

**BOS SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES (Rescheduled from March 25, 2024)
Wednesday March 27, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Killingworth Town Office Building**

In attendance: E. Couture, J. D'Angelo, E. Nunes

Visitors: Lauren Perley, Bill Tobelman, Amy Roberts- Perry, Annie Stirna, Bill Joyce, Wayne Linsley, Richard Pleines, Cathy Iino, Cailey Anderson, Canny MacGonagle, Nancy Gorski, Eileen Unger-Pleines, Cathy Iino, Marcel Couture, Todd Hajek, Michael McManus (Bowman Associates), Unidentified caller, R. Regolo (by phone), E. Disbrow

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. Public Comment

- Lauren Perley, representing HK Little League, spoke about the group's efforts seeking grants/funding for fields, dugouts, bleachers, adaptive equipment, etc. She asked the board to reconsider ARPA funding for baseball field
- Bill Joyce appealed to the board to require mobile parks to pump septic systems every 3 years, as per past practice
- Annie Stirna also supported additional ARPA funds for the multi-purpose/ballfield and for adaptive equipment at RS17 playgrounds, recognizing the necessity for the latter and ARPA funding's potential positive effect on the mill rate.

She also noted that there was confusion about what people were voting for at the recent town meeting and encouraged residents to seek clarification anytime from BOF either by attending meetings or emailing anniestirnaBOF@gmail.com

- Richard Pleines asked why the gates were locked at the middle school tennis courts. [He later clarified that he meant the high school]

4. Approval of Minutes

D'Angelo moved to approve the minutes of the BOS meetings of March 11 and March 14

amended as follows: *Page 5, under capital transfers*

Discussion: line 2 change "million" to "mill"

The motion, seconded by Nunes passes unanimously.

5. Refunds, Abatements and Transfers

Couture moved to approve a refund for overpayment in the amount of \$122.54 to Ernest J. Laudano of 659 Route 148. The motion, seconded by D'Angelo passed unanimously.

6. FY 2023/24 Budget

Regolo commented briefly on recent activity affecting the snow budget, and expectations regarding the use of the fund balance. She expects to present YTD projections next month.

7. Appointments :

Couture appealed to the selectmen to produce candidates for the Ethics Committee. Also referred to upcoming item 10B, Assessor Appt.

8. Department Reports: none

9. Old Business

A. Traffic Safety

Couture met with Circuit rider Melissa Evans from UCONN T2 Transportation center re traffic safety issues in town. He reported on feedback on particular hazard spots and problematic intersections including Green Hill Road, Route 80/81. There was brief discussion of current and future use of speed spies around town. Nunes asked about data collection to help better understand needs and propose solutions. There was discussion. Couture will continue to work with T2 to firm up data. He invited D'angelo and Nunes to join him at the next meeting.

B. Multi-year Capital Improvement Plan

Couture will schedule special meeting to discuss updates to the Plan. The selectmen are eager to proceed.

C. DPW Consultant Report

Michael McManus of Bowman Associates, was in attendance to discuss research and recommendations from his recent report. There was lengthy discussion as McManus fielded questions from the selectmen addressing:

- Proactive vs. reactive approaches to operations
- Formalized schedules of work
- Introducing new technology and public works software, e.g. Open Gov
- Planning documents for future roadwork
- Looking for offsets to anticipated increases in tipping fees, such as enforcement of stickersm contracting of hauling
- Procurement options
- Salt storage/stormwater management measures.

There was a consensus that the goal is to improve efficiencies and increase level of support without adding a burdensome layer of bureaucracy.

10. New Business

A. State Matching Grant

Couture presented the annual request from the Estuary Transit District to participate in the Elderly and Disabled Demand Responsive Transportation (Municipal Grant). Selectmen will review and return with recommendations re: signing the corresponding documents.

B. Assessor Appointment

Couture moved to reappoint Shauna Ham as Assessor for a term beginning April 1, 2024 and ending March 31, 2025. The motion, seconded by D'Angelo, passed unanimously.

C. RFP Pavilion at Eric Auer Park

This item was postponed until specification documents are finalized.

D. WPCA: Beechwood Pumpouts

Couture met with Sanitarian Ryan Grenon, Sanitarian from CRAHD, who concurred that a change in regulation regarding septic pumpouts at mobile homes would be prudent.

11. Public Comment

- Richard Pleines: See above clarification. Requested the town look into state statutes regarding status of BOS as WPCA
- Bill Joyce thanked the town for taking down problematic trees on the Parmelee/Beechwood border
- Wayne Linsley expressed frustration that the contracted Public Works consultant did not interview the road crew for his report

12. Selectmen's Comments

- D'Angelo spoke about turnout and content from the recent town meeting and suggested ways to encourage participation and future attendance
- Nunes also shared impressions from Monday's town meeting, suggesting AV aids when presenting data/ He also acknowledged the failed ARPA vote, town support of pickleball and baseball, while also noting the care the BOS is taking to control costs and avoid a fiscal cliff.
- Also noted importance of keeping ongoing maintenance of fields and playgrounds in mind while planning for new construction at the parks
- Nunes has identified potential candidates for the Ethics Committee

13. First Selectman's Comments

- Couture was heartened by healthy attendance at town meeting
- He noted the confusion surrounding the town voting on funding streams at the town meeting. He sought to reassure residents that the pickleball courts remain in the capital plan, and that the construction is about to begin on the ballfield
- Re communication challenges: he shared information about a RiverCog-sponsored product that would offer multi-town promotion of events.

14. Adjournment

Nunes moved to adjourn at 8:09 p.m.. The motion, seconded by D'Angelo, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted on 3/28/2024 by Elizabeth Doyle Disbrow