

## **Board of Selectmen's Meeting – April 12, 2021 (Approved minutes)**

Robert McGarry called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm Via GoToMeeting

Kate Anderson and Sean Moriarty were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Approval of Agenda:** Moriarty made a motion to approve the agenda. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

**March 8, 2021:** Anderson made a motion to approve the March 8, 2021 minutes. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Comment:** Neal Perron, Haddam Neck: Commented that Injun Hallow Road is starting to get potholes and would like it looked at in the near future.

### **Selectman's Update Projects**

- Rossi Property – Phase 2 environmental analysis completed. Awaiting report.
- Scovil Hoe – Municipal Brownfield grant application submitted for clean-up. \$1.8M
- Bridge Road
  - RoundABOUTs – Meeting w/state
    - Construction – Spring 23 to Fall 24
    - Night work
  - Sidewalks
    - Waiting for DEEP easement
    - Start Spring 2022
  - Project page on town website, sign up for alerts:  
<https://www.haddam.org/subscribe>
- Haddam Center Sidewalks (Grant funded)
  - DOT has signed off on design.
  - Construction Easements
  - Construction may start this year
- Roads
  - High St, Lake Ave Drainage work underway.
  - 20 roads in this year's plan
  - Details in *Bulletin* article
- Financial
  - Finance Director started
  - Budgets – BOF has the proposed budget. BOS has 1 item to approve tonight - dispatch service cost. Still waiting for health coverage and pension estimates.

Capital budget being developed. Will be discussed at a joint BOS/BOF meeting next Monday.

- Public Health – Presented by Scott Martinsen & Sherry Carlson of CRAHD)
  - Covid-19
    - March -74
    - April to date - 28
    - Total – 377
    - Younger average age in new cases.
    - Test positivity rate, hospitalizations & new cases in CT trending up
- Union negotiations – Clerical 3/25, Teamsters 3/30

**Anderson:** updated the board that EDC is meeting on Wednesday night. There is a special guest to speak about the proposed apartment units in Tylerville.

**Moriarty:** commented that if there is a recording of the EDC meeting and/or presentation, would it be available after the meeting for viewing.

**Board of Education Update:** Jennifer Favalora presented the Board of Education update. Attached as Schedule 1.

**Tax Refunds:**

**Real Estate (01)**

knapp, david	\$298.75
monarca, marco	\$304.13
SINGER	\$3,004.72
lloyd, robert	\$3,350.59
Total	<b>\$6,958.19</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle (03)</b>	
Chater, Samar	\$82.81
Chater, Samar	\$73.21
Cab East (car loans)	\$293.99
alderson, shawn	\$93.81
jp morgan - Lease Company	\$153.64
American National Recovery Group	\$79.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$777.19</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$7,735.38</b>

Anderson made a motion to approve the April tax refunds as presented Motion carried unanimously.

## **Old Business:**

**Discontinuance of Pine Brook Road & Bridge Road Easements:** Moriarty made a motion to accept the Resolution of Acquisition of Easements for Bridge Road Sidewalk Installation (attached as Scheduled II) and the Resolution of Discontinuance of road from Pine Brook Road, easterly, to foot of Chapmans Hill. (Attached as Schedule III). No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

## **New Business:**

- **Purchase & Sale Agreement purchase of parcel adjacent to Higganum Cove:** Moriarty made a motion to sign the Purchase & Sale Agreement of the parcel adjacent to Higganum Cove. There was a brief discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Discussion of '21 - '22 Budget:** McGarry presented to the Board, there would be no increase in Valley Shore. Moriarty made a motion to approve Valley Shore at \$118.076. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Discussion of Capital Budget:** There was a brief discussion of the Capital Budget. There will be a Joint Board of Finance / Board of Selectmen Meeting on Monday, April 19, 2021.
- **Modification of Budget Timelines:** Anderson made a motion to approve the adoption of Executive Order 10E to modify the budget timelines as needed. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment:** Moriarty made a motion to adjourn. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned 7:13 pm. Minutes taken by JoAnn Ricciardelli

## **Summary of March 2021 Board of Education Meetings**

**Cougar Pride:** HKMS Art Teacher, Jill Thompson, partners each year with the Killingworth Lions Club to encourage 7th grade students to participate in the Lions International Peace Poster Contest. This year, HKMS 7th grade student, Lily Austin, placed first in our region in December and went on to place second for the state in February. Lily is the first HKMS student to place at the state level. Her poster will be displayed at the Middle School entrance.

**2020-2021 School Year:** Superintendent Dr. Hageman updated the Board on vaccine clinic coordination for our staff through both the CRAHD Health District and Nutmeg Pharmacy with many of our educators able to be fully vaccinated by early April. The Superintendent also shared that HKHS reopening plans continue to move forward and the reiterated importance of mitigation strategies in the community in order to keep our students in school full time.

**Facilities Committee:** The Committee proposed, and the Board agreed, to request proposals from qualified Educational consultants and Architectural/Engineering firms for an Educational Facility Assessments, a Demographic Study and a Board of Education Master Plan. The intent of these requests are to assess the condition of District's buildings to guide maintenance and improvements over the next decade as well as anticipate adjustments needed for future educational needs. The Committee also reported meeting with the Killingworth Elementary School PTO on their plans to place a new playground at KES.

