

Board of Selectmen's Meeting – September 9, 2019 (Approved Minutes)

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

Larry Maggi and Melissa Schlag were present

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Schlag made a motion to add to the agenda to under New Business the Public Visioning Grant. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Public Comment:

Golfarb, Judy: lives on Lt. Shubael Road. Commented on the Dublin Hill Bridge project. She's expressed concern regarding the lack of communication between the Town and residents regarding traveling safety and the potential of this project has being delayed. Her hope is it does not go into the winter.

Milardo, Lizz stated that she's been in communication with Middletown. She's been told it's a gravel road and very few residents travel that road. Project is scheduled to be done the end of October.

Golfarb, Judy asked if someone from Middletown could meet with one of the residents that live in the area of the project.

Milardo, Lizz stated she would relay those concerns to the project manager.

Seamon, John 20 Lt. Shubael Road: stated every time there is a rain storm we get more pot holes. Can you have the Haddam Public Works Department fill the pot holes?

Linda Lt. Shubael Road: needs a catch basin at the end of the cul-de-sac. Milardo responded: Once the bridge is done they will fix drainage on Dublin Hill and then Lt. Shubael. It is scheduled for Spring of 2020.

Nicastro, Cynthia: 24 Cove Warf Lane Commented that it was poor planning to not have done something about the detour prior to the construction starting. The dirt road has pot holes and divots. It is extremely dangerous.

Milardo, Lizz stated the project has been in the works before she was in office. She has reached out to Middleton and the State DOT several times.

Thompson, Scott: suggested that there be a mechanism to make residents feel "warm & fuzzy" he's accepted the fact that it's going to suck until it's finished.

Schlag, Melissa: added that a resident emailed her and that person spoke with the engineer on the project and the contractor responsible for the bridge construction because that resident is very concerned regarding the schedule on the bridge. Schlag suggested sending updates to her and Maggi and they can get the word out to the residents. Milardo suggested putting that information on our website for all residents to access.

Potter, Cliff: North Branford: Stated that in 2 days we will remember what happened on 9/11. The day after 9/11 we were all breathing. We need to remember. They had no reason to die. They were civilians. I am personally offended and hurt even more when Melissa does not respect

the flag. He is offended for every soldier who died. He does not understand why she cannot respect the flag. Move forward and make this country what it should be. The day after 9/11 we all flew our flags and came together – and we should never forget. Don't lose sight of what you have. Buy a fresh flag and hang it on 9/11.

Schwing, Ed: Commented that you need to be a resident of the Town to hold an elected office. He referred to the Town Charter, section 4.2 of 2002 “Any person whose primary residence ceases to be in the Town shall thereupon cease to hold elective office in the Town and the office shall be deemed vacant” As of August 29, 2019 your new address of 292 Port St. Lucie, Florida. Any action taken by Selectman Milardo is null in void.

Milardo, Lizz: stated she purchased a second home in Florida. The address is a mailing address and she is still living in Haddam. She is renting at 272 Pokorny Road, Higganum CT.

Anderson, Kate: thank you to the Town and all the volunteers for putting on Haddam River Days Saturday night. It was one of the best community events we've had in a while. A lot of hours and dedication went into organizing. Thank you to Robin Munster for getting the permits, the Fire Department, the State Troopers to ensure we would all be safe. The Haddam Lions Club for the assistance with parking. All of the organizations.

Munster, Ed: commented that he enjoyed was seeing all the kids outside playing until the fireworks started. Compliment all the people who were involved. It was a great event.

Frey, Chip: Read letter under record:

I am writing this letter to request a tax abatement. I pay as a resident and business owner, almost \$10K a year. Over the years, a paid and elected official, representing Haddam was asked on a public forum at Facebook to recommend a local electrician. Although this Facebook page is titled "if you live in Haddam", many residents and others considering moving to Town, consult it for opinions and recommendations. Many think of it as a Town page. While it is our right to recommend whomever we want, you would think that someone would have a history with a recommendation or at least some good knowledge of them. Ms. Schlag on more than one occasion has recommended that I NOT be used. I don't care who gets recommended, but local seems to be a buzz word here. Also to say, I quote, after I was recommended, "no not Chip Frey" is undermining and not promoting our local businesses that pay taxes. Also, when an out of town or not local, electrician is recommended, why not comment on "not local".

I have on several occasions been asked why that comment was used and I only have one answer to that. She is angry at the world, and has no experience with my company.

When a paid, elected official acts such as this, my taxes are not representing me or my opportunity to make a living and to grow my business. I deserve a tax abatement.

This comes down to my \$10K vs her \$262 a year in paid taxes. The office of selectman holds a degree of integrity and her actions are damaging to economic growth and discouraging others to move to town, after they witness this negativity on line. I work in a lot of surrounding towns and I hear, “We were looking at Haddam, but the FB page was real negative and you have that wacko disrespecting the flag.”

Ms. Schlag couldn't pay her taxes or mortgage, while receiving a monthly check for rent, as

a property owner, now, I want to know how she feels qualified to run for Board of Finance when she couldn't handle her own personal finances.

Please consider this a request of 25% tax abatement, per year for the last 4 and next 4. Who knows how many other damaging comments she has made as a Selectman. Chop Frey, C&M Electric, LLC

Approval of Minutes:

July 8, 2019: Schlag made a motion to approve the July 8, 2019 minutes. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

July 25, 2019: Maggi made a motion to approve the July 25, 2019 minutes. Discussion re: Public Comment: Schwing: change “Should be allowed” to Should not be allowed” no further discussion. Approved unanimously

Tax Refunds:

<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Real Estate (01)	
Hoydilla, Mark	\$185.11
Corelogic	\$2,681.61
Santamaria (Lereta)	\$2,550.73
Total:	\$5,417.45
Personal Property (02)	
Kurt Bogdan	\$198.06
Total:	\$198.06

Motor Vehicle (03)

Lynn Jones	\$83.35
Leonard Nicholas	\$44.69
jp morgan	\$242.90
toyota lease	\$345.80
Code, Zachary	\$17.31
Code, Zachary	\$64.96
Kristin Gillespie	\$97.22
Sean Reynolds	\$235.74
The Homeaids LLC	\$82.17
Michael Sorano	\$15.24
Ally Financial	\$122.64
breglio, stephanie	\$93.83
Ford Credit	\$179.11
Ford Credit	\$136.81
Haan Auto Trust	\$369.13
Harriman, Jonathan	\$61.07
Wilhelm, Joseph	\$157.50

Gardner, Jeffrey	\$21.96
Kuzmak-Roche, Karen	\$263.40
Pinnette, Linda	\$93.48
Ally Financial	\$343.20
Lagace, Michael	\$15.09
White, Jared	\$29.38
knowlton Christopher	\$10.17
knowlton Christopher	\$13.91
Giboski, Donald	\$30.58
Bysterk, Edward	\$33.91
Negrelli, Susan	\$27.67
Honda Lease Trust	\$71.11
weis, Otto	\$127.49
toyota lease	\$742.50
Total	\$4,173.32
Grand Total:	\$9,788.83

Schlag Made a motion to approve the tax refunds of September 9, 2019 in the amount of \$9,788.83. No discussion. Approved Unanimously

Elderly Tax Relief Appeals: Schlag made a motion to allow Gloria Maynard to be part of the Elderly Tax rebate. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Appointments: Tax Clerk: Maggi made a motion to approve Robbie Marshall as a Tax Clerk \$20.00 and 20 hours a week. Milardo/Maggi approved. Schlag abstained.

Request of Funds: Maggi made a motion to request funds from the Board of Finance for operating budget line item correction for Municipal Agent. There was a brief discussion regarding additional money being spent. It was discussed that the Municipal Agent was not funded. It is required by CT Statute that the Municipal Agent work a minimum of 10 hours a week. Therefore, funding that line separately is necessary for audit purposes. Motion approved unanimously.

Special Use License re: Cockaponset State Forest:

Schlag made a motion to approve resolution to authorize the First Selectman to execute a Special Use License to allow the Town to access portions of Cockaponset State Forest to initiate rehabilitation of water drainage system and repair Bridge No.: 060016 over Beaver Meadow Brook. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

HES Purchase Agreement: Maggi made a motion to approve the final version of the HES Purchase Agreement. There was a brief discussion. Schlag stated that it is missing Exhibit A and we have until tomorrow to hand in a survey. Milardo stated there was not enough time to do the survey. The Town will be working with the Haddam Land Trust and will get the survey done. Schlag also asked if someone from the town has been there in the last day. Milardo replied that Bill Warner, Town Planner, walked the building last Thursday. No further discussion. Approved unanimously.

HES Memorandum of Agreement: Schlag Made a motion to approve the MOA re the payment of \$450,000.00 over 3 years. No discussion. Approved unanimously.

Public Visioning Grant: Schlag made a motion to accept the Public Visioning Grant for \$12,000.00 and send to Board of Finance a request to match the \$12,000.00. No discussion Approved Unanimously.

Schlag made a motion to adjourn. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 7:13 pm

Minutes taken by JoAnn Ricciardelli