

Board of Selectmen's Meeting – October 12, 2021 (Approved minutes)

Robert McGarry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Haddam Neck Firehouse, 50 Rock Landing Road, Haddam Neck CT 06424

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:

September 13, 2021: Anderson made a motion to approve the September 13, 2021 minutes as amended. There was a brief discussion. Public Comment should read “very best idea” not “very best ideal” Motion approved as amended.

Public Comment: N/A

Selectman's Update:

Projects

- Rossi Property –
 - Bill Warner & I met with our environmental consultants and Andy Becker, ROLUMCO, & their environmental consultants to discuss environmental issues at the property. There are 5 areas of concern. 1 is a minor surface contamination near a transformer, other 4 are fuel oil. Rossi will remediate them. 1 of the 4 fuel oil locations is largely under the green building. Rossi will remediate the part of that location that is under the paved area. They want to do the remediation before the ground freezes. We are going to sample the historic fill.
 - I signed the 4th extension to the Purchase & Sale agreement. Expires Dec 15. We'll continue to ask for extensions as necessary until our due diligence is finished.
 - Process –
 - Complete due diligence & remediation to the satisfaction of our environmental consultant & environmental lawyer.
 - Final negotiations with ROLUMCO, if any
 - BOS meeting – Decide to recommend purchase or walk away (ending this process)
 - Town Hearing to discuss. May be first of several
 - BOF meeting – Agree to purchase & propose financing
 - P&Z determination favorable to the purchase
 - Town Meeting to approve/disapprove purchase
- Scovil Hoe – Met with DECD to discuss grant

- Roads
 - Grapevine - Town crew paved using recently purchased paving box
 - Killingworth Road – Repaving by CT DOT should be starting
- Private Projects –
 - Bridge Road – Submitted plans for 40 units for ARC. Mostly 1 BR
 - 1572 Saybrook Rd – Plans submitted for remodeling existing building for restaurant and adding two commercial buildings behind it submitted for ARC

Personnel

- Gary Vivian, Building Inspector retirement
- Jim Puska, ZEO
- Resident Trooper – Trooper Josh Muckle selected to be our new resident

Other

- Phantom Brewery – Met with Beau Kolcio, a Haddam resident. He’s interested in moving his brewery to the building Steady Habits was going to lease, by Dunkin Donuts.
- Higganum Hardware – Opened
- Cell Tower – Verizon intends to build out two sites, Jail Hill & Tylerville. Approval process & construction takes about 2 years.
- Absentee ballots for the Nov 2 election are available

Anderson:

Thank you for the “Welcome to Haddam” signs being put back up after being damaged.
 River Days was a big hit, thank you to everyone who make it possible to have this event.
 Grimm’s Haunted House will be on October 22nd, 23rd & 24th. Donations will be given to the Haddam Food/Fuel Bank. Liberty Bank will match 25% of donations made.
 The Holiday Pop-Up Market will start on Small Business Saturday, November 27th.
 This Friday, October 15th will be the last Farmer’s Market of 2021.

Board of Education Update: Prem Aithal presented the Board of Education update. Attached as Schedule I.

Tax Refunds:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Real Estate (01)	
godlewski, joseph	\$4,659.38
Total:	\$4,659.38
Motor Vehicle (03)	
ely, kathleen	\$36.18
condil, alexander	\$40.58
brooke, francis	\$200.00
Vault Trust - leasing	\$124.33
eddingler zachariah	\$208.49

tiezzi, daniel	\$29.85
pach, mark	\$11.87
barber, lauren	\$8.04
speicher, dale	\$35.85
goldfarb, barry	\$51.78
brainerd, charles	\$10.71
keefe, heidi	\$109.83
moncata, louis	\$77.18
vw credit	\$730.03
vw credit	\$115.22
goodwin, david	\$8.04
goodwin, david	\$16.21
smith, julie	\$374.60
narducci, jean	8.04
Total	\$695.19
Grand Total:	\$5,354.57

Anderson made a motion to approve the October 12, 2021 tax refunds as presented. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business:

Presentation by the Sustainability Committee: The committee had a presentation on composting at the Transfer Station.

Moriarty made a motion to support the Haddam Food Scrap Pilot Program in the amount of \$5,551.67. There was a brief discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: N/A

Adjournment: Anderson made a motion to adjourn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned 7:37 pm. Minutes taken by JoAnn Ricciardelli

Summary of September 2021 Board of Education Meetings

2021-2022 School Year: Interim Superintendent, Dr. JeanAnn Paddyfote, reported on a busy start to the school year including an update on student transportation issues that have been experienced at RSD17 and by most school districts throughout the state. With six less drivers for the District's thirty-four bus runs, our bus company, STA, has pulled four drivers in from other districts to assist our runs. Additional adjustments have been made by moving away athletic events to later in the day when school runs have ended, and the District has opted to use another company for out-of-district student transportation in order to relieve another STA driver to be used in-district.

Strategic Planning: Over the span of three days, the Board held fourteen in-person focus groups with community members, leaders, teachers, staff, administrators, and parents, all facilitated by an HYA associate to collect data and report major themes from across all groups that the Board should consider when forming its 3- 5 year strategic plan. Additional focus groups will take place virtually in October with students, alumni, and additional community members and leaders. A community survey will be available in early November and the link will be posted on the front page of the RSD17.org website. Data collected from these surveys and focus groups will be reported to the Board and incoming Superintendent Wibhey in December and the final plan will be presented to the community before the end of the school year.

Summer Curriculum Work: The Curriculum Committee reported that 45 staff members participated in Curriculum work through the summer on 35 projects across nine disciplines. Additionally 153 students participated in Summer Learning Opportunities, either on-line or in-person, from Kindergarten Jumpstart and iReady Reading and Math support, to credit recovery for High School students with positive outcomes reported at each level.

Emergency Repairs: The Facilities Committee explained \$35,000 in unexpected repairs and remediation that was reported at the start of the year. A heating compressor unit and heating pipes needed to be replaced at KES and a water tank seal needed to be replaced at HKI/MS. Additionally, asbestos was found during a renovation in the HKHS Cougar Cafe and remediation was completed. The full Facilities Assessment being performed by Tecton Architects will be presented to the Facilities committee on October 18th.

Finance Committee: The Finance Committee gave a fiscal report on the District's Cougar Cubs Daycare program. What began nearly 15 years ago as a program for just staff members, has grown into a successful community daycare that has reached capacity with 25 children of staff and 37 children from the community. This program also serves as a benefit to our High School Early Child Development program. The Committee also reported on tracking unexpected COVID Expenses for the 2021-2022 school year. To date the District has incurred unexpected expenses to purchase tents and for temporary staff to help with employee vaccine compliance.

On our website: USDA federal funding will again provide free school breakfasts for Pre-K through 8th grade students, and free school lunches for all grades throughout this school year. Information on this program and the school menus can be found on the RSD17.org website under **District→Food Services**.