**2021-2022 Budget:** The Board of Education has approved a 2021/22 School Gross budget of **\$42,749,049.19** to bring to the towns for referendum on May 4, 2021. After revenue, grants and fund balances, the towns will be assessed \$40,553,509.24. This budget represents an increase of 2.06% percent from last year, yet with a substantial decrease in last year's budget, the total increase over two years is only \$400,135. Breaking the trend of previous years, this year, the budget assessment represents an increase for Killingworth's budget share because Haddam's enrollment is decreasing by 81 and Killingworth by 28 students. This will decrease Haddam's share of this budget to 60.6% and Killingworth's share will increase to 39.4%.

### **Additional Important Budget Highlights Include:**

- Salaries will increase by only \$51,721 (.23%) due to a reduction of 5.5 FTE staff (3 Certified, 2.5 non-certified) and four retirements. This brings the total net reduction in certified staff since 2010 to 29 full time positions .
- The Board is proposing to offset the 3.5% increase in the health benefits provided through the CT State Partnership II Plan by using \$208,000 from the District's Medical Self Insurance Fund, which was an administrative and risk management fund from when the District was self insured.
- There is a significant increase in Special Education of \$902,000 (17%) . The bulk of this increase is in tuition, transportation, and professional services to aid our Special Education students.
- The Board proposes making crucial investments in COVID learning recovery for our students including added personalized learning software to individualize student success and teacher feedback.
- Additional Federal Coronavirus Grant Funding is anticipated and will be used to invest in reading and math academic support staff, expand access to summer school programs, add social-emotional programs and supports for grades 4-12, and upgrade the technology and connectivity in our schools.
- The RSD17 budget proposed including the full 1% allowed by state statute to be put into the Capital Fund to cover planned maintenance including the boiler circulation pump at KES, paving and sealing parking lots, repairs and upgrades to the high school greenhouse, and school building painting projects.
- Debt Service for HKMS and the HKHS Energy Project will decrease by \$326,000 from 20/21 due to a proposed fund transfer from the Debt Premium Fund to offset the entire 2021/22 Debt Interest.

**Website:** The 2021-22 Adopted Board of Education Budget can be found on RSD17.org under "District" → "Budget Information".

**Schedule II – Monday, April 12, 2021**

**HADDAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**RESOLUTION**

**ACQUISITION OF EASEMENTS FOR  
BRIDGE ROAD SIDEWALK INSTALLATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Haddam (“Town”), is the recipient of a federal grant of funds, administered by the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (“CT-DOT”) entitled, “State Project No 060-162, Bridge Road Sidewalk Project, Town of Haddam” (“Project”) for the installation of sidewalks along Bridge Road in the Tylerville section of the Town, as shown on those certain engineering and construction plans which have been laid out and developed in conjunction with State DOT by the Town Engineer (“Sidewalk Plans”), and

**WHEREAS**, the Town requires the acquisition of certain permanent easements of adjacent real property along sections of Bridge Road as shown on the Sidewalk Plans (“Easements”), and also temporary construction access agreements during Project construction, in order to install the sidewalks; and

**WHEREAS**, CT-DOT on January 22, 2021 issued an authorization and notice to proceed with the acquisition of the Easements along Bridge Road as shown on the Sidewalk Plans, and for the payment of certain amounts for the acquisition of such Easements (“Notice to Proceed”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Town Charter Section 3.9 requires the approval of a Town Meeting in order for the Town to acquire any interest in real estate, including the acquisition of the Easements for the Project; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut (“Governor”) declared a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 6, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 7JJ suspending for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency the requirement of in-person voting meetings pursuant to municipal law and allowing the Board of Selectmen of the Town to acquire the Easements without conducting a Town Meeting upon making a finding that (1) such actions are necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and (2) that there is a need to act immediately and during the period of the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency, in order to avoid endangering public health and welfare or prevent significant financial loss, or that such action is otherwise necessary for the protection of persons and property within the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, have been extended on September 1, 2020, and on January 26, 2021 and pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 10A dated February 8, 2021 have been extended again to April 19, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen makes a finding that the acquisitions of the sidewalk Easements are necessary to implement the Project and permit the orderly operation of the Town, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen makes a finding that as the Tylerville section of Town grows both residentially and commercial increased numbers of pedestrians are walking within the traveled portion of Bridge Road; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen makes a finding with the construction season commencing, and the increase in pedestrian traffic along Bridge Road, and the continuation of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies, there is a need to act now for the protection of persons in the Town, without conducting an in-person Town Meeting in order for the Town to acquire the Easements necessary to implement the sidewalk Project.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF HADDAM:**

1. RESOLVED: The acquisitions of the sidewalk Easements are essential to implement the Project and permit the orderly operation of the Town
2. RESOLVED: The Tylerville section of Town is growing both residentially and commercial and increased numbers of pedestrians are walking within the traveled portion of Bridge Road
3. RESOLVED: There is a need to act now for the protection of persons in the Town to acquire the Easements necessary to implement the sidewalk Project.
4. RESOLVED: In order to reduce the spread of Covid-19 the Town may acquire the Easements without conducting an in-person Town Meeting as required by Charter Section 3.9.
5. RESOLVED: The Board of Selectmen authorizes the First Selectman, or in his absence one of the other Selectmen, to acquire the Easements for the implementation of the sidewalk Project in Tylerville in accordance with the CT-DOT Notice to Proceed
6. RESOLVED: The Board of Selectmen authorizes the First Selectman, or in his absence one of the other Selectmen, to enter into and execute any further documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Town's Project, including any temporary access agreements for the construction of the sidewalks.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen this 12th day of April 2021.

/s/ **Robert McGarry**  
Robert McGarry  
First Selectman

/s/ **Kate Anderson.**  
Kate Anderson  
Selectman

/s/ **Sean Moriarty**  
Sean Moriarty  
Selectman

**Schedule III – Monday, April 12, 2021**

**HADDAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**RESOLUTION**

**DISCONTINUANCE OF ROAD  
FROM PINE BROOK ROAD, EASTERLY  
TO FOOT OF CHAPMANS HILL**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes, §13a-49, the Board of Selectmen of any town may, subject to a majority vote at any regular or special town meeting, discontinue any public or private highway within such town, or any part thereto, or any right of the public therein, and

**WHEREAS** the Town of Haddam (“Town”) Charter Section 3.9 requires the approval of a Town Meeting in order for the Town to abandon roads within the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, reported in the Minutes of Town Meeting, Town records in Volume 53, Page 145, on May 25, 1931 the Town Meeting “Voted that the Town abandon such parts of road as are in the Town of Haddam, from Bailey’s corner down to and including the bridge over Pine Brook, to road to William Chapmans and from the foot of Chapmans Hill over to and including Haddam’s part of Leesville Bridge. To be effective as soon as new bridge is completed and in use”; and

**WHEREAS**, there has for years remained an ambiguity of the language contained in the minutes of the May 25, 1931 Town Meeting, such that it remains unclear to the surrounding property owners and to the public whether the actions taken by Town in 1931 actually discontinued that strip of the roadway lying between what today is known as Pine Brook Road, running easterly, to the foot of Chapman's Hill; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to resolve such ambiguity, the Board of Selectmen ratifies the actions of the May 25, 1931 Town Meeting abandoning that roadway, and now specifically includes that section of road running easterly from Pine Brook Road to the foot of Chapmans Hill; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the State of Connecticut (“Governor”) declared a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency for the State of Connecticut, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 19a-131 and 28-9, in response to the global pandemic of COVID-19 disease associated with a novel coronavirus that is currently affecting multiple countries and states; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 6, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 7JJ suspending for the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency the requirement of in-person voting meetings pursuant to any state or municipal law and allowing the Board of Selectmen of the Town to acquire the Easements without conducting a Town Meeting upon making a finding that (1) such actions are necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and (2) that there is a need to act immediately and during the period of the declared public health and civil preparedness emergency, in order to avoid endangering public health and welfare or prevent



significant financial loss, or that such action is otherwise necessary for the protection of persons and property within the municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, the public health and civil preparedness emergencies declared by the Governor on March 10, 2020, have been extended on September 1, 2020, and on January 26, 2021 and pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order 10A dated February 8, 2021 have been extended again to April 19, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen makes a finding that the ratification of the May 25, 1931 Town Meeting and formal discontinuance of that roadway, including that section of road running easterly from Pine Brook Road to the foot of Chapmans Hill is necessary to permit the orderly operation of the Town, and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen makes a finding that as a result of the continuation of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies there is a need to act now for the protection of persons in the Town without conducting an in-person Town Meeting and resolve the ambiguity regarding this section of roadway.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF HADDAM:**

1. RESOLVED: The Town of Haddam ratifies the May 25, 1931 actions of the Town Meeting abandoning such parts of road as are in the Town of Haddam, from Bailey's corner down to and including the bridge over Pine Brook, to road to William Chapmans and from the foot of Chapmans Hill over to and including Haddam's part of Leesville Bridge.
2. RESOLVED: The Town of Haddam hereby abandons and discontinues that portion of road from the Pine Brook Road running easterly to the foot of Chapmans Hill.
3. RESOLVED: There is a need to act now for the protection of persons in the Town to abandon and discontinue such roadway.
4. RESOLVED: In order to reduce the spread of Covid-19 the Town discontinues and abandons such section of roadway without conducting an in-person Town Meeting as required by Conn. Gen. Stat. §13a-49 and Charter Section 3.9.
5. RESOLVED: The Board of Selectmen authorizes the First Selectman, or in his absence one of the other Selectmen, to execute any further documents necessary to effectuate the purposes of this resolution and the discontinuance of such roadway.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen this 12th day of April 2021.

/s/ **Robert McGarry**

Robert McGarry  
First Selectman

/s/ **Kate Anderson**

Kate Anderson  
Selectman

/s/ **Sean Moriarty**

Sean Moriarty  
Selectman