

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**June 4, 2013**

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Jon Truskauskas, and Selectman Frank Chiaramonte.

Attendees: Candace Jones-Pacholski

**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 May 7, 2013. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion passed.

**Public Participation**

None

**Appointments and Resignations**

There is a correction from the Board of Selectmen meeting that was held on May 7, 2013. The Board voted to appoint Jessie Smith to the Zoning Board of Appeals. There was no opening on the Board. Jessie Smith will remain an alternate on the ZBA. There is still an opening for a second alternate on the ZBA. There is also an opening for an alternate on the Planning Commission. Mr. Truskauskas made a motion to retract Jessie Smith's nomination. Mr. Criss seconded.

**New Business**

Budget Update:

Mr. Criss reported that the state pilot program money and Mohegan grant has been restored and that was money the town was not expecting. He also estimated a savings of \$33,000 in trash and rubbish but the actual savings was \$43,000. TAR (town aid for roads) money allocated to towns has increased. This means the 2014 budget will be better than expected for revenues.

Set Date for Pension Trustees Meeting:

Mr. Truskauskas made a motion to set date of June 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. for the Pension Trustees Meeting. The Board of Selectmen meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

**First Selectman's Report**

Mr. Criss reported that Torrington passed their blight ordinance and he will send all the information to Town Attorney Michael Rybak to review for a possible blight ordinance in Harwinton.

Included in this summer's recreation program will be 2 outdoor concerts and 2 outdoor movie nights. Thomaston Savings Bank will be sponsoring these events for the town. Mr. Criss is looking into purchasing a bounce house for the recreation department. Rather than renting one every year, some towns purchase them and rent them out during the year.

Mr. Criss informed the Selectmen of a complaint received by a resident, Althea Stowe, asking for reimbursement of legal bills. The letter has been forwarded to Attorney Rybak and forwarded to the Tax and Assessor's office for resolution.

Mr. Criss reported that there has been a significant price increase from the Town's current auditors. The price has increased to approximately \$21,000. Because of this increase, Mr. Criss was been in the process of obtaining competitive bids from other auditors. Without Mr. Criss's knowledge and the required authorization from the Board of Finance, the Town Treasurer authorized