

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, October 23, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
Killingworth Town Hall

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

BOS Members Absent: None

Visitors: R. Regolo (Remote), E. Unger (Remote), D. Tycz (Remote), E. Blewett, M. Albrecht, W. Linsley, E. Disbrow, W. Adametz, J. Sampieri, D. Spichko, A. Stirna, E. Nunes, A. Roberts-Perry, J. Vece, E. Pleines and J. Sciascia (Remote)

Called to Order: First Selectman Gorski called this meeting to order at approximately 7:20 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Selectman Young *Moved* and Selectman Annino *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes of the Monday, October 9, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen as presented

Motion passed [2-0-1].

Young/Annino - Yes

Gorski - Abstain

First Selectman Gorski thanked Selectmen Annino and Young for holding the last Board of Selectmen's meeting in her absence and also thanked everyone who sent in their condolences regarding her Brother-In-Law's passing.

Refunds and Abatements: None.

Budget:

Director of Finance Regolo provided the revised ADM enrollment for Haddam-Killingworth. The 24-25 ADM is adjusted upwards by 1% for a total of 39.7%.

Selectman Annino spoke briefly about the remaining ARPA balance and suggested approving two more substantial projects worth the balance of the ARPA Funds. Annino made a motion thereafter.

Motion #2 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman Young *Seconded* a motion that the current balance of the unassigned ARPA funds amounting to approximately \$230,000 to be allocated to the Park and Recreation Commission. The funds will be distributed for two purposes as follows: 1) \$75k to be designated for the construction of Pickleball Courts, and 2) \$155k and any remaining ARPA balance above this amount to be designated for the purposes of the construction of the Baseball/MultiPurpose Field at Eric Auer Park. This will supplement the existing grant.

Discussion - Gorski suggested making it clear in the motion that it is a DEEP grant.

Selectman Annino *Amended* and Selectman Young *Seconded* the motion that the current balance of the unassigned ARPA funds amounting to approximately \$230,000 to be allocated to the Park and Recreation Commission. The funds will be distributed for two purposes as follows: 1) \$75k to be designated for the construction of Pickleball Courts, and 2) \$155k and any remaining ARPA balance above this amount to be designated for the purposes of the construction of the Baseball/MultiPurpose Field at Eric Auer Park. This will supplement the existing DEEP grant.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

First Selectman Gorski advised that the Board of Selectmen is following the ARPA Fund Policy process noting that once the BOS approves it, it goes to the Board of Finance for review and approval and then goes to Town meeting.

Director of Finance Regolo thanked the Board of Selectmen for all their work and stated how she enjoyed working with them during their time on the Board.

Traffic Safety:

Public Comment: A Public Comment was made about when the yellow line on Green Hill Road would return. Walt Adamatz stated that the striping company is working to put a reflective stripe back on the roads that were chip sealed within the next few weeks.

First Selectman Gorski advised that Walt established a Speed Spy on Route 148 which was from a residential request from someone that drives a School Bus. Gorski stressed the importance of the Speed Spy not always being in the same spot. Further discussion took place in length about being able to access the Speed Spy's data. Gorski encouraged the incoming Administration to start a dialog with the Madison Police Department to look at Police alternatives to see if the Town of Killingworth would be able to partner with them for speed enforcement. Gorski also encouraged the incoming Administration to speak with Police Chief Jack Drum in Madison and possibly orchestrate a Traffic Safety study through Uconn.

Appointments: None.

A. Connecticut Water Customer Advisory Council

First Selectman Gorski reported on The CT Water Customer Advisory Council. The purpose of this Council is to enhance communications with their customers and committees and they are seeking to have representation from each of the 60 Towns they serve. Meetings are held every

3-6 months. Gorski recommends the new Administration consider Jackie Vece, who is a customer of CT Water, to this role when making their December appointments.

