

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday September 3, 2019 7:00pm**

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 in the selectmen's conference room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectman Rick Fowler (arrived late).

Attendees: Atty. Michael Rybak

**Call Meeting to Order**

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

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the minutes from both the last Regular Meeting as well as from the Pension Meeting. Mr. Criss seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Appointments and Resignations** – The Town Clerk, Nancy Eldridge, submitted a clarification for the WPCA membership at the Annual Town Meeting held on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The WPCA Chair, Dennis Baerny nominated Chris Janco and Gene Daily to serve until the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. These Members held seats that expired in 2020. These were the wrong members to be nominated. Ms. Eldridge notified Mr. Criss about the error she found when transcribing the minutes. On March 12, 2019 Mr. McGrane was reappointed by the WPCA Board, Laurie Mosley was nominated as an Alternate Member. On May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Sal Bonola was nominated as an Alternate Member. On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, a motion was made to have Laurie Mosley and Sal Bonola be voting members. WPCA Member James Clavette emailed a resignation and has not sent in a formal resignation; Ms. Eldridge is suggesting that a formal letter be submitted. A motion by the BOS is needed to accept these appointments and the resignation. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to accept the Appointments of Laurie Mosley and Sal Bonola. Mr. Criss seconded. All in favor; Motion carries. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to accept the resignation of Mr. Clavette. Mr. Criss seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Public Participation** – Atty. Rybak to discuss the SRO.

**New Business**

**Request for Tax Refunds** – There is a total of \$4,810.44 for Tax Refunds. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the Tax Refunds. Mr. Criss seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**SRO MOU** – Mr. Criss presented the final draft of the SRO MOU. Atty. Rybak, Mr. Criss and the attorney at CIRMA had gone over the need to revise the previous copy so that Harwinton is paying the SRO through Region #10. Originally the SRO was worded for Harwinton to pay Burlington which left the agreement open for Burlington to bill Harwinton for the SRO who is a constable for Burlington. Harwinton is willing to pay for the 180 days that Region #10 is in school session. Mr. Criss sent this to Atty. Rybak for review. Once this draft is approved by the Board of Selectmen, it will then be sent to Region #10 for review. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the SRO MOU and submit it to

council. Mr. Fowler seconded (arrived during this discussion). All in favor; Motion carries.

**First Selectman's Report** – Mr. Criss reviewed the Gifting Policy that was adopted by the Board of Selectmen at the last BOS meeting (July 30, 2019) and provided a copy for the selectmen.

Mr. Criss shared the legal opinion regarding Margaret Arigoni's (Board of Finance Member) opinion piece that was submitted to the Harwinton Gazette the day after the Board of Finance received correspondence from the labor attorney regarding the BOF overstepping and getting involved in personnel issues. The labor attorney communicated that if they continue to interfere, they may be subject to individually sustain legal action; the Town will not represent them regarding this matter. One of the issues that Ms. Arigoni included in her opinion piece is that Mr. Criss sent a town-wide letter as a political ad and without the Board of Selectmen's approval. Mr. Criss has the legal opinion from Atty. Rybak that the letter was not sent for that purpose as well as the minutes highlighting the BOS Meeting (April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019) showing that the Board of Selectmen approved to send the town-wide letter outlining the budget and the impact the potential state budget will have on the community. Also, a paragraph in the letter referenced both the BOF and the BOS boards (stated in the last paragraph).

Shingle Mill Road Bridge update: A letter was sent to the engineers & the state of CT by the Highway Supervisor concerning the delay and the slow movement of the project; The Town is concerned and wants this project done by the Winter, completed by the first week of November. After the email was sent, there has been consistent work and activity on the Bridge.

Mr. Criss formerly acknowledged Mr. Fowler's decision not to seek re-election and thanked him for serving on the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Criss expressed both his gratitude for Mr. Fowler's contribution and sadness to see him leave. Mr. Fowler shared how much he liked working with both Mr. Criss and Mr. Brunetti.

**Correspondence** – There are two Fire Marshall Reports.

A letter from the Tax Collector. Steve Camp came into the First Selectman's Office during working hours to discuss with Mr. Criss the property he has for sale and to ask if the Board of Selectmen would like to tour the property that he would like to sell to the Town. Mr. Brunetti reiterated that the Town regretfully is not interested in purchasing property at this time.

**Executive Session – Legal** – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:27pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor; Motion carries. Mr. Fowler made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:57 pm. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries. Mr. Fowler made a motion to have the Town make a contribution of and for no more than \$1,200 for the settlement involving the IWWC Commission and Bumper Brooke Estates. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Adjournment** – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
First Selectman's Office

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT

ON 9-9-19 AT 11:00am  
ATTEST TOWN CLERK

*James J. Bayan*