

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday August 18, 2020 7:00pm

A virtual meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, August 18, 2020 via Webex.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss - Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectman Paul Honig.

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Honig made a motion to approve the minutes from the BOS meeting July 21st, 2020. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Appointments and Resignations – Mr. Criss shared the appointments of two (2) committees. The Agricultural Committee and the Capital Equipment Committee have expired terms for all the members. There is no resignation for any of the members on these committees. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to reappoint the members of both committees. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Public Participation – None at this time.

New Business

Request for Tax Refunds – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the refunds totaling \$2035.32. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

COVID19 Update – Phase 3 of 3 of the reopen plan for the Harwinton employees is now in effect; August 15th, 2020 – September 15th, 2020. There will still be no public use of the municipal restrooms. Public meetings will be allowed to have half the capacity of what the meeting rooms hold. Town hall is open to the public by appointment only. Phase 3 has been uploaded to the website and has been emailed to all the departments.

First Selectman's Report – Mr. Criss updated the Board on the tropical storm. The First Selectman's office, the Highway Department and the Emergency Team worked straight through the storm. Mr. Criss shared his experience with Eversource as an epic failure on their part of execution, poor planning and mismanagement. They violated their own protocol that requires them to open the roads 24 hours after the storm ends; in some cases, the roads weren't cleared for four (4) days. We have months of clean-up and will be working with Eversource to have them come out as the town crews are out working on the roads. Mr. Criss is working with legislatures to hold Eversource responsible for their lack of action in their response time during this storm.

- Recreation is going to start doing some outdoor events for the Senior Center. HYSA is also going to be able to use the fields. HYSA submitted protocols that have been approved by TAHD.
- The oil tank will be installed at town hall during the first week of September.
- The Contractor for the handicap doors will be coming out at that time as well to assess the doors and start construction.
- There is land that has been offered to the town to keep the watershed area as open space. Mr. Criss offered it to the Land Trust who expressed no interest in the land. Mr. Criss requested a map and had a meeting with the point of contact from that department. Mr. Criss will bring the information to the next Board of Selectmen meeting to have the Board make a decision on the next step; should the town pursue this land or not?

- Alice Freiler, the Library Director, reached out to Mr. Criss to approve a resolution and to sign and execute documents that allow Ms. Freiler to apply for a library construction grant not to exceed \$80,000 for a backup generator. The grant is a matching grant that covers half of the project. Mr. Criss is looking to see if Senior Housing can also use the same backup generator to get federal funding to help pay for it as well. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to have Mr. Criss sign the resolution and documents to apply for the library construction grant. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.
- The Homeland Security Grant is up for renewal for Region 5; it is part of the DEHMS program. This allows us to apply for state grants and funding that helps to buy equipment for each participant town for emergency purposes. This grant allows a member of the Emergency Team to attend the meetings and partake in the decision-making process for emergency equipment. Mr. Honig made a motion to have Mr. Criss sign the resolution and the MOA for the Home Security Grant. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Correspondence – Fire Marshalls Report was submitted.

Executive Session – Personnel/Legal – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:35pm. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries. Mr. Honig made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 7:51 pm. Mr. Brunetti seconded. No action taken. All in favor; Motion carries.

Adjournment – Mr. Honig made a motion to adjourn at 7:52pm. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by: First Selectman's Office

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT

ON 8-25-20 AT 10:15am

ATTEST TOWN CLERK

James Bogan