

Board of Selectmen's Meeting – March 15, 2017 (Approved Minutes)

Lizz Milardo called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. at Haddam Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive

Sean Donlan was present. Robert Duval was not.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda:

Additions to the Agenda under New Business: Schedule a Town Meeting and a Public Hearing re: Dublin Hill Bridge, change Board of Selectman meeting time and review and select the bids for the Community Center/Veterans Museum Window Project. We will put resignations specifically under resignations: Jay Lonergan for HK Authority and Neal Perron for the Board of Education. **Donlan:** Made a motion to approve the Agenda as amended, to schedule a Public Hearing, BOS Calendar, bids for window replacements and also under Resignations Neal Perron and Park & Rec, Jay Lonergan. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Tabled.

Public Comments: **Schlag:** Thank you to Sean for adding details to the agenda.

Tax Refunds:

Real Estate (01)		
John	Rak	\$2,889.59
Jon & Paige	Wink	\$62.42
Lynn	Walker	\$1,800.87
Jane	Nemecek	\$92.20
Law Office of Scott Jezek		\$7,631.68
		\$12,476.76
Motor Vehicle (03)		
Kimberly	Peterson	\$131.51
		\$131.51
Motor Vehicle Supplement (04)		
Louis	Nizet	\$7.67
Theodore and Elizabeth	Milardo	\$189.95
		\$197.62
Grand Total:		\$12,805.89

Donlan made a motion to accept the Real Estate, Motor Vehicle, Motor Vehicle Supplement tax refunds. Milardo seconded. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Reports:

- **Animal Control** Facebook has been helping out to help some of the lost dogs. There was a dog found and turned into the Meriden shelter and may get turned over to our ACO. There were rumors on Facebook, Daun is not our Animal Control Officer. For the record, she is the Animal Control Officer.
- **Municipal Agent for the Elderly:** There are new residents at High Meadow. She's been helping with Medicare supplement plans. She is continuing to do her training. She is dealing with an issue with Adult Protective Services and working with CHOICES and Senior Resources and CRT and

the Meal Site. She has also been working and meeting with HUD. She assisted in person or on the phone, 34 residents.

- **Resident State Trooper:** There were 644 calls in the month of February, there were 4 criminal arrests, 340 property checks, 29 alarms, 5 disturbances and 10 medical assists. The troopers did look into the target shooting noise complaint that Mr. Bogdan brought to our attention. They talked to the resident. The resident is within his legal rights to be doing what he is doing. There is no illegal activity happening. He agreed to let the Westbrook Barracks know when he would be shooting out of courtesy. Trooper Milardo also attended a Board of Education meeting on February 28, 2917 on ways to reduce drug use and possession at schools.
- **Senior Center:** Served 225 people, they gained 4 new people for meals. They had a total of 73 passengers for the month, 15 were medicals.

Old Business: No old business

New Business:

EDC has requested we hire a coordinator and we planned for that in the budget. The Board of Finance has approved that. East Haddam would like to get someone hired by middle of May – beginning of June. I am asking for an appropriation up to \$4,000.00. **Donlan:** made a motion to bring to Board of Finance to request funding for a part-time EDC Coordinator till the end of this fiscal year for \$4,000.00. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Master Municipal Agreement: I need permission to sign for the town. It is a DOT requirement so we can get everything in place for the Dublin Hill Bridge. **Donlan** made a motion to give permission for Milardo to sign the Rights of Way Projects. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Resignations:

Jay Lonergan does not want to be on the HK Parks & Recreation Authority. He will stay on Haddam Park & Recreation Commission.

Donlan made a motion to accept the resignation of Jay Lonergan from HK Parks & Recreation Authority. Milardo seconded. Approved unanimously.

Donlan: made a motion that we support David Fleig to be appointed to the HK Parks & Recreation Authority to replace Jay Lonergan. Milardo seconded. Approved unanimously.

