

Board of Selectmen's Meeting – January 20, 2016

Milardo called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at the TH. Duval and Donlan were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes – January 6, and Special Meetings January 9th and 16th, 2016: Donlan moved to approve all the meeting minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously.

Public Comments: None at this time.

Assessment Settlement – WFS: Assessor, Marilyn Baumann, was present to explain the Stipulated Agreement - WFS Earth Materials, LLC vs. Town of Haddam. WFS and the Town of Haddam have agreed to resolve the tax appeal for all three of their properties on the 2013 and 2014 Grand List. The total assessment was \$1,166,630 and was reduced to \$910,000. The difference in tax dollars is \$12,726.34. Donlan moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Stipulated Agreement as submitted. Approved unanimously.

ICE Grant Resolution: Valley Shore Emergency Communications (VSECI) in cooperation with municipal partners is seeking a grant for the creation of a multi-site UHF system to provide enhanced communications for the fire department and medical technicians. In order for this to happen, a Town Meeting must be called to vote on a resolution. Duval moved to set up a town meeting. Approved unanimously. The Town Meeting will be January 28, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Station #1 firehouse.

Tax Refunds: Donlan moved to approve the following tax refunds.
Dominick & Patricia Mainetti - \$75.19 on real estate. Excess payment.
Mary or Kenneth Bird, Jr. - \$135.72 for a motor vehicle supplemental – excess payment.
All of the above approved unanimously.

Appointments – Wetland's Commission: Milardo moved to add ZBA Alternate to the appointments. Approved unanimously. Donlan moved to appoint Tom Berchulski to fill the vacancy of Helen Reeves term to November 22, 2017. Approved unanimously.

Economic Development Commission: Donlan moved to appoint Kate Anderson and Lori Maggi, as full members, term to expire June 30, 2018. Approved unanimously.

Wetland's Commission: Donlan moved to appoint Gail Reynolds as an alternate, effective immediately, term to expire May 1, 2019. Approved unanimously. There is still one more alternate position vacant.

New Business - Haddam Land Trust Acquisition – Bill Cowan: Bill Cowan, President of the Haddam Land Trust was present to ask the BOS if they would write a letter of support to the State DEEP for an Open Space Watershed Land Grant. He gave a presentation as to location. This parcel of land is 130 acres and is located on the corner of Ruth Hill Road and Tinker Road in Haddam. According to Cowan this is a fabulous parcel. There is a State Forest around conservation parcels, streams, wetlands beaver pond, marsh lands, and vernal pools protect a trout stream. There will be a \$2,500 fee to write the grant. Donlan asked if property would be able to turn into passive recreation. Cowan stated the Land Trust's goal is to encourage a trail system, parking place for bird watchers, snow shoeing, skiing, but no ATV's. Donlan moved to support the request to approve going forward with the grant for this parcel and authorize the First Selectman to write a letter of support and do what she has to do to support this request. Approved unanimously.

Cemetery Grant: First Selectman Milardo received a letter from the State of CT, Office of Policy and Management regarding a “Neglected Cemetery Account Notice Grant Award” in the amount of \$2,000. After a brief discussion, Duval moved to authorize the First Selectman to sign the grant paperwork and to create a new line item. Approved unanimously.

Town Meeting – January 28, 2016 for Firehouse Repairs: The agenda for the town meeting is

1. Valley shore emergency Communications is seeking a grant with municipal partners for a multi-site UHF system to provide enhanced communications.
2. Requesting re-appropriation of capital funds on a completed firehouse project to correct faulty workmanship.

The town’s insurance company will pay for some of the repairs to the roof and inside of the building, the fire department will put in \$11,300 and the town will appropriate \$12,000 for the repairs, which were needed because of faulty workmanship.

STEAP Grant Re-appropriation Request: Milardo stated since 2010 the town received a STEAP Grant in the amount of \$500,000; the money has not been used and the State is pushing to take the money back. Milardo stated there is a request with the State of CT to reallocate the money for improvements on Phase II on the Higganum Green. They are talking about making Candlewood Hill Road a one-way street between the thru-way from Route 154 to Candlewood Hill Road on the upper section of the green. The deadline to apply was January 15, 2016 and Milardo is waiting to hear from the State if the proposed changes can be done with this money.

Charter Revision: Milardo stated she will be starting a Charter Revision Panel with no less than five members and no more than 15. If anyone is interested in serving on this panel, please contact the first selectman’s office. The panel will be voted on at the next BOS’s meeting, February 3, 2016.

Public Comments: Melissa Schlag stated the BOS does not need to second motions. Schlag asked the BOS for more information as to what the Executive Session is going to be discussing. She wanted to know if the board was going to hire a Municipal Agent. The board stated they are going to discuss what is on the agenda.

Executive Session – Municipal Agent Reappointment: Duval moved to go into Executive Session at 7:40 P.M. Alice Zanelli was invited to Executive Session. The board came out of Executive Session at 8:25 P.M. No decisions were made.

Duval moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 P.M. Approved unanimously.

Minutes taken by – Alice Zanelli