

NOTE: At 6:30 P.M. members of the Board of Selectmen held a Public Hearing to consider the Neighborhood Assistance Program, and the specific programs of Pathfinders Inc., Killingworth Library Association and Killingworth Land Trust. Members of the public in attendance were Ted Langevin and Jan O'Sullivan. No one spoke either in favor or opposition to any of the matters. **On Motion by Lou Annino, seconded by Nancy Gorski, all three applications were unanimously approved and granted.** The action taken was referred back to the Board of Selectmen to be noted during the Selectmen's regular meeting at 7:00 P.M. The Public Hearing adjourned at 6:32 P.M.

Members in attendance: Nancy Gorski and Lou Annino, Jr.

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by First Selectman Gorski.
2. Visitors included Richard and Elaine Pleines, Annie Stirna, Tim Gannon, Scott Hawkins, Kathy Zandi, Dave Cutillo, Eric Nunes, Eileen Blewitt, Dave Long, , Jackie Wilcox and others.
3. Public Comment:
 - a. Nancy Gorski read a prepared statement from Carol Reimers requesting that the Board of Selectmen proclaim June 2022 as Gun Violence Awareness Month in Killingworth..
 - b. David Cutillo read a multi-page, prepared statement in opposition to measures associated with gun control. (Document was not provided.) David Long spoke as a former, retired armed forces member, of the mental health issues, noting "...guns don't kill people; people kill people..." Jackie Wilcox suggested the Reimers communication had been initiated by a national group and that both school security and mental illnesses were factors involved in the issue. Scott Hawkins and Tim Gannon both supported Wilcox's positions.
 - c. Tim Gannon, Eileen Pleines and Anne Stirna spoke in favor of nominations to the Economic Recovery Committee, noting the importance of keeping appointments "unpolitical".
 - d. Annie Stirna spoke in support of a gun proclamation, noting the support is from a non-partisan group that cares with awareness, and is non-political.
 - e. Tim Gannon noted the dedication and willingness of volunteers to serve on boards.
 - f. Eileen Blewitt questioned why the Board of Selectmen has not moved forward more quickly on appointing a replacement to the Economic Recovery Committee.
4. Approval of Minutes:
 - a. **On motion by Gorski, seconded by Annino, the minutes of the Monday, May 23, 2022 regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen were unanimously approved as submitted.**
 - b. **On motion by Gorski, seconded by Annino, the minutes of the Wednesday, May 25, 2022 special meeting of the Board of Selectmen were unanimously approved as submitted with an amendment to correct the day and date of the meeting to May 25, 2022.**

- c. **On motion by Gorski, seconded by Annino, the minutes of the Wednesday, June 8, 2022 special meeting of the Board of Selectmen were unanimously approved as submitted.**

5. Refunds and Abatements

- a. Behavioral Management LLC, 156 Cow Hill Road: \$11.49 Overpayment

On motion by Gorski, seconded by Annino, a refund to Behavioral Management LLC in the amount of \$11.49 for an overpayment was unanimously approved, allowing them to follow their normal course.

6. Appointments:

- a. Economic Recovery Committee

On motion by Annino, seconded by Gorski, Gwenne Celmer (D) and Dan Colonia (D) were unanimously appointed to serve on the Economic Recovery Committee.

- b. Parmelee Farm: First Selectman Gorski noted that with volunteers stepping forward, vacancies on boards are available. It is recommended that the Parmelee Farm organization needs to form a board of its own that includes two Town-appointed representatives, but that a revision to the Town Charter would be needed to allow this.

On motion by Annino, seconded by Gorski, Karen Milano was unanimously appointed to serve on the Parmelee Farm committee.

7. Department Reports

- a. Board of Education: Kathy Zandi reported on activities associated with Cougar Pride and other student activities, the Strategic Plan that had been presented and approved (with details available on their website), the annual report on facilities with details of work to be done, the donations for summer camperships that had been provided, nutrition and food choice options, and other Regional School District 17 actions and activities.
- b. Building Department and Health Department: Noting that reports had been distributed to Selectmen for review, including detailed information on outstanding permits. Liability issues associated with unpermitted/not-yet approved construction and installations have created potential liability issues for both property owners and the Town. The “work in progress” in addressing these issues needs to have summaries of needed actions associated with individual properties to facilitate the inspection and approval process. While progress is being made, the number of outstanding issues is significant and needs to be aggressively pursued.
- c. Tax Collector: Gorski advised the Tax Collector has reported a 101% collection rate.
- e. Department of Public Works: Gorski reported on a number of items associated with escalation of prices in connection with up-coming projects, noting, among others:

- i. Escalating costs on asphalt are currently \$10.50 to \$11.00
 - ii. 2021-2022 Sectional Overlay of Lover's Lane is expected to be \$2,144 above what is in the Highway's Other line item. (Price per ton was not available and will be provided at the next Selectmen's meeting.)
 - iii. 2022-2023 Mill and Fill line item is expected to be \$10,890 over budget.
 - iv. 2022-2023 Sectional Overlay line item is expected to be \$58,441 over budget. (This is only a portion of that line item in the Public Works budget.)
 - v. Fiscal Year End expenditures for some accounts, including Legal Fees, Snow Removal, Overlay costs in the Public Works budget, which will exceed the \$20,000 threshold will require approval at a Town Meeting.
8. Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget Report: items included above.
9. Through Town Events
- a. Vista Life Innovations, Inc. – Sunday, October 9, 2022 (rain date October 16, 2022)
 - b. Summer Breeze Century Ride for Autism – Sunday, July 10, 2022

On motion by Gorski, seconded by Annino, both the Vista Life Innovations and Summer Breeze Century Ride for Autism events were unanimously approved as submitted.

- c. Gun Violence Awareness Month

Initial draft of Proclamation was read by Gorski but will be held for review and action when all members of the Board are available.

10. Old Business

- a. Recommended Policy & Procedures for Spending ARPA funds – Additional Feedback, prepared by Financial Director Regolo had been distributed to members for review. Gorski advised the Town appeared to be proceeding "okay", and that approvals for proposed submissions would need to go to Town meeting(s) for transparency. In response to question of the number of items which are actionable, Gorski advised a policy draft would be prepared for the next Selectmen's meeting. Annino advised the Town needs to show that progress is being pursued, and that if items appear to be outside of normal Town policies, that establishment of appropriate policies/programs need to be addressed to provide a base to work from to move forward, with all working together to put together a workable plan.
- b. Neighborhood Assistance Act

Gorski reported that the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act (NAA) Tax Credit Program is designed to provide funding for municipal and tax-exempt organizations by providing corporation business tax credit for businesses that make cash contributions to these entities. A non-profit organization is limited to receiving \$150,000 in contributions

in the aggregate. Gorski recommended that other local non-profit organizations, and specifically the Parmalee Farm, should consider making application in coming years.

Motion made by Gorski to approve the Neighborhood Assistance Act application for Pathfinders, the Killingworth Library Association, and the Killingworth Land Conservation Trust and submit them to the State. Motion seconded by Annino and unanimously approved.

- c. Beechwood: Regarding the open question in connection with a Fair Rent Commission:

Gorski noted that not a lot of research has been done in connection with the cost of legal fees to municipalities in connection with establishment or administration of fair rents, and advised of the following:

- o Christine Goupil provided the following update: The CT Council of Municipalities (CCM) is researching the questions raised by the Board of Selectmen and expects to offer a toolkit of fact sheets in mid-summer.
- o Rafie Podolsky, attorney for Legal Assistance Resource Center of Connecticut recommends using Clinton and Westbrook as models for a Killingworth ordinance. Communications from Zachary McKeown, Senior Legislative Associate with CCM and included both as meeting material.

Annino said he had spoken with Podolsky, who did not believe there were significant risks to municipalities since cases were often settled or resolved before escalating to that level. Having a program in place to be ready when/if needed should be addressed and will be brought to a July Selectmen's meeting.

- c. Gravestone Repair for Union District Cemetery: Monument Conservation Collaborative, LLC

With note of the correspondence from Tom Lentz and proposal provided by Monument Conservation Collaborative,

Motion made by Gorski to award Monument Conservation Collaborative LLC the gravestone bid to complete restoration of 35 gravestone in Union District Cemetery. Motion seconded by Annino and unanimously approved.

11. Selectmen's Comments: Annino had nothing additional to provide.

12. First Selectman's Comments:

Killingworth Land Conservation Trust was awarded a \$78,000 grant to purchase the Duffy Greer property.

I, together with members of the BOS and BOF of Haddam met with members of the BOE yesterday regarding strategic planning for the district. We were presented with an Educational Facilities Assessment performed by the BOE last year. The assessment included all four school buildings. Facilities planning will continue with an expected series of meetings again in the fall to collect stakeholder input.

HKYFS has requested a meeting with Haddam and Killingworth First Selectmen and BOF Chairs to discuss some financial and staffing challenges. This meeting is scheduled for June 23rd at 10:00 A.M.

There have been a number of shed break-ins reported, primarily in the Beechwood community. With summer weather here, it is again important to remind everyone to lock their homes, sheds, and cars.

A subdivision on River Road was developed without a plan to install a fire protection system. The Fire Chief sent a letter to the First Selectman indicating he will not sign off on a Certificate of Occupancy until a plan to install a fire protection system is in place.

13. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Bettie Perreault

on June 14 2022