

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MONDAY, January 27, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.  
Killingworth Town Hall/Remote Access Available**

**BOS Members in Attendance:** First Selectman Eric Couture, Selectmen Joel D’Angelo and Eric Nunes

**BOS Members Absent:** None.

**Visitors:** Tim Gannon, Elizabeth Disbrow, Richard Pleines, John Byrne, Mark Albrecht, Wayne Lysley, Peg Scofield, Dawn Mooney, Regina Regolo (Via Remote), Eileen Blewett (Via Remote), Annie Stirna (Via Remote), Eileen Unger Pleines (Via Remote), and Jamie Sciascia (Via Remote)

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion #1 - Selectman Nunes *Moved* and Selectman D’Angelo *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen that was held on Monday, January 13, 2025 as presented.

**Refunds:**

Motion #2 - First Selectman Couture *Moved* and Selectman Nunes *Seconded* a motion to approve the following Refunds, all for overpayment, and allow them to follow its normal course as presented.

**Refunds -**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Reason</u>
1. ACAR Leasing LTD	P.O. Box 1990 Fort Worth TX 76101	\$50.63	12-129 Excess Payment
2. ACAR Leasing LTD	P.O. Box 1990 Fort Worth TX 76101	\$396.88	12-129 Excess Payment
3. ACAR Leasing LTD	P.O. Box 1990 Fort Worth TX 76101	\$471.40	12-129 Excess Payment

4. ACAR Leasing LTD	P.O. Box 1990 Fort Worth TX 76101	\$551.19	12-129 Excess Payment
5. Nancy Murphy	51 Fawn Hill Road	\$111.70	12-129 Excess Payment
6. Robert Rojas	200 Pond Meadow Road	\$163.58	12-129 Excess Payment
7. Edward Scroggins	321 Route 148	\$22.33	12-129 Excess Payment
8. VW Credit Leasing LTD	1401 Franklin Blvd Libertyville, IL 60048	\$389.72	12-129 Excess Payment

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #3 - Selectman Nunes *Moved* and Selectman D'Angelo *Seconded* a motion to add to the Agenda, Approval of the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company Abatement List and Killingworth Ambulance Association Abatement List.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

**Approval of the KVFC Abatement List and KAA Abatement List:**

Motion #4 - Selectman D'Angelo *Moved* and Selectman Nunes *Seconded* a motion to approve the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company Abatement List and the Killingworth Ambulance Association Abatement List as presented.

*Discussion - Selectmen D'Angelo and Nunes thanked both the Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company and the Killingworth Ambulance Association for their service.*

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

**Department Reports:** None.

**Budget Report:** No Report.

**Appointments:**

Motion #5 - Selectman Nunes *Moved* and Selectman D'Angelo *Seconded* a motion to appoint the following to the Parmelee Farm Committee:

Eileen M. Blewett	(Republican)	01/01/2025-12/31/2025
Richard R. Pleines, II	(Republican)	01/01/2025-12/31/2025
Kenneth M. Wodatch	(Unaffiliated)	01/01/2025-12/31/2025

*Discussion - Selectman Nunes thanked the Parmelee Farm Committee for submitting the list of names and believes they are an excellent set of individuals, and who are already involved with the Farm. Selectman D'Angelo concurred.*

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

**Old Business:**

**A. Traffic Safety**

First Selectman Couture reported that Traffic Safety is a standing item, noting the last time it appeared on the Agenda was in November. Couture advised that he has spoken to Resident State Trooper Mulhall recently about a new state program where the state is licensing a license plate reader, and background software which would be focused on cars that are stolen, or have an active Amber Alert etc. Mulhall is researching costs associated with the program noting the Town's responsibility would be paying for the cameras and the software, and the tracker piece of it would be handled by the State. Couture advised that the program is not mandatory for the Town. Mulhall will report back with more information soon.

The Board had discussion about continuing to be focused on the ongoing speeding concerns in Town and how to mitigate them moving forward.

Couture reported that the Safe Streets and Roads For All work is continuing to progress, noting the draft report is being finalized for recommendations. This is RiverCog's study of the most dangerous parts of the roads in the region. Couture noted that the most concerned areas in Town are Route 80 into Roast Meat Hill intersection, right up past the Circle and going down the hill where Hemlock Drive intersects with Route 80 and Route 148 at Kroopas Pond with Beckwith Road being right there. Couture noted that the State is working on the redesign of the area where Route 148 sits on the Kroopas Dam. Couture advised that included in the packet of data from RiverCog will be suggestions for any sort of measures to be taken in order to address the problem areas.

**B. WPCA Update:**

First Selectman Couture reported that Attorney Tycz is in the process of working on the regulation, receiving input from CRAHD on what a small system regulation would look like. Couture advised this would possibly be an amendment to the current one that is in place. Due to the amount of discussion circulating around affordable housing, clustered housing and/or housing in this region, Couture is requesting Attorney Tycz not just to be focused on the Beachwood Community but also any potential developments that might be built in the future. Couture reviewed the septic systems in the Beechwood Community, and noted if they aren't properly maintained potential failure is higher due to their smaller sized units and being so close together to each other. The Board discussed in length how the State is advocating for more affordable housing construction.

### **C. Budget 25/26 Calendar:**

First Selectman Couture reported that the draft Budget will be ready for review in early February; however, and as a first step he would like the Multi Year plan to be reviewed beforehand in order to prioritize what the needs of the Town are. Selectman D'Angelo suggested sending out to the Board a list of available special meeting dates for review, advising the earliest he can meet would be 5:00 p.m. Couture will create a Budget Calendar, reserving the right to call D'Angelo into the meetings.

### **New Business:**

#### **A. Town Clerk Update**

Town Clerk Dawn Mooney reported on the recent post to the Killingworth Facebook page regarding Property Fraud and Property Theft, which referenced an incident that happened in Guilford. Town Clerk Mooney spoke about the fraud alert systems being around for years, with Dawn continuously checking into them most recently in June 2024. The Town of Guilford uses a land record vendor called COTT Systems and the Town of Killingworth uses Catalyst, a similar one but offers no protection to homeowners (gives an alert to the property owner after the fact that a document has been recorded on the land records.) Town Clerk Mooney advised how she puts fiscal responsibility first being a thirty (30) plus year Killingworth taxpayer. Town Clerk Mooney believes that the systems are not beneficial to the Town residents, further advising that during Covid, she reduced the cost of a land records subscription to a \$1.00 per year, although would have made it free but no option was given to do so. She encourages residents to check their land records on a regular basis either via cell phone, home computer or stopping down to the Town Hall office where it is free and she would be happy to walk people through it.

#### **B. Open Bids: Parmelee Pavilion Fabric Enclosure Panels**

First Selectman Couture opened one bid received for the Parmelee Pavilion Fabric Enclosure Panels: L.F. Pease Company in the amount of \$48,640. Per the bidding process, the information will be put on the Town's website for public viewing. Selectman D'Angelo inquired about who would be reviewing the Bid now received.

#### **C. Invitation to Bid: Pickleball**

Motion #6 - Selectman D'Angelo *Moved* and Selectman Nunes *Seconded* a motion to put out a Request for Proposal for Pickleball Courts at Rocco M. Reale Field.

*Discussion - Selectman D'Angelo inquired about the number of Pickleball Courts that would be installed and parking loss. The Board briefly spoke about estimated cost, design, and possible parking issues.*

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

### **Public Comment:**

John Bryne commented about the Parmelee Farm Bid, inquiring whether it would be a Capital Improvement item needing to go out to Town meeting for a vote. Couture will confirm with the Board of Finance, advising this would come from the permanent Special Activities Account. John feels that there are other items that the Farm should be investing their money into, noting one of them is a heat pump system for approximately \$18,000. John feels a three or four season permanent room would be a better option, eliminating the ongoing maintenance of the curtains. Couture advised that one of the reasons why the Public Works Department is being expanded is to have the manpower to do the maintenance at the Farm more in-house.

Peg Scofield commented that one of the reasons why the Parmelee Farm Committee was established is in order to have discussions about future plans with raising funds and what they would be utilized towards. Peg spoke about the decision to go with the enclosed panels which would allow more comfort for the guests in meetings, events and weddings without fully enclosing the Pavilion off, something they are opposed to doing.

#### **Selectmen's Comments:**

##### **Joel D'Angelo -**

- D'Angelo thanked Town Clerk Dawn Mooney for the update, noting it was extremely relatable.
- D'Angelo commented how he is looking forward to seeing the Traffic Safety data that's been obtained in order to analyze and dive into it more.

##### **Eric Nunes -**

- Nunes thanked Town Clerk Dawn Mooney for the update regarding the Facebook post and feels that having answers provided by a dedicated Town Clerk, with her decades of service is helpful.
- Nunes is looking forward to moving into the Budget Season and having discussions with Couture and D'Angelo.
- Nunes commented about looking forward to seeing the data from the Traffic Safety.
- Nunes thanked the new appointees to the Parmelee Farm Committee and thanked them for their service.

#### **First Selectman's Comments:**

##### **Eric Couture-**

- Couture stated that the Towns CEOs who send trash to the Essex Transfer Station continue to hold meetings to discuss the direction they will go in which sounds like everyone is agreeable with sticking together is the right idea. Couture hopes to get the associated cost of operations to continue at Essex and also what it will look like for

- the future, with one quote received already.
- Couture advised that the Barn Construction Permit was pulled today and project work will commence soon.
  - Couture commented that the Project at the Multi Purpose Field at Eric Auer Park has begun, noting that the blasting should have been completed a week or two ago. The project will be finished by the first week of Spring; however, the fields won't be available to play on due to the normal process of: seeding, growth and settling.
  - Couture spoke about the Household Hazardous Waste Dates for 2025. The Brochure is on the Town's website as well as on RiverCog's Website. Household waste items to bring with you are: waxes, polish, paint thinners, photo chemicals, etc. The first Household Hazardous Waste Date is scheduled on April 19th located at Clinton's Public Works Garage.
  - Couture commented that Eversource will be conducting tree trimming operations throughout Town this year, expecting to start in February, also contingent upon weather.

**Adjournment:** First Selectman Couture *Moved* to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia  
Clerk