

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, June 12, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Killingworth Town Hall

BOS Members in Attendance: First Selectman Nancy Gorski and Selectmen Jamie Young (Via Telephone) and Louis Annino, Jr.

BOS Members Absent: None.

Visitors: R. Pleines, E. Blewett, E. Disbrow, M. O’Toole, W. Tobelman, M. Dove, R. Pleines, K. Zandi and J. Sciascia (Via Remote)

Called to Order: First Selectman Gorski called this meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Public Comment:

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectmen Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes of the Monday, May 22, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectman as amended:

Corrections are as follows:

1. Page 3 - Under Building Official, replace the “C” with a “K” in Karl’s name (appears three times in the section)
2. Page 4 - Under Early Voting Letter, in the last sentence replace “them” with “BOS”
3. Page 5 - Under Charter Revision, change “dominate” to “supersedes”.
4. Page 5 - Under Charter Revision, put a “.” after Handbook and delete “so”

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #2 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes of the Wednesday, May 31, 2023 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #3 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the following Refunds and Abatements, all for overpayment, and allow them to follow their normal course as presented below:

Refunds

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Hyundai Lease	4100 WildWood Parkway	\$189.11	Overpaid COC#10889M
Titling Trust	Atlanta, GA 30339		

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Department Reports:

BOE Report -

Chair Zandi reported for the Board of Education. She reported how the HK High School has been busy with activities the past few months: a Band Concert, the Senior Outing, Street Fest and Scholar Night. Graduation Night is approaching this week. Two student representatives from the High School were acknowledged for their hard work in providing monthly reports to the Board: Madison Moriarty and Callen Powers. Callen Powers also led the HKHS Baseball Team to win the Class S State Championship a few weeks back. The High School and Middle School are involved with the Textile Donation Projects, the Senior Class setup their first Senior Portfolios, the Director of Food Services applied for, and was granted, the Healthy Food Services Certification. Kathy further spoke about the Master Capital Plan for the Entire District and emphasized that all meetings are open to the public. The District is in the process of finalizing the Strategic Operating Plan. Kathy finished her report by noting upcoming summer District repair projects and utilizing the RSD17 Website to find most up-to-date information.

Budget Report -

Director of Finance Regolo updated the BOS about a development with regard to intergovernmental revenue for next year. She will send the BOS material regarding same. She spoke about a Public Act passed in 2018 which was a municipal spending cap challenge limiting the budget increases by 2 ½. Regolo also stated there wasn't much direction provided by the State during that time. Regolo explained the annual filing process; however, when she went to submit it this year it was "kicked" back. She explained to the BOS in detail the reasoning, and further went into detail how it will ultimately affect the Town under the Municipal Revenue Grant with a loss of potentially \$155,000. Regolo said that other Towns have been impacted as well. Annino suggested putting our State Representatives on notice and stated there is no

allowance in it for shrink or growth, and he doesnt think we should accept it.

Appointments:

Motion #4 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to appoint Heather Greenaway to the Open Space Committee for a term ending December 31, 2023.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

First Selectman Gorski explained that at the Board of Selectmen's May 31st Special meeting the BOS appointed Karl Aurer as the Building Official for the Town of Killingworth. Gorski sent the official paperwork into the State for their record.

New Business:

A. Killingworth Inn -

Motion #5 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a Motion to **Table** the discussion about the Killingworth Inn.

Discussion - Jay Berardino spoke with Gorski about his possible plans with the Killingworth Inn but asked to be taken off the Agenda late Thursday. Therefore, this Agenda item was Tabled to a future BOS meeting.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

B. Registrar of Voters Compensation

First Selectman Gorski stated that the Director of Finance Regolo is recommending that the BOS increase the hourly rate of the Registrar of Voters by 2.8% which wasn't reflected in the 23-24 Budget. A brief discussion regarding same took place.

Motion #6 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to approve the Registrar of Voters hourly rate increase by 2.8%.

Discussion - Director of Finance Regolo spoke about why this increase wasn't included in the Budget.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

C. Salt Contract

First Selectman Gorski spoke briefly about the Salt Contract according to the State Bid process and how she needs to authorize the Contract by June 30th. A brief discussion took place thereafter regarding cost.

Motion #7 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to conditionally approve First Selectman Gorski to authorize the Salt Contract by June 30, 2023 provisionally based on completing the Estimated Annual Purchase Requirement, the Purchase Guarantee and the StockPile Location by Public Works.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

D. Heavy Equipment Rental Bid

First Selectman Gorski spoke about how individuals sent in their bids for 21 different pieces of heavy equipment. She explained the bidding process making sure the BOS had no objections with opening the envelopes during the meeting. Annino and Young had no objection. Gorski will upload all business metrics on the Town website for public viewing.

E. Draft Specs for Upcoming RFPs

First Selectman Gorski spoke about the number of software purchases that the BOS approved in the 23-24 Budget, one of them being Budget Software. Gorski and the Director of Finance Regolo spoke with the Capital Regional Council of Government and ClearGov last week, and were advised that being a member of RiverCog their fee to join ClearGov Budgeting Software would be reduced from \$750 to \$500. This would allow the BOS to use their bidding process for ClearGov for budgeting. Gorski stated that ClearGov won the bidding software for the last three years.

Motion #8 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to allow First Selectman Nancy Gorski to sign the Service Order and Side Letter Agreement with ClearGov Budgeting Software beginning term July 1, 2023.

Discussion - Annino and Young were uncomfortable proceeding forward without the Board of Finance's endorsement.

Motion#9 - First Selectman Gorski **Amended** and Selectman Young **Seconded** the amendment to the original motion to allow Nancy Gorski to sign the Service Order and Side Letter Agreement with ClearGov Budgeting Software beginning term July 1, 2023 with a conditional approval based on the Board of Finance's recommendation to proceed.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

F. Estuary Transit District (River Valley Transit) Matching Grant

First Selectman Gorski spoke about how the Estuary Transit District is in the process of applying for the State Matching Grant for Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation and needed her signature on it. Gorski sent the BOS the Maintenance of Effort and Grant Assignment Certification for their review in the BOS packet.

Motion #10 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve First Selectman Nancy Gorski to sign the Maintenance of Effort and Grant Assignment Certification in support of the Estuary Transit District.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

G. Tax Abatement for Emergency Management Director

Motion #11 - First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to remove Tax Abatement for Emergency Management Director from the Agenda.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

H. Review and Approval of Assessor and Assistant Assessor Job Descriptions

First Selectman Gorski included the Assessor and Assistant Assessor Job Descriptions “marked up” in the BOS packet and asked for their feedback. Annino stated it seemed straightforward, noting no fundamental concerns with any of the changes. He did suggest that there needs to be some kind of process for administering these changes, noting a revision block with an approval date when referencing the minutes. This would be when the Minutes are approved for tracking purposes. Gorski agreed with Annino. Young raised concerns about the Attendance Section, in terms of allowing employees to telework making sure office coverage is provided. Young also confirmed with Gorski that the Assessor’s Office input was included in terms of if they had anything they thought should be removed and/or included. Gorski spoke of the importance of the in office Assessor position possibly putting verbiage in the Personnel Manual. The BOS discussed in length the Assessor's position of 35-hours a week and the Assistant Assessor’s position 10 hours per week. Young suggested adopting more of a standard format to be more consistent since there are bullet points in some locations and numbers in others. Young also suggested waiting until the next BOS meeting to take time to review all the edits to make sure everything was captured correctly. Gorski and Annino agreed with Young on both counts.

First Selectman Gorski *Tabled* this Agenda item until the next Board of Selectmen Meeting until both job descriptions are in proper consistent format.

