to him for the help.

Animal Control Officer – July: DeStefano stated the ACO continues to deal with animal issues and he has great communication with her. There has been some talk from the towns of Durham and East Haddam to regionalize. DeStefano stated he likes things the way they are.

Resident Troopers Report – July: Patrol checks were up in July, no fatalities, and there were 298 motor vehicle infractions. There were 29 "Asst. Citizens". DeStefano will contact the troopers to see what this entails. Donlan moved to approve all the above mentioned reports. Approved unanimously.

Regional District #17 – Board of Education Report: None at this time.

Correspondence The BOS received a letter from the Registrar of Voters. They are requesting an hourly pay increase. When compared to other towns, Haddam is the lowest and the registrars have not asked for an increase in six years. After a brief discussion, it was decided to put this request in next years' budget and to thank the Registrars for their input..

DeStefano received an update from CCM regarding the Prescription Discount Card Program for the town. Haddam's savings for July 2013 was 53%. Over 80 prescription claims have been processed to date and Haddam residents have saved over \$4,700. DeStefano will be talking to Club 60 members, as well as seniors at the Center to make sure they understand the program and are participating.

DeStefano stated he received an invite to the BOS to the Field of Flags display at the Higganum Congregational Church. They will be setting up the flags on Friday, August 23, 2013 (9:00 AM – Noon)

and will have a dedication during their 9:00 AM church service on August 25. The flags will be displayed until September 17. The 7,000 flags represent one for every fallen service member in the mid-east.

The P & R Commission is overseeing the first annual Haddam Community Concert (as successors to the River Days Committee) to be held on Friday, September 6th at 6:30 P.M. at the gazebo in Higganum Center. They will be closing off the section of Candlewood Hill Road from the intersection in front of the Pharmacy/Shearmatrix building to the corner by the Crum's House. The road will be closed off at 4:30 P.M. to begin setting up until the conclusion of the concert, approximately until 9:00 PM or later. The plan is for the public to walk freely back and forth between the Higganum Green and the Youth Center parking lot where there will be food vendors, as well as a bouncy house for the kids. There will be other things for the kids as well.

The BOS received an e-mail from Ed Schwing, editor of the Haddam Bulletin asking why the bus stop signs for the 9 Town Transit have been removed along Route 154. DeStefano stated the signs were posted at the start of the program to kick off use of the program. The signs are not the only location for bus pick-up. You may flag down the driver anywhere along the route for pick-up. The reason the signs were removed was because of a citizen zoning challenge. The Transit District will review the route, determine safe locations for signs and make the appropriate request to the DOT for permits. Donlan feels there should be signs up somewhere in town to alert people of this service. He feels it should be on the town's web-site, at the Town Office Building, Haddam Bulletin and Haddam Events Magazine. He feels this is a good service for town residents. DeStefano indicated it was already on the website and had been advertised extensively by both the Transit District and the Town.

DeStefano received a note from Ed Schwing stating that WFS has missed one of the dates set in the stipulation (June 1, 2013) regarding the construction of the culvert requested by the Wetland's Commission over Turkey Hill Brook. Schwing asked what are the actions contemplated by the town now that WFS has not complied with the stipulation? DeStefano stated he feels that all responses should come from the Town Attorney. The stipulation routes are precisely laid out and if any of them are not followed, the penalties should automatically be assessed by the Town Attorney.

Additions/Transfers – Request from the Financial Coordinator: The BOS received the following request. To ask the BOF to make the following additions in the 2012-2013 Budget from Line Item #84-80000, Contingency.

To add \$1,094.09 to line item #58-24010, Building Department Mileage.

To add \$42,983.96 to line item #21-09500, Insurance-Anthem Blue Cross (Town Meeting required).

To add \$5,955.61 to line item #60-30502, General Maintenance-Vehicle Fuel.

Duval moved to approve the request and forward to the BOF for consideration. Approved unanimously.

Fire Dept. Request: At a previous BOS Meeting, the BOS asked for someone from the Fire Dept. to come to a meeting to explain the reason for replacing the boiler at Fire Station #1 and the switch to propane gas, before the BOS would approve forwarding the request to the BOF. John Anderson, of JL Anderson, LLC air conditioning & heating service was present to explain. Mr. Anderson gave a lengthy explanation as to the benefits of switching and the savings to the town. After hearing the explanation, Donlan moved to send the following request to the BOF for consideration.

To reallocate funds totaling \$42,300 to enable the Fire Dept. to replace one of two oil fired boilers at Station #1 with a propane boiler. This request involves two different line items.

Line #17-90-200-12-10004, HVFD Plymovent Station #2 & 3 - \$25,000.

Line item #17-90-200-13-10005, HVFD Plymovent # Station #2 - \$17,300. There is \$35,000 in this account and the proposal to install the system #2 is for \$17,700, leaving a balance of \$17,300. The reallocation of the balance of these two accounts will be used in conjunction with line item #17-90-200-13-10008, HVFD Replace Boiler @ Station #1 in the amount of \$10,000 to replace one boiler. The

existing 120 gallon oil fired domestic hot water heater will also be replaced with a propane one. DeStefano stated there is money in the Capitol Non-recurring Fund. Approved unanimously.

Tax Refunds: Duval moved to approve the following tax refunds.

Edward or Adeline Nosal - \$26.74 on a motor vehicle. – Excess payment.

Emma Putnam Randall - \$72.58 – vehicle traded-in.

Marvin J. Pichardo - \$98.31 – vehicle traded-in.

Donald & Madge Comeau - \$411.06 for five pieces of real estate – taxes erroneously collected.

John or Michele Guarino - \$20.40 on a motor vehicle – excess payment.

James R. Saucier - \$17.90 on a motor vehicle – excess payment.

Andre R. Melanson - \$6.60 on a motor vehicle – excess payment.

All of the above approved unanimously.

Resignations: None.

Appointments – Haddam Park & Recreation: Duval moved to reappoint Robert Fitzgerald and Anthony Sledzik to serve another five-year term, to expire September 1, 2018. Approved unanimously.

Old Business – Update on Tylerville Water: DeStefano stated the DEEP did an alternatives evaluation on the water. There will be a Public Hearing in the fall and we will be advertising ahead of time. DeStefano stated he is still trying to get more funding from the State and CT Water. He hopes to get clear picture of cost in the near future. DeStefano stated he and State Representative Phil Miller met with OPM, DPH, DEEP and the CT Water Company. The DEEP stated they will be relinquishing responsibility for bottled water and filters, so it is important that the alternatives' Public Hearing be well attended.

105 Bridge Street: DeStefano stated the closing for this property is expected to take place at the end of August or early September.

Higganum Sewer: DeStefano stated he will be meeting with the DECD regarding sewers tomorrow.

New Business – Master Municipal Agreement for Construction (MMAC) Projects with DOT: DeStefano received a letter from the State of Connecticut, Dept. of Transportation that will introduce a new way of doing business with the municipalities of CT. This agreement is the first in a series of agreements that will fundamentally improve how the Dept. conducts business with its municipal partners by dramatically streamlining the agreement process. It is anticipated that once an MMAC is executed with the town, project specific information and monetary terms will be set forth in a Project authorization Letter (PAL) issued by the Dept. to the municipality for individual construction projects. PALS are expected to take only days to execute, as opposed to the numerous months currently required executing individual project agreements. This ten-year term MMAC covers both municipally advertised construction projects, as well as projects advertised by the Dept. on behalf of municipalities. After a brief discussion, Duval moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the agreement. Approved unanimously.

Public Comments:

Schwing asked if the fire department had to follow the bidding process. DeStefano stated they do. One of the firemen stated they need an experienced vendor to do this project. Mr. Anderson has been working at the fire house for some time on various projects and they respect his input and workmanship.

Melissa Schlag asked the BOS about the two boats that are on the property at 105 Bridge Street as to whether they are in working condition and what will be done with them. DeStefano stated the new owners will clean that area and dispose of the boats.

Schlag asked if there is anything new on the assessment for the WFS property. DeStefano stated there are legal issues the Assessor is looking into. Schlag suggested our Assessor talk with the Assessor in Deep River regarding the Haynes Property in Deep River and compare notes. The yellow book appraisals are only \$400,000. Schlag suggested our Assessor look into all \$1,000,000 properties.

Duval moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 P.M. Approved unanimously.

Minutes taken by – Alice Zanelli