

**Town of Haddam
BOARD OF FINANCE
Regular Meeting
Monday, November 19, 2018
APPROVED MINUTES**

In attendance	Absent	Others in attendance
Centofanti	Fredericksen	Bertrand – Finance Director
Hasse	Nesti	Milardo – First Selectman
Lundgren		Schlag – Selectman
McGarry		
Moriarty		
Challenger Rutty		

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Centofanti called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairman Centofanti welcomed the new members of the Board, Wayne Ruddy and Sean Moriarty.

Seating of Alternates: Hasse made a motion, seconded by Lundgren to seat Challenger for Fredericksen. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Lundgren made a motion seconded by Challenger to accept the minutes of September 17, 2018 with the correction under Public Comment the word “produces” to “produced”. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Lundgren read from a letter he wrote,

“A Second Opinion: Town Garage, Renew or new.

Does the Town need a new Town Garage at a new location? Or can we save a ton of money and improve what we already have?

The current Administration, Board of Selectmen, The Capital Improvements Committee and the Board of Finance have planned \$900,000 to purchase land for a new Town Garage. \$450,000 in the 2019-20

Budget and \$450,000 in the 2020-21 Budget.

Because of the odd number; \$900,000; my guess is that a location, a very expensive location, has already been picked. Again my guess, because of the high odd dollar number extensive engineering and site cleanup looks to be required.

This also leaves a 'grandfathered' central location that has worked for many decades vacant. It has been suggested that this would be a good location for a Higganum Center Sewage Treatment Plant. But if sewers were to happen there are less valuable locations to site that facility.

To my knowledge the current site has never been looked at with the improvement of efficiency in mind. I suggest we do so. Please see a quick Photo Shopped picture of just one possibility. The

picture is of the current facility with a picture of the Killingworth Hardware storage building overlaid. Along with a new modern building coupled with the current building being upgraded and an off-site storage building for out of season dry storage (a perfect site is nearby that could also house a sewage treatment plant and public parking). Renew to new makes sense.

Add to the above the very real value of 'grandfathering'. We now have 'the highest and best use' of the property because the salt and sand, fuel tanks and industrial use is forever. The Planning and Zoning Commission, done with commendable forward thinking, has kept the Garage site out of the Higganum Center Regulation District allowing this possibility to go forward.

This is just one idea, others are always welcome, to not only upgrade this important facility but save our taxpayers a ton of money.

Communications to the Board: Tax Collectors Report.

Finance Director's Report: Director gave her report. Various questions were asked and answered.

2018-19 Year End Transfers:

2019-2 First Selectman Milardo explained the requests from the Haddam Volunteer Fire Department. Scott Larsen from the Fire Department was also present further explained what the department was trying to accomplish. Lundgren made a motion seconded by Haase transfer from the Unallocated Line in the CNR line to the Fit Test line, 17-20-200-19-20002 \$9,000 and forward to the BOS for a Town Meeting. Motion passed with McGarry abstaining.

Lundgren made a motion seconded by Challenger to repurpose the use of line Truck 7-13, 17-20-200-10-20002 to a new line, Military Truck for a purchase and to forward to the BOS for a Town Meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

2019-1 First Selectman Milardo explained the need for this transfer regarding DEEP safety issues. There was discussion and comments. Hasse made a motion seconded by Challenger approve to appropriate \$141,500 from the unallocated line to a new line Scovil Reservoir Dam and forward this transfer to the BOS for Town Meeting. The motion passed with Lundgren opposing.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: Schwing, Ed: made a comment regarding the BOS meeting. We own the dam temporarily. It is the second repair to the dam. We need to require the eventual owner pay for the repairs.

Hasse made a motion, seconded by Challenger to adjourn the meeting. Motioned carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm. Minutes taken by Barbara Bertrand, Acting Secretary.