

Minutes: Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Monday, March 03, 2025, 6:00 PM

Town Hall Front Conference Room

Members in attendance: E. Couture, E. Nunes, J. D'Angelo

Visitors: R. Regolo, TFC R. Mulhall, J. Gay, C. Fines

1. The meeting began at 6:00 pm.
2. J. Gay spoke to the budget request from the Committee on Aging.

J. Gay suggested to the Board that a donation be made to the sponsors of the Healthy Brain series, Hartford Healthcare Center for Healthy Aging, in recognition of their generosity.

J. Gay spoke to the budget request, particularly the proposed Senior Coordinator position. The proposed position would be responsible for programming and scheduling of senior programming, and in addition would have responsibilities related to grant seeking and writing as proposed. The position as proposed was based on similar communities and similar positions.

J. Gay spoke to the work that the committee has performed in the past year and the need for better senior services in the community.

J. Gay also raised the topic of transitioning the committee to a commission and how that would impact the committee's work.

E. Nunes posed the question to J. Gay about the availability of grants to fund the position or offset some costs. J. Gay spoke to the limited availability of grants for that purpose and the strict use of other grants.

The discussion turned briefly to what a community room would look like and past efforts in town to create usable space for the community.

3. TFC Mulhall spoke to the needs of the Resident State Trooper. In particular the discussion focused largely on the potential addition of a second trooper request in the budget.

TFC Mulhall spoke to how a second trooper would work, as well as the provisions of the Resident State Trooper agreement the town has with the State of Connecticut. Such a position would likely follow other towns that have two troopers and be an "evening shift" position to provide further coverage to the town.

Both E. Nunes and J. D'Angelo spoke to the timeliness of the request, noting the continued traffic safety concerns in the community.

The consensus of the board, following further discussion about the correct cost of a second trooper for the 2025/2026 fiscal year and the cost of overtime relating to implementing said request, was to restore the request for a second trooper.

TFC Mulhall then spoke to equipment requests regarding license plate reader cameras, and the use of them in the community as part of a wider state program to utilize them in policing. The board discussed their use and cost, both ongoing and initial capital, as well as concerns about Freedom of Information requirements and data storage.

TFC Mulhall and the board continued to discuss the current and prospective equipment needs of the office. The board discussed whether some of the equipment could be purchased in the current fiscal year.

TFC Mulhall and the Board also discussed prioritization of his requests.

4. The board adjourned the meeting after a brief discussion of next steps, including future meetings and comfort with the budget as it stands, at 7:26 PM.