New Business:

A. Road Program Update:

Walt Adametz reported that our Town roads are in good shape and will continue on more of a maintenance type basis than a construction one. Walt reviewed what is left to be chip sealed: Culvert between 148 and the Church and a section on lower Kelseytown Drive. Walt gave an update on the Transfer Station, and advised that the permit has been issued for another 10 years. Discussion on disposal of garbage took place.

Selectman Young thanked Walt for all the work and care that he and his team did throughout the years on the roads as he heads towards retirement in the next year.

Selectman Annino thanked Walt and his team for their hard work. Annino also acknowledged the Board of Finance who he feels has been equally supportive as well as the multiple Boards of Selectmen prior in recognizing the importance of this continuous infusion of maintenance and repair dollars.

B. Building Official - Life Safety Hazard Chestnut Road

First Selectman Gorski advised that Building Official Karl Auer presented a Life Safety Hazard on Chestnut Road noting expenses of approximately \$1400 which would be to demolish the Barn that is located on the property leaving the contents on the premises. Discussion took place about the Barn, how the Barn has been in that shape for many years. After discussion, Gorski opted not to move forward to approve Karl's Life Safety Request.

C. Proclamation

Motion #3 - Selectman Annino *Moved* and Selectman

Young *Seconded* a motion to approve the following Proclamation of the Board of Selectmen:

Town of Killingworth

**Proclamation of the
Board of Selectmen**

Whereas

Thomas L. Lentz

has served the town of
Killingworth since 1973; &

Whereas Tom has served as the Agent of Town Deposit from 1973 through 1977; &

Whereas Tom has served on the Planning & Zoning Commission from 1979 until present; &

Whereas Tom has served as Chair of the Planning & Zoning Commission from 2011 until present; &

Whereas Tom has served on Killingworth's 350th Anniversary Commemoration Committee from 2015 until 2017; &

Whereas Tom has served as Killingworth's Municipal Historian from 2006 until present; &

Now therefore, in gratitude for his decades of service to our town,
The Killingworth Board of Selectmen designates October 25, 2023

Thomas L. Lentz Day

Dated at Killingworth, Connecticut, 23rd day of October 2023

Nancy Gorski
First Selectman

Louis C. Annino, Jr.
Selectman

Jamie Mowat-Young
Selectman

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

A ceremony will take place on Wednesday, October 25, 2023 at the Barrell House at 5:00 p.m. to present this to Tom Lentz. All are welcome to attend.

D. Capital Barn Project:

First Selectman Gorski received a quote for \$322,000 from Gordian, for repairs to the outside of the Barn. The quote which is good through the end of the year, includes: exterior painting including lead remediation or an alternative siding option to have the barn sided to match the EOC at similar pricing; Carpentry including replacement of the garage doors with double hung windows in preparation for eventual conversion into a meeting space; Concrete grade beam which will require structural engineering design; Interior framing repairs and roofing including repair of the cupboard. Gorski noted this is ARPA funded and also commented that Barn could be utilized for the Committee on Aging space or early voting once the interior space is renovated. Discussion about costs now, and future costs took place.

Motion #4 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to Award Gordian the project to repair the exterior of the Barn.

Motion Withdrawn.

Motion #5 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Young **Seconded** a motion to approve Gordian to execute the detailed scope of work for the Barn assuming that this space will

eventually be allocated into meeting space ensuring that proper building permits are executed and also that it undergoes review by the Historic Review Committee.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Old Business:

A. Historic Structure Ordinance

First Selectman Gorski advised that input was received from the Historic Review Committee, Planning and Zoning and the Town Assessors in drafting the Historic Structure Ordinance. Attorney David Tycz worked with Elizabeth Disbrow to draft the Ordinance which provides the Board of Selectmen power to negotiate a full or partial Abatement provided taxes are a material factor in the Homeowners decision to maintain the Historical Structure. Attorney Tycz was in attendance remotely to answer any further questions the Board of Selectmen had.