I. Disbursement of ARPA Funds

Director of Finance of Regolo provided to the BOS the P&L on the Killingworth Krier. Regolo spoke on their revenue and shortfall of \$11,000. Young inquired what the considerations were that the Krier had to provide to the BOS in order to receive the ARPA funds. Also, Young raised her concerns how the BOS would be able to justify a payment to a business that is no longer operating. Annino inquired how the Killingworth Krier were paying invoices since last July 2022. After a discussion in length, the BOS had further questions. Gorski will work with Regolo to get a better understanding of what transpired and bring it back to the BOS at their next meeting.

Old Business

A. Charter Revision

First Selectman Gorski spoke about receiving the amended Charter from the CRC on Thursday. Gorski sent it off to Attorney Tycz for review noting some additional questions on next steps. The BOS has until June 28th to accept and/or reject the amended Charter. Gorski also noted in July the Commission will be deactivated.

Water Pollution Update: PFAS, Salt

First Selectmen Gorski met with GZA to understand how to estimate PFAS remediation cost. Annino stated that GZA, as the Town's consultant, should be supplying the Town with their best estimate based on what is known today, and what it will take to remediate it. Gorski stated that she will be meeting with DPH on Friday. Also, she is planning to schedule an in-person meeting sometime in July with State Representative, Christine Cohen, Senator Chris Murphy, Senator Richard Blumenthal sometime in July. Young suggested inviting Congressman Joe Courtney and Connecticut Water.

Gorski noted that the Department of Public Health updated the drinking water action level list for PFAS to include six additional compounds. Two additional houses required bottled water, both located on Route 81. Gorski spoke about how the Town is in a transition phase in terms of now being responsible to handle this. Gorski is meeting with Carolyn Psfaro, CRAHD, DPH and EnSafe on Thursday to start planning for the October testing for PFAS to figure out the process going forward. The SB100 bill was passed and also funded; Gorski spoke about how she is hopeful that the costs associated with the PFAS testing will be covered but still is unknown at this time.

Salt Sodium Issues - Gorski spoke with GZA and they are looking at alternatives to reverse osmosis for the sodium and chloride remediation. Reverse osmosis comes with some other issues but there may be things like ionization as an example where they may be able to treat the two homes with sodium.

Public Comment: None.

Selectmen's Comments:

Lou Annino - None.

Jamie Young -

- She noted a change in the law that allows municipalities to now invest part of their pension funds with the State Treasurer's Office.

- She stated that the Memorial Day Events were lovely and thanked the team and Amy for doing an excellent job with the Ceremony. Young also thanked the Wyatts and Charlie Smith for all their hard work and the Fagans who did a presentation of the Flag. Young stated the Cross with the names of the Veterans that died during the War that was placed in the Congregational Church was extortionary. She was Honored to be a part of the Memorial Day weekend and further thanked all those that participated in the variety of events during the day. Lastly, she gave a special thanks to Chief Darin for coming to an emergency rescue when the Memorial Day Wreath was locked inside the Lounge Area at the Town Hall on Monday morning.

First Selectman's Comments:

- The BOS needs to meet with Roslyn Reeps regarding Food Composting. She will have Elizabeth Disbow work with Annino and Young to set up a special meeting. She has a plan which might involve offering some free starter kits to individuals.

- Expecting a neighborhood assistance app application from the Library and are planning a public hearing just prior to the June 26th meeting.

-She spoke with Dick Otto regarding the estimate from the plumber to remediate the water issues at the Library. Dick has a call into the plumber since the estimate was vague. Annino is suggesting not to take the tank out, to have the plumber bypass it, and run on the bypass so they know that they don't need a reservoir. If they do, then they can replace it with something more modestly sized.

-She spoke to Walt Adametz about the electrical repairs to the Dog Pound. He received a quote from Top Notch for \$3,000 to run a one inch conduit from the Fire Department Storage Building to the Dog Pound. Waiting for a quote from Drainscapes for approximately \$2,800.

Adjournment: First Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:47 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk