

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, March 23, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.
Killingworth Town Hall/Remote Access Available**

BOS Members in Attendance: First Selectman Eric Couture, Selectmen Nancy Gorski and Joel D'Angelo

BOS Members Absent: None.

Staff in Attendance: Elizabeth Disbrow (Executive Assistant to First Selectman), and Jamie Sciascia (Clerk/Via Remote)

Visitors: Eileen Blewett, Jackie Vece (Joined at 7:33 p.m./Remote), Deborah Sampieri (Joined at 7:31 p.m./Remote), Resident State Trooper Richard Mulhall, State Trooper Lucas Oliver

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.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Selectman Gorski *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, March 9, 2026 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #2 - Selectman D'Angelo *Moved* and Selectman Gorski *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen that was held on Thursday, March 11, 2026 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #3 - Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman D'Angelo *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen that was held on Monday, March 16, 2026 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Motion #4 - Selectman D'Angelo *Moved* and Selectman Gorski *Seconded* a motion to approve the Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen that was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2026 as presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Refunds and Abatements:

Motion #5 - First Selectman Couture *Moved* and Selectman Gorski *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. Timothy Barnes	381 Route 80	\$18.35	COC12376M
2. Dawn Corcoran	29 Patrick Drive	\$84.80	COC#12374S

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Budget Report:

First Selectman Couture noted that Director of Finance Regolo was available to answer any budget-related questions; no questions were raised.

Old Business:

A. Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan

First Selectman Couture reported that the Capital Improvement Plan continues to evolve, with some projects shifting in timing due to coordination, lead times, and prioritization across departments. The Board discussed that certain capital items, particularly large fire apparatus and infrastructure projects, may take multiple years from planning to delivery due to extended procurement and construction timelines.

The Board discussed in length about the need to balance short-term funding with long-term financial sustainability, expressing that large future capital needs will require careful planning to avoid significant spikes in any single year. The importance of phasing projects strategically and maintaining flexibility as project scopes and timelines develop.

Further, the Board discussed that some planned improvements, particularly in the Fire Company and infrastructure categories, may be impacted by broader external factors, including potential legislative changes, regionalization efforts, and coordination with other municipal initiatives. Ongoing communication between departments, committees, and the Board of Finance is critical to ensure alignment on priorities and timing, and to support informed decision making as the Town moves toward budget presentations and public hearings.

Selectman Gorski inquired whether a response had been provided to a recent email from Peg Scofield regarding the Parmelee Farm matter. Couture confirmed that a response had been sent, explaining that the issue is currently under the purview of the Board of Finance.

B. Ordinance Discussion

First Selectman Couture reported on the Ethics Ordinance, noting that a digital copy will be distributed for Board review. Selectman Gorski suggested utilizing Microsoft SharePoint to

manage the document and participated in the discussion regarding the review process. Couture emphasized the importance of remaining mindful of Freedom of Information Act (FOI) requirements, acknowledging concerns that simultaneous collaboration in SharePoint could inadvertently constitute a meeting if the Board interacts with one another's comments. Couture supported approaches such as providing independent feedback or working sequentially through document check-in and check-out to avoid overlap.

Selectman Gorski emphasized the importance of clearly defining what constitutes an "employee" within the document. Gorski also questioned whether the draft should be reviewed by union representatives, including Killingworth Volunteer Fire Company (KVFC) and Killingworth Ambulance Association (KAA), particularly in light of considerations such as pension eligibility and their potential classification under the policy.

The Board discussed the proposed Fee and Fine Authorizing Ordinance. First Selectman Couture noted that materials reflecting what the Town of Haddam passed last year were provided to Attorney Tycz as a reference point, with the question raised as to whether this framework could be adapted to work for Killingworth. Couture noted that the ordinance has been identified as important by multiple groups, including Inland Wetlands and Zoning Board of Appeals. He further explained that having such an ordinance in place would strengthen enforcement authority and, in some cases, help the Town avoid court involvement by providing a clearer mechanism to address violations. The Board expressed support for moving forward with the effort, acknowledging it has been a long time coming and agreeing it should continue to advance.

New Business:

A. CMED Designation

First Selectman Couture reported on the annual Coordinated Medical Emergency Designation (CMED), explaining that the Town serves primarily as a pass-through and does not directly receive or manage the associated funding, which is administered by Valley Shore, the Town's service partner. He noted that the designation has already been completed and submitted, but formal approval from the Board of Selectmen is still required.

Motion #5 - Selectman D'Angelo ***Moved*** and Selectman Gorski ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Coordinated Medical Emergency Designation as signed and presented.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

B. Through-town event: Closer to Free Ride

First Selectman Couture reported that the "Closer to Free Ride" event was very successful last year, despite taking place on the same day as the Artisan Market. He noted that this year's event has been moved back one week and is scheduled for September 19, 2026.

Motion # 6 - Selectman Gorski ***Moved*** and Selectman D'Angelo ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Through Town Event: Closer to Free Ride scheduled on September 19, 2026.

Discussion - First Selectman Couture noted that Chris Mello and Todd Hajek participated last year and enjoyed it.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Public Comment: None.

Selectmen's Comments:

Nancy Gorski -

- Gorski commented about how her primary concern was receiving a response from Peg Scofield, which she was glad to have (Gorski's comment under the Multi-Year Capital Improvement Plan, in the last paragraph).

- Gorski inquired whether the Board needed to take any action to support the Board of Finance as they move forward. First Selectman Couture stated that the Board of Finance is operating independently, scheduling meetings and actively working through the budget process, including sessions with Youth and Family Services and Public Works. Couture noted Elizabeth Disbrow, is coordinating to ensure all public hearing noticing deadlines are met, and that no additional support is needed at this time. Couture will provide access to the budget software to follow along to D'Angelo/Gorski.

- Gorski noted that the Fair Rent Commission met on Thursday, although she was unable to attend, and has scheduled its public hearing for April 18th, which was confirmed by Couture as a firm date, with limited flexibility due to an ongoing discovery process. Couture also noted that the hearing was well attended.

- Gorski recognized Resident State Trooper Richard Mulhall for all of his years of dedicated service and welcomed new recruit, State Trooper Lucas Oliver.

Joel D'Angelo -

- D'Angelo commented that he was glad to receive clarification regarding the Parmelee Farm budget and noted that it appropriately falls under the purview of the Board of Finance, allowing their questions to be addressed there.

- D'Angelo reiterated his support for developing a more standardized budget format and methodology to improve clarity and consistency for all parties involved, including boards, departments, and community residents. D'Angelo added that he is willing to assist in that effort and expressed hope that the implementation of new budgeting software, along with proper training, will help streamline and simplify the process.

First Selectman's Comments:

Eric Couture -

- Couture expressed appreciation to Resident State Trooper Mulhall and Trooper Elle (K-9) for their service and positive presence in the community, noting their engagement with local schools, and extended thanks as Resident State Trooper Mulhall returns to Troop F while encouraging continued visits. Couture also welcomed State Trooper Lucas Oliver, noting the Town will update its website and expressing that the community is glad to have him in Killingworth.
- Couture commented on housing, reporting that the town is working with RiverCOG to review and double check local regulations as part of a regional effort. RiverCOG has approved hiring a housing consultant to review municipal regulations, and the town will participate by submitting its regulations for review. Couture also noted that there was also discussion of advancing age and income appropriate housing to help meet community needs and support retention of essential personnel, including police officers, teachers, and volunteer firefighters.
- Couture spoke on municipal waste; it was noted that discussions continue in light of the planned dissolution of MIRA, with ongoing regional coordination through RiverCOG to determine future waste management options. Couture stated he has a meeting scheduled tomorrow to continue these discussions and that work is ongoing to determine where waste will be handled after leaving the transfer station.
- Couture commented about how the town has a small number of parcels remaining to be sold, and an RFP will be prepared to engage a real estate professional to assist with the sales.

Adjournment: Selectman Gorski *Moved* and Selectman D'Angelo *Seconded* a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:37 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed [3-0-0].

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk