Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
November 16, 2022
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: I. Haines; E. Dill; T. Govert
Also Present: E. Blaschik; D. Denette; D. Dill; J. Shea; L. Zemienieski; and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Haines called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

   Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 2, 2022

   Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 2, 2022, as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence

   A. Cemetery Committee Letter & By-Laws: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets from Karl Stofko, Chairman of the Cemetery Committee dated October 27, 2022. She reviewed the letter and noted that Mr. Srofko had also forwarded draft by-laws for the Selectmen's consideration and review by the Town Attorney. Ms. Denette provided additional information regarding the Committee's work and confirmed that the Cemetery Committee did not previously have by-laws.

5. First Selectmen's Report

   Ms. Haines reported that, earlier that day, she had participated in the monthly Swingbridge project meeting with representatives from CT DOT, the American Bridge Company, and the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce. She stated that the DOT and American Bridge Company provide 2-week and 90-day projections of project work and road closures. She noted they are continuing to work on improving communications to the public and discussed the possibility of sending out text alerts.

   Ms. Haines also advised that the CTRoads.org website, which provides real-time information about traveling the roads in CT, including Route 82 and the Swingbridge, will be added to the Town's webpage.

A. GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award: Ms. Haines advised that the Town has again received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting Award from the Government Finance Officers Association. She thanked former Finance Director Varricchio and her team for all their efforts that went into the Town receiving this award for a second year in a row.

6. Public Comment: The was no public comment discussed at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Update on Request to Create an Ordinance Regarding Term Lengths for Elected Officials Discussion: Ms. Haines advised that the Town's attorney had provided draft ordinances for changing the terms for the members of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Education, and for the Town Clerk and Tax Collector. She noted that the draft ordinances extend the terms for the Board of Selectmen, Town Clerk and Tax Collector from 2 year to 4 year terms and change the Board of Education from 6 year to 4 year terms.

There was a general discussion regarding the proposed changes and Ms. Denette provided additional clarification. Ms. Haines also agreed to propose a 2 week overlap in the terms of elected officials.

Mr. Dill noted that the ordinances do not address term limits and the Board discussed that as well as whether or not there is an option to increase the number of members on the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Haines advised that she will ask the attorneys to check to see if there are any statutory limitations on the number of Board of Selectmen members. She stated that she is also planning on researching whether or not to pursue a Town charter.

B. Nutmeg Nor'easter Event Approval: Discussion of this agenda item was postponed.

C. 2023 Board of Selectmen Meetings

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to approve the following dates for the Board of Selectmen's regular meeting schedule for calendar year 2023: January 4 and 18, February 1 and 15, March 1 and 15, April 5 and 19, May 3 and 17, June 7 and 21, July 19, August 2 and 16, September 6 and 20, October 4 and 18, November 1and 15, and December 6 and 20; and January 3 and 17, 2024. All meetings will be held at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office Complex, Meeting Rooms 1 and 2. Unanimous aye.

Ms. Haines stated that the Board's December 7, 2022 regular meeting conflicts with a Historical Society event that she, and possibly other Board members, will be attending. The Selectmen agreed to hold a special meeting at 6:00 pm on December 7th.

8. New Business

A. Bid Award – Surplus Vehicle: Ms. Haines called the Selectmen's attention to the surplus vehicle bid spreadsheet in their meeting packets. She advised that the sale of this surplus vehicle

resulted in total revenue of $4,600.00 for the Town. Ms. Haines stated that the successful bidder is required to agree to certify that they are purchasing the equipment "as is". It should be noted that this vehicle was previously donated to the CT Fire School and returned to the town when the school reorganized.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to award the bid for the Surplus Vehicle (1986 Seagrave Fire Apparatus) to Shawn Daigle in the amount of $4,600.00. Unanimous aye.

B. Request for Beer & Wine Service – Rathbun Library: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to an email in their meeting packets from Michael Gilroy, dated November 10, 2022. Mr. Gilroy advised that the Library is co-hosting the annual Light Up the Holidays Silent Auction Party on December 2nd and would like to serve beer and wine.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve beer and wine service at the Rathbun Library for the "Annual Light Up the Holidays Silent Auction Party" on December 2, 2022. Unanimous aye.

Ms. Haines advised that Mr. Gilroy has accepted a teaching position in South Windsor effective November 25th.

C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (WPCA)

Water Pollution Control Authority

Ms. Haines advised that the WPCA members recommended a couple reappointments and an appointment at their November 3rd meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to reappoint Richard Pettinelli and Andrew Lord as regular members for 5-year terms to expire on June 30, 2027 on the Water Pollution Control Authority. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to appoint Kevin Moreau as a regular member to fill a vacancy on the Water Pollution Control Authority with a term to expire on June 30, 2025. Unanimous aye.

D. Tax Refunds: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to two tax refunds.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to award tax refunds in the amounts presented:

- $ 94.85 to Toyota Lease Trust, and
- $1005.71 to VCFS Auto Leasing.

Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: In response to a question raised by Mr. Edward Blaschik regarding the terms of Board of Selectmen members and whether or not there is a way to avoid a complete turnover of the Board, there was a general discussion and Ms. Haines stated she would ask for input from the Town's attorney.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

A. Liaison Reports: Ms. Govert reported that she, Amalia Shaltiel, and David Oakes attended a Sustainable CT presentation ceremony on November 14th and accepted a Bronze certification on behalf of the Town.

Mr. Dill stated that he had participated in a Veterans' Day ceremony on November 11th. Ms. Haines agreed that the ceremony should be better publicized next year.

B. Other: Ms. Haines called the Board's and public's attention to the following events:

1. Stuff a Cruiser Event – Municipal Office Complex (11/19/22 from 10:00am to 2:00pm)
2. Kids Night on the Green – Moodus Green/Municipal Office Complex (12/1/2022 from 6:00- 8:00pm)
3. Christmas in the Village (12/13/2022)

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm,

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary