

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, October 20, 2015 in the Assembly Hall.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Jon Truskauskas, and Selectman Nancy Schnyer.

Attendees: Leslie Flowers and Barbara Buss from the Library Building Committee.

Call to Order

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

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on October 6, 2015. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All were in favor.

Public Participation

None

Appointments and Resignations

The Selectmen received a letter of resignation dated October 13, 2015 from Zoning Commission member Todd Ouelette. Ms. Schnyer made a motion to accept the resignation of Todd Ouelette from the Zoning Commission. Mr. Truskauskas seconded. All were in favor.

Ms. Schnyer made a motion to have the Library Information Session moved to the end of New Business. Mr. Truskauskas seconded. All were in favor.

New Business

Request for Refund of Property Tax

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the following tax refunds. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All were in favor. Ronald A. Kretschmar, \$40.35. Marjorie Jahre, \$40.62.

Discussion of Parks and Recreation/Conservation

Mr. Criss met with the Conservation Commission recently. After questioning what the Commission's role in town is, a five (5) year plan of maintenance was recommended as well as pursuing grants for conservation.

Discussion on Phone Vendor

The current phone system is outdated and parts are no longer available. Direct communication between town buildings is not available with the current system. The town had a high speed fiber network installed so communications between buildings is now available. The new phone system will save the town approximately \$2,000 per year on phone costs. The job was put out to bid and one bid was received from Total Communications for \$64,706. The bid includes the new phone system for seven locations (Town Hall, Library, Senior Center, Community Hall, both fire departments and the Emergency Operations Center), training, one year warranty, and a five year

maintenance warranty. Mr. Truskauskas moved to refer approval of bid to the Board of Finance. Ms. Schyner seconded. All were in favor.

Information Session – Harwinton Public Library Renovation and Expansion

Leslie Flowers and Barbara Buss of the Library Building Committee were in attendance to show a presentation during the Selectmen's meeting on the possible future expansion of the Library and to answer questions from the public. The main points of their presentation were- The library building is not energy efficient, there is a need for more programs, more space, a business center, and updated technology. The estimated cost of the project is \$5,000,000. Questions from the audience: Does the plan include a generator? Answer: No. Question- Have trades people been consulted with regard to the architect drawings for an opinion? Answer: The architect was carefully selected and has experience working with other libraries. There are some trades people on the construction committee. Ms. Schnyer inquired about the \$120 average per family per year cost for the renovations (based on a house assessed for \$200,000). Ms. Schnyer asked how many years that would be for. The answer is the duration of the bond which could be a minimum of 30 to 40 years or \$3,600 for 30 years per family or \$4,800 for 40 years per family. Because of the proximity of the Library to Wintergreen's Senior Housing, an audience member asked if the committee received approval for the expansion. Ms. Flowers stated they have received the necessary approval from the Zoning Commission.

First Selectman's Report

Trunk or Treat will be held this Saturday, October 24th at the sports complex, Town Hall. There will be a pancake breakfast on November 1, 2015 at the Harwinton Consolidated School.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be held on November 17, 2015. The meeting scheduled for November 3rd has been cancelled due to elections.

Mr. Criss announced that he is working with the Town of Burlington to put together a Juvenile Review Board.

Mr. Criss participated in the "Tips for Teens" fundraiser. \$1,200 was raised for Safe Harbor.

All documents for bridge work on Shingle Mill Road have been executed.

Paving of North Road will begin the first week of November, 2015.

Correspondence

None

Adjournment

Mr. Truskauskas moved to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by _____
Melissa Santoro

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 10/27/2015 AT 3:36 PM
ATTEST NANCY F. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK