

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday February 20, 2018 7:00pm**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 in the selectmen's conference room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectman Rick Fowler.

Attendees: Josie-Albertson Grove – Republican American

**Call to Order**

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mr. Fowler made a motion to approve the previous minutes. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

**Appointments and Resignations**

None at this time.

**New Business**

**Request for Tax Refunds** – No refund at this time..

**Homeland Security Grant – MOA** – Mr. Criss explained that this grant is done by the Northwest Hills COG. All twenty one communities vote on it, and then the money comes into the Department of Emergency Management who then facilitates what emergency equipment to buy that these 21 communities will then share. Mr. Fowler made a motion to sign the MOA for the Homeland Security Grant seconded. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion Carries.

**Temporary Health Care Structures** – Mr. Criss explained the State legislation on Granny Pods (the State's name for them). These are temporary health care structures. The Zoning Commission has been looking at this for a while. There are some issues because this falls under the Torrington Area Health District, but then it would be up to the Town to determine if a resident needed medical assistance – this could potentially become a HIPPA issue. The Zoning Commission has held two public hearings for a proposed opt out. Letter read by Mr. Criss. Mr. Criss counseled with Atty. Rybak who recommended opting out as well. The Zoning Commission has asked the Board of Selectmen to opt out. Mr. Fowler made a motion to opt out of the Temporary Health Care Structures but reserve the right to revisit this again without prejudice. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

**First Selectman's Report** – Mr. Criss is finalizing the data on the policing services and getting all the information from surrounding towns that are in the program and towns that have opted out of the program as well learning of what hybrid they are using. Other town representatives are willing to come to public hearings to talk about how it works in their communities.

The Budget is just about finalized; there are a few budgets that came in late or are way over. We are looking at zero increase for this upcoming year. The school came in very low; they are planning to utilize the surplus money. Every year when the school has a surplus they return it to both towns proportionately depending on percentage. The BOE have made some decisions to use the money to offset some paving. Mr. Criss explained to them that they can't make those decisions without going to the towns first because we have to vote as a board, it's the way the resolutions work. They wanted to use it for the HCS parking lot and heating issues at Lake Garda as to not increase the budget. Workshops can start on Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7pm to go over the Budget.

**Correspondence** – There is correspondence from the Tax Collector, Beth Hamel, stating that she will be implementing a new process for notifications regarding mortgage payoffs. When the Tax Office is notified that a homeowner has paid off their mortgage, they are going to remove the bank code in the system and provide the tax payer with a copy of the bill either by mail or in person. Upon reviewing the account, the bank code in the past has never been removed until the bank notifies us. By us removing the bank code there is no lapse or penalty. To make this cleaner the Tax Office will take the bank code out and notify the homeowner of the taxes owed to the town before there is a penalty.

**Executive Session** – Nothing at this time.

**Adjournment** – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 7:14pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Jen Minery

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT  
ON 02/26/18 AT 9:43AM  
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK