Special Town Meeting

August 21, 2024

Town Clerk, Kathleen Klinck called the Special Town Meeting to order to 8:00 pm at the Municipal Office Complex, Meeting Room 1&2, 1 Plains Road, Moodus. Approximately sixty five(65) people were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Edward Blaschik motioned to nominate Kathleen Klinck as Moderator, Robert Smith seconded the motion. Other nominations were solicited, none were offered. Edward Blaschik motioned to close nominations, Robert Smith provided the second. The motion closing nominations carried unanimously via voice vote. The Moderator called for a vote on the nomination of Kathleen Klinck to serve as Moderator, the motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

The Moderator reviewed the protocols for the meeting and called for a motion that the legislative body herein assembled accept the call of the meeting as presented. Laure Alt motioned to accept the call as presented. Edward Blaschik provided the second. There being no discussion, the motion accepting the call as presented carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 1: Peter Govert motioned, Laurie D'Aquila provided the second to consider and act upon the following recommendation by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $5,448.25 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, entitled "FY 2022 Emergency Management Performance Grant", (revenue account 10542-43000 and expense account 10542070-51590).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. There was no discussion. Accordingly the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to accept the grant in the

amount of $5,448.25 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergence Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security FY 2022. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 2: Kathy Boulware motioned, Edward Blaschik provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $5,448.25 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, entitled "FY 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant",(revenue account 10542-43000 and expense account 10542070-51590).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. There was no discussion. Accordingly the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to accept the grant in the amount of $5,448.25 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergence Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security FY 2023. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 3: Robert Smith motioned, Edward Blaschik provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $2,000.00 from the M. Jones Family Fund and the Mary Janvrin and Natalie Janvrin Wiggins Fund for Birds, Other Animals and Nature at the Community Foundation of Middlesex County for the purpose of supporting summer camp programs (revenue account 28045-44709-R1099 and expense account 28045033-56900-R1099).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. There was no discussion. Accordingly the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to accept the grant in the amount of $2,000 from the M. Jones Family Fund and the Mary Janvrin and Natalie Janvrin Wiggins Fund for Birds, Other Animals and Nature at the

Community Foundation of Middlesex County for the purpose of supporting summer camp programs. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 4: Robert Smith motioned, Edward Blaschik provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $54,857.14 for the FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, for the purpose of purchasing turnout gear (revenue account 33050-43000-G2901 and expense account 33055011-58820-G2901).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Jim Francese asked what is turnout gear. Deputy Fire Chief Swol explained that it is the protective gear-hat, coats and boots. Amalia Shaltiel asked how many-he responded 12 sets. Kathy Boulware asked how long does it last-10 years. Giovanna Watters asked does it affect the budget-no it's a grant. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $54,857.14 for the FY 2023 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, for the purpose of purchasing turnout gear. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 5: Peter Govert motioned, Robert Smith provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a gift in the amount of $20,000 from Consumer Reports for the Town Beach Playground (revenue account 33050-43000-G2701 and expense account 33055011-58820-G2701).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Laurie D'Aquila asked what was this for? Jenna Masci stated that the playground equipment was in very bad condition. Amalia Shaltiel asked what kind of equipment. Irene Haines stated climbing structure and slide. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to consider and act upon the recommendation

of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a gift in the amount of $20,000 from Consumer Reports for the Town Beach Playground. The motion passed with one abstaining vote(Erik Dill) via voice vote.

Item 6: Peter Govert motioned, Amalia Shaltiel provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a donation in the amount of $500.00 from Plum St. Productions LLC, and to appropriate said funds to Open Space Reserve Fund (33250-43000-25022).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Robert Smith asked what was this for? Tanya Bourgoin and Linda Zemienieski stated it was from a production company that used the open space land for filming. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion accept a donation in the amount of $500.00 from Plum St. Productions LLC, and to appropriate said funds to Open Space Reserve Fund. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 7: Edward Blaschik motioned, Robert Smith provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a donation in the amount of $734.47 from Boy Scout Troop 22, and to appropriate said funds to Parks and Recreation (revenue account 28045-44709-R1099).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Amalia Shaltiel asked for more details. Jenna Masci stated this was money was left over from an eagle scout project from the bench project at the Town beach. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote to accept a donation in the amount of $734.47 from Boy Scout Troop 22, and to appropriate said funds to Parks and Recreation. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 8: Laurie D'Aquila motioned, Denise Distefano provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer in the amount of $100,000 from the BOF Contingency (10541020-58910) to Capital Reserves Account (332-10506 Project 25024) Ambulance Reserves.

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Robert Smith asked if this was for a new ambulance. Irene Haines said yes in 2026. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote to approve a transfer in the amount of $100,000 from the BOF Contingency. The motion passed unanimously via voice vote.

Item 9: Robert Smith motioned, Laurel White provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve funding for the East Haddam Ambulance Association in the amount of $59,316.52 from the 2023-2024 BOF Contingency Account (10541020-58910).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Ken Tosi stated that this a good thing for the town and to keep the things the way they are now. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve funding for the East Haddam Ambulance Association in the amount of $59,316.52 from the 2023-2024 BOF Contingency. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 10: Robert Smith motioned, Laurie Alt provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve capital project transfers totaling $7,853.84 from Middle School Scoreboard (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0261) in the amount of $3,750 and School Wide Maintenance Supervisor Vehicle (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0259) in the amount of $1,403.42 and High School Boiler (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0077) in the amount of $2,700.42 **to** High School Softball Scoreboard (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0288) in the amount of $1,679 and Elementary School Playground (account number

33250013-58926 Project C0215) in the amount of $666.45 and High School ADA Softball 58926 Project C0259) in the amount of $1,403.42 and High School Boiler (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0077) in the amount of $2,700.42 **to** High School Softball Scoreboard (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0288) in the amount of $1,679 and Elementary School Playground (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0215) in the amount of $666.45 and High School ADA Softball platform (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0256) in the amount of $4,955.59 and Middle School Generator (account number 33250013-58926 Project C0296) in the amount of $552.80.

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Edward Blaschik asked it this putting money where it needs to go. He was told yes. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve capital project transfers totaling $7,853.84 from Middle School Scoreboard in the amount of $3,750 and School Wide Maintenance Supervisor Vehicle in the amount of $1,403.42 and High School Boiler in the amount of $2,700.42 **to** High School Softball Scoreboard in the amount of $1,679 and Elementary School Playground in the amount of $666.45 and High School ADA Softball 58926 Project in the amount of $1,403.42 and High School Boiler in the amount of $2,700.42 **to** High School Softball Scoreboard in the amount of $1,679 and Elementary School Playground in the amount of $666.45 and High School ADA Softball platform) in the amount of $4,955.59 and Middle School Generator in the amount of $552.80.

Item11: Laurie Alt motioned, Jackie Nowell provided the second to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer in the amount of $96,798.27 from 2023-2024 BOF Contingency (account number 10541020-58910) for $71,818.48 and $24,979.79 from 2023-2024 Highways and Streets Regular Employees (account number 1543030-51510) to Trees Grounds Maintenance (account number 10543350-54303).

Opportunity for discussion was offered. Ruth Masci stated she would be voting no because of the issues with Public Works and the layoffs. Kim Dodge is unhappy with the condition of the roads. Ken Tosi will also be voting no because of the controversy. Karin Bundy asked why the Board of Selectmen is not on this item. I stated that this is a Board of Finance transfer only. She also complained about the dead trees on Orchard Road. Todd Gelston, Board of Finance Chairman said he wasn't aware of the layoffs and deferred to Irene Haines, First Selectman. Rob Johnson stated that the Public Works budget is over by $28,000. Many people are unhappy with the condition of the roads and the tree cutting. There being no further discussion the Moderator called for a vote on the motion to consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer in the amount of $96,798.27 from 2023-2024 BOF Contingency for $71,818.48 and $24,979.79 from 2023-2024 Highways and Streets Regular Employees to Trees Grounds Maintenance. The motion failed with 2 voting yes via hand vote and 1 abstaining.

There being no further business to discuss the Moderator called for motion to adjourn. Edward Blaschik provided the motion, Robert Smith provided the second. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 with a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Klinck

Town Clerk