Neal Perron sent a letter dated March 8, 2017 that he will no longer be serving on the Regional School District # 17 as a board member. **Donlan** made a motion that we accept his resignation. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

New Business:

Town Meeting: We have thirty (30) days to schedule a meeting to replace Neal Perron for the Board of Education. We also need to appoint David Fleig to the HK Parks & Recreation Authority. Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 6:30pm at the Fire House is available. **Donlan** made a motion that we set a Town Meeting for on March 28, 2017 at 6:30 pm at Station 1 Firehouse for two (2) purposes: 1.) to appoint a replacement for Neal Perron on the Board of Ed and 2.) to appoint a replacement from the Haddam Park & Recreation to serve on the HK Park & Recreation Authority. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Board of Selectmen Meetings: Change the meeting time from 7:00 pm to 6:30 pm. **Donlan** made a motion to continue with the first & third Wednesdays of the month and change our starting time to 6:30 pm. Approved unanimously.

Community Center/Veterans Museum Energy Efficient Window Replacement Project: We received six (6) bids. We opened them on Friday, March 10, 2017 at 10:00 am. The bids for new windows were anywhere from \$53,000.00 up to \$88,000.00 and for replacement the bids went anywhere from \$27,428.00 to \$80,000.00. There was a brief discussion. **Donlan:** made a motion that we accept the lowest bid, DiGiorgi. Brief discussion. Approved unanimously.

Correspondence: None

Selectman's Comments: CRT: Senior Resources is an agency that receives funding from the State & Federal government to provide meals at the Senior Center and Meals on Wheels. They went out to bid last year and awarded that three (3) year contract to CRT. CRT had an abundance of meals in the first quarter that they ran out of funding to be able to continue at the rate they were at. CRT has changed the way they are doing business a few times. As of right now, we are still doing five (5) meals a day at the senior meal site. We have a cap of 13 meals. If we go over we have to pay \$7.50 a meal. In order to keep meals going for five (5) days the Town has to pay an additional \$2,300.00 a month to continue that. In April we are going to go to three (3) meals a week with CRT. The cap drops to 8 meals and the Town will still have to pay \$7.50 a meal even though the cost of the meal is \$9.96. Suzanne is working with the community & churches to provide meals for the seniors on Tuesdays & Thursdays.

The numbers that the Governor announced for the state budget – for the Town of Haddam - they are asking for a third of the teacher's pension retirement to be paid in. That dollar amount for the Town of Haddam is 1.1 Million dollars. The legislation can be changed. Right now it says the State is eligible to pay that funding. It is illegal right now to ask the towns. It's only a matter of time before they tweak it. The formula on how they fund is skewed. I gave some testimony around that with some actual numbers. The actuarial numbers that they are using are not valid to current rates that are available today. In addition to that, the funding for Special Education is not being counted as a revenue to the Town, which always went to the Board of Ed. That dollar amount is \$754,000.00. We are looking at a 2 million dollar deficit of revenue from the State of Connecticut to the Town of Haddam. We asked the state if there was a plan B, they don't seem to have one right now. I understand that they need to come up with this money somehow, but to having the towns pay for something they never made a commitment to pay and right now not legally bound to pay is very disconcerting to most CEO's of towns. There are only a handful of towns getting money from the state most are not. I don't think it's fair that the property owners in a municipality especially when the municipality did a good job of keeping the dollars in check – will have to bare this increase.

Public Comments:

Neal Perron: made a comment regarding the target shooting issue from the last meeting.

Ed Munster: made a comment regarding the Board of Education budget, Town budget and State budget suggesting possibly delaying our town budget until after the State budget is fixed.

Peter Sonski – 243 Hidden Lake: asked “if budgets are not passed, how long can the town last if tax bills are not sent out”

Donlan: Introduced Peter Sonski to the meeting and expressed his interest in being on the Board of Education and how he should go about doing so.

Donlan moved to adjourn meeting at 8:00 PM. Milardo seconded. Approved unanimously.

Minutes taken by: JoAnn Ricciardelli