

### **Selectmen's Meeting – December 3, 2014**

Schlag called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. at the Haddam Neck Fire Station, Duval and Donlan were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Schlag expressed the board's condolences for the passing of long-time resident Stanford Brainerd.

### **Approval of Minutes – November 19, 2014:**

Schlag moved to accept the minutes. Approved unanimously.

### **Public Comments:**

There were no comments.

Schlag welcomed Nick Danaher, a Haddam Neck Boy Scout who is working on a Communication Badge.

### **Municipal Agent for the Elderly Report:**

Mark Lundgren was present and gave his report to the BOS regarding fuel assistance, wellness checks, CW Resource's choice to go meatless on Mondays but has since changed this policy due to lack of diners. The middle school Quest class visited in November. Donlan thank Lundgren for his work.

### **Access and Utility Easement for the Matesky property on Little City Road:**

Schlag stated Laura Matesky and her attorney added the stipulation that if the easement was granted for access over town property to her lot, 6-2 on Little City Road, it could not be subdivided.

Donlan made a motion to call a town meeting for the easement of town property on Little City Road in Haddam. Passed unanimously.

### **Tax Refunds:**

Schlag moved to approve the following tax refunds.

**VW Credit Leasing LTD - \$331.33** for a motor vehicle – excess payment.

Schlag made a motion to accept the refunds. Passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

Schlag stated one employee was out on worker's compensation and Public Works is in need of a new full time employee at Public Works.

Duval questioned if there is money in the budget to pay for this employee and if the employee who is out comes back, would they still need the extra person.

Schlag stated yes, there is money in the budget for this new employee and PW is down one employee and needs the extra help especially in the winter since we no longer employ a contractor to plow one of the Higganum routes. Assistant Public Works Director Phil Goff recently purchased two used plow trucks to use with one of our drivers instead of contract the service out. William Pytlik, the potential employee in question, has his CDL license and is an experienced driver.

Schlag stated the new employment offer would be conditional as she will be requesting Pytlik to get a post-offer examination from Middlesex Occupational Medicine Center. She also is working on the Worker's Compensation Policy and hiring policy for the town as they have been nonexistent or have lacking throughout the years.

Schlag made a motion to offer a full time public works position to William Pytlik contingent upon an exam at Middlesex Hospital Occupational Center.

Passed unanimously.

#### **Regional Performance Incentive Grant:**

Schlag stated at the Regional Council of Government (COG) meeting today, the COG decided to apply for the grant to study tourism, GIS mapping, and Wetlands mapping for the region. There is no cost obligation to the town.

Duval asked if it would benefit all towns in the COG and not just one or two. Schlag stated yes, it will be a consensus initiative with all 17 River COG towns.

Donlan made the motion to authorize Schlag to sign the Regional Performance Incentive Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization. Passed unanimously.

#### **Old Business:**

Road Discussion of the so-called "Old County Spencer Road" off of Sima Rd. continued from the previous meeting. Schlag stated through further research, the road circled on the 1874 Beers map by Mr. and Mrs. Rand and Attorney Cronan at the November 18, 2014 Board of Selectmen meeting was incorrect and in fact did not show any road where the Rands believe the old road is located. Maps were exhibited. Schlag said based on information from the town engineering firm's surveyor/title searcher and town attorney, she does not believe this has ever been a town road. Schlag also received a call from a long time resident who knows the area and in the past 50 years has never known that to be a town road and whose father also never knew it as a town road and it was only used as a "woods road" or logging road for the mill in the area.

Discussion ensued about who owns the property, Schlag stated that would be an issue for the abutting property owners and is a civil matter.

Duval questioned how the Rands would access their property and if we were land-locking them. Schlag stated we can't claim it a town road even for that reason if it's not a road.

Donlan agreed that we cannot take on that responsibility and it would have to be dealt with as a neighbor issue and that even if we are sympathetic we can't ignore the information we have.

Schlag made a motion based on information received from all sources that the board does not believe this is a town road.

Duval questioned making a decision tonight and if we should wait until the next meeting.

Donlan and Schlag believed letting them know earlier rather than later would help the issue come to a close for all parties.

Passed unanimously.

**Public Comments:**

Mark Lundgren questioned if the snow plowing contractor is still working in Haddam Neck, Schlag stated yes.

Jim McHutchison questioned if the U.S. Fish and Wildlife have finalized the sale of the process of the Pine Brook property, Schlag stated not yet but they are working on it.

Nick Danaher requested that the board speak a little louder. Schlag thanked Nick for his observation and stated it is an FOI requirement that the public be able to hear the selectmen's discussion. She says she had plans to eventually purchase a mini sound system as it is sometimes hard for the public to hear especially in large rooms.

Dustin Nablo asked if there was any new information or correspondence from DEEP in regard to the orange boom that closes off the cove near Connecticut Yankee Power Plant. Schlag stated she had received a response from the Deputy Commissioner of DEEP who said they are still working on it.

Discussion ensued about possibly having the Board vote at the next meeting to rescind authorization due to the irregular and incomplete permitting process by the DEEP.

Lisa Malloy has issues with the DEEP logging trucks passing very close to the Thankful Arnold house and in certain circumstances requires the Historical Society staff to move items for the trucks. Schlag stated she would send Malloy the name and contact information of the appropriate person at DEEP who is in charge of logging the Cockaponset State Forest.

Duval made a motion to adjourn at 6:49 p.m. Passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Melissa Schlag