Motion #6 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to send the tax abatement for structures of historical or architectural merit to Town Meeting for approval.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

B. Station 1 RFQ:

Station 1 submitted an additional needs Assessment to cover some things that the original needs Assessment did not provide. A motion was made thereafter.

Motion #7 - First Selectman Gorski **Moved** and Selectman Annino **Seconded** a motion to submit the request for proposal for the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company Facilities Needs Assessment.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

A brief discussion took place about the transition period in the RFQ.

Water Pollution Update:

PFAS - First Selectman Gorski and Selectman Young met with DPH and GZA to discuss the filtration design and next steps for the DWSWF. She noted that the design for KES is complete; however, the amendment design for the Town Campus is ongoing. Gorski has concerns with GZA's design for the Town Campus due to not having a solution to take the salt out of the water. GZA's plan is to amend the design and then come back to the Board of Selectmen to review it. Selectmen Annino stressed his position that what GZA brought forth is not a design, noting how the Town is not in a position to be building due to the number of concerns he has with what they presented. Gorski went over the GZA amended timeline which will lead well into next year under the new Administration.

Public Comment:

-John Sampieri spoke about how he feels that the motions that were passed tonight (ie the Barn Project/Station 1 RFQ) should have been left for the new Administration to handle.

-Annie Stirna thanked the Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Board of Finance, for taking care of some of the things that have been in the Budget since they passed it last May like moving forward with the pavilion at Auer Park. Annie commented that it is also important to continue to move forward on the other items in the Budget that need to be expended now like the ARPA Funds.

Selectmen's Comments:

Lou Annino:

-Annino made a follow-up comment about the perception about the decisions that were made tonight were done in haste and feels that it was a combination of the hard work of the Board of Selectmen and the Town because the Board takes input from the Taxpayers and from other Boards and the decisions that were made were consistent with that and in the best interest of the taxpayers long term.

-Annino stated how he is not going anywhere and he still has more to give, and stated to the taxpayers that it has been a privilege, and thanked everyone who has allowed him to serve in this capacity, he appreciates all their support and emphasized that he truly feels it has been such a privilege.

Jamie Young -

-Young echoed Annino's comment of how it was about a combination of expenses, and it's been two years of working with the Fire Department, and countless number of meetings. Young noted the first year in office, the Board was facing challenges but then they got a rhythm down and were able to accomplish a lot of work together. Young commented on Selectman Annino and all of his years of service to Community, being a great citizen, a wise servant, and a great role model to the kids in the Town. Also, Young commented on Annino being a great resource, mentor and mentee and how much he has helped the different Administrations that have come through. Young spoke about the countless things Annino has done in the Town of Killingworth to make it so lovely especially so her kids could be raised in it and thanked him for all that he has done. Young thanked First Selectman Gorski for her 20 years in Town Government, how she set aside her retirement, and served with a majority of Democrats, throughout covid, and she helped guide them. She appreciates all that Gorski has done and feels with her at the helm they were able to get so much accomplished this year. Young stated that it was a privilege to work with Gorski/Annino and and also to get a better understanding of how Town Government operates.

Young further stated how much a person could get accomplished regardless of their political affiliation, when they choose to work with each other for the benefit of the Town. Lastly, Young stated what an honor it has been and it will carry with her throughout the rest of her life.

First Selectman's Comments -

- Gorski thanked both Selectmen Young and Annino. Gorski also commented for the incoming Administration that the ARPA funds getting expended is one less thing they have to worry about since it will take some time for them to get up to speed when they first take office next month.
- Gorski spoke about the Tree Warden having a conflict and couldn't be in attendance tonight.
- Gorski noted that she will work with Elizabeth Disbow to schedule a special meeting to discuss a personnel matter.
- Gorski advised a new Director of Prevention and Mental Health for Youth and Family Services Allison Behnke was hired. She will be job sharing the Executive Director position with Jennifer Favalora. Gorski gives her best to the both of them as they get started moving forward.

Adjournment: Selectman Annino *Moved* to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:39 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk