

## **Board of Selectmen's Meeting – December 11, 2023 (Unapproved minutes)**

Robert McGarry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam CT 06438

Kate Anderson and Peter Baird were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:** Baird made a motion to approve the Agenda. There was a brief discussion. Baird made a motion to amend the Agenda to include 2024 BOS Schedule, purchasing a replacement Senior Van, HNFD Roof Replacement and add discussion of 1-million-dollar DECD Grant for Rossi Property all under new business and to remove "Hire Tax Clerk" No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**November 13, 2023:** Anderson made a motion to approve the November 13, 2023, minutes. No discussion. Baird abstained. Motion carried.

**Public Comment:** N/A

**Selectman's Update:** Attached as Schedule I

**Anderson:** Attended the CCM conference and learned about different resources. She also learned that DEEP has funding coming up for bike trails and will be getting more information on that.

**Board of Education update:** Attached as Schedule II.

**Tax Refunds:** Anderson made a motion to accept the December 2023 Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,220.83. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. (Attached as Schedule III)

### **New Business:**

**Discuss Haddam Neck Tanker:** Scott Larson made a presentation to the Board to discuss purchasing a Tanker for the Haddam Neck Fire Department. The current tanker is a 1997. Anderson made a motion to approve authorization of a Tanker Truck to move forward to the Board of Finance. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Hire Fire Department Admin Assistant:** Baird made a motion to hire Meghan Foreman as the Fire Department Admin Assistant. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Hire Senior Van Driver:** Anderson made a motion to hire Neal Perron as the Senior Van Driver. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**2024 BOS Schedule:** Anderson made a motion to set the 2024 BOS Schedule on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Purchasing a replacement Senior Van:** Baird made a motion to move the van purchase to the Board of Finance. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Haddam Neck Fire Department:** Anderson made a motion to move forward the Haddam Neck Fire Department Roof replacement to the Board of Finance. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion of 1-million-dollar DECD Grant for Rossi Property:**

Anderson made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to enter into and execute all documents necessary to have the Town receive the State DECD Financial Assistance Agreement for \$1.5 million entitled “Financial Assistance Proposal to The Town of Haddam for Former Cutaway Harrow Remediation Project, Round 16, Project Address: 300 Saybrook Road, Higganum, CT 06441” No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Animal Control Officer:** Anderson made a motion to appoint April Leiler as the Animal Control Officer. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Board of Finance Alternate:** Baird made a motion to appoint Ryan Thompson as the Board of Finance Alternate. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Committee on Aging:** Anderson made a motion to appoint Marjorie Debold, Mary Lou Heger, JoAnn Woickelman, Mary Lou Pierce, Gloria Maynard, Robert Waller, Wayne Rutty, Kay Burgess, R. Thurston Clark, Elizabeth Hartke, Kim Gionfriddo, Mike Farina, Ron Pellrin, Mark Lundgren and Becky Rice to the Committee on Aging. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Director of Health:** Baird made a motion to appoint Scott Martinson as the Town of Haddam’s Health Director. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Higganum Cove Committee:** Anderson made a motion to appoint Peter Baird, Susan DeCarli, Tim McCane, Dorothy Gillespie, Ed Schwing, Tim Teran and Dante Ursini to the Higganum Cove Committee. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Planning & Zoning Alternate:** Baird made a motion to appoint Dorothy Gillespie as the Planning and Zoning Alternate. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Salmon River Watershed Partnership** – Anderson made a motion to appoint Gail Reynolds and Phillip Gaudreau to the Salmon River Watershed Partnership. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Sustainability Committee:** Baird made a motion to appoint Gail Reynolds, Kristin Battistoni, Joanne Nesti, Sarah Neal, Teresa Resnick, Helen Hastings, Mary Nork, John Nork, Linda Talbott and Melissa Oddo to the Sustainability Committee. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Street Naming Committee:** Anderson made a motion to appoint Chris Corsa, Haddam Fire Department Chief or their designee, Haddam Neck Fire Department Chief or their designee and Haddam Ambulance Chief or their designee to the Street Naming Committee. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Tree Warden:** Baird made a motion to appoint Chris Corsa as the Tree Warden. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Town Attorney:** Anderson made a motion to appoint Rich Carella of Updike, Kelly & Spellacy and Nick Grello of Zangari Cohn Cuthbertson Duhl & Grello P.C. as the Town Attorneys. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Baird Made a motion to adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to Sec. 1-200 (6) (D) Discussion of the selection of a site or the lease, sale or purchase of real estate by the state or a political subdivision of the state when publicity regarding such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction would adversely impact the price of such site, lease, sale, purchase or construction until such time as all of the property has been acquired or all proceedings or transactions concerning same have been terminated or abandoned;

1.) Sale of former Rossi property

2.) Sale and lease back of portions of the former Haddam Elementary School.

Invited into the Executive Session: Bill Warner, Town Planner and Joseph Centofanti, Board of Finance Chairman. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

Anderson Made a motion to adjourn from Executive Session @ 8:21 pm

Old business: N/A

Date & Location of next meeting: January 8, 2024, at 6:30pm at the Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive, Haddam CT 06438.

**Adjournment:** Anderson made a motion to adjourn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm. Minutes taken by JoAnn Ricciardelli

December 11, 2023 - Board of Selectmen's Meeting - Schedule I

**BOS Meeting Selectman's Update 2023-12-11**

**Projects**

- Rossi Property
  - Executive Session
- Scovil Hoe
  - Initial submission made for building permit.
- HES
  - Executive Session
- Swing Bridge
  - This will be a tough year for our Tylerville businesses. Please patronize them.
  - Signalized 1-way traffic went into effect 12/1. Some bumps but generally moving OK.
  - There may be 2 63-hr closures this winter. Possibly 1 in late Dec.; 1 in Jan.
- Tylerville Water – No report
- Higganum Cove – Overlook completed
- Private Projects
  - Cell Towers – Homeland Towers has submitted the application for the Haddam Neck tower site to PURA for approval.

**Personnel**

- Chris Corsa & I completed the 12-hour Local Traffic Authority training. This was required by the last legislative session.
- Other items will be discussed under New Business

**Other**

- Town meeting for Injun Hollow Road renaming tomorrow, 12/12, HNFD, 7:00 p.m.

## **Summary of November 2023 RSD17 Board of Education Meeting**

### **Recognition of Outgoing Members**

The Board recognized Board Members Joel D'Angelo and Peter Sonski for their time, dedication, and hard work; both served multiple terms on the RSD17 Board of Education. They were each presented with a certificate and gift from the Board, and we wish them the best in their future endeavors.

### **Welcome New Members**

The Board welcomes new RSD17 BoE members Jennifer Voegtli of Killingworth and Heather Pach of Haddam.

### **Cougar Pride**

HKMS Choral Director Katherine Jones and students Eliza Sturges, Emma Castiglioni, and Eleanor Barry spoke to the Board about the Middle School Honors Choir. They were selected to participate in the American Choral Directors Association Eastern Division Conference. Board Chair Sack presented each student with a recognition certificate and congratulations on behalf of the Board.

### **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Wihbey reported to the Board on the following items:

- Burr Elementary was named a School of Distinction for the second consecutive year by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE).
- Killingworth Elementary achieved a School Performance Index (SPI) of 100 again this year.
- HKIS made significant improvements over the last year
- HKHS SAT ELA scores ranked as the 10th-highest in Connecticut.
- Superintendent Wihbey recognized HKHS senior Liza Murphy, who was identified by the College Board as a commended student on the 2022 PSAT.
- Teacher feedback is being collected through the District Wide Data Team to monitor the impact of Professional Learning on teachers' practice.
- Jenn Beermuender, Superintendent Wihbey, and Judy Nacca defended our reading waiver to the State Department of Education on 10/26 and will hear a response by December 1st.
- Food Services received a Supply Chain Assistance Grant of \$44,289.28.
- The Fiscal department reported that the annual audit is still on target for December 31st completion.

## **Student Representatives Report**

Madison Moriarty reported to the Board on the following November happenings:

- The boys soccer and volleyball teams had semi-final state games.
- The Cougar Bowl was held on November 20th, in which senior and junior girls play against one another and the boys are their cheerleaders.
- HKYFS sponsored a school-wide assembly on leadership and character building.
- The football team traveled for the annual Principal's Cup Game on November 21st.

## **Continuous Improvement Plan**

All RSD17 principals presented their Continuous Improvement Plans to the Board.

## **Field Trip Requests**

### HKMS Philadelphia Field Trip

Principal Ventura updated the Board about the upcoming 8th-grade Philadelphia Trip, which will bring them to many historic sites over three days and two nights in June.

### HKMS Trip Request-Nature's Classroom Field Trip

Principal Ventura spoke to the Board about the Middle School's interest in a 6th-grade field trip. The first step taken was a survey of feasibility and interest. Based on the feedback, Principal Ventura would like to work with the team and the subcommittee on the best approach to offering a modified trip in the future.

### HKHS Trip Request-France April 2025

Principal Hayward and Teacher Christine Kehrley presented to the Board their proposal for a trip to France in 2025 for the 10th-12th grade French students. Principal Hayward and Ms. Kehrley discussed the itinerary and travel safety and her recommendation for the students to obtain travel insurance. Superintendent Wihbey also told the Board that they would be revisiting the trip six months before for a second approval.

## **Finance/Facilities Subcommittee**

The Board, along with Tecton and Arcadis, held the 4th Public session for the Master Plan on 11/16, including an interactive live survey asking about various priorities for future schools. Another community survey will be conducted soon as the Board continues work on the RSD17 Master Plan.

### **Policy Subcommittee**

The Board reviewed the language updates and clarifications in Family and Medical Leave Policies 4152.6 and 4252.6. There are no substantive changes to either policy.

### **Curriculum Subcommittee**

ELA Update - Grades K-6 have successfully implemented Wit and Wisdom, integrating weekly collaborative planning meetings.

HKHS Class Updates - Civics and Contemporary Issues and Health 1 and 2 are currently being written/updated for Fall 2024 to align with CT state standards.

Multi-tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) - The District is making the shift this year from SRBI to MTSS (Multi-Tiered Systems of Support). MTSS is a more comprehensive and up-to-date, whole-child approach to intervention, which aligns with Objectives 1, 2, and 5 of the Strategic Plan. The initial implementation included the creation of Leadership Teams at schools and fine-tuning Student Support Teams.

Appreciation for Curriculum Coordinators - The subcommittee acknowledged the dedication and hard work of Heather Rigatti and Jenn Beermuender. Because of their work, RSD17 is often ahead of state updates and requirements and has yet to see the COVID-related learning losses experienced in other districts.

### **On Our Website**

The RSD 17 Master Plan Information is available on the website under the District Facilities menu option [RSD 17 Facilities Study and Master Planning Website](#). Email [masterplan@rsd17.org](mailto:masterplan@rsd17.org) with any questions regarding RSD17's Master Plan project.

December 11, 2023 - Board of Selectmen's Meeting - Schedule III

| <u>Last Name</u>        | <u>Bill Number</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Prior/Current</u> |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| <b>Real Estate (01)</b> |                    |               |                      |
|                         |                    |               |                      |

**Total:** **\$0.00**

**Personal Property (02)**

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

**Total:** **\$0.00**

|                           |               |          |         |
|---------------------------|---------------|----------|---------|
| <b>Motor Vehicle (03)</b> |               |          |         |
| enterprise FM Trust       | 2022-03-52834 | \$244.62 | current |
| brookes, audrey           | 2022-03-51130 | \$20.22  | current |
| ferreira, heather         | 2022-03-60282 | \$12.51  | current |
| nissan                    | 2022-03-56811 | \$379.97 | current |
| Honda Lease Trust         | 2022-03-54212 | \$563.51 | current |
|                           |               |          |         |

**Total** **\$1,220.83**

**Motor Vehicle Supplement (04)**

|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|

**Total:** **\$0.00**

**Grand Total:** **\$1,220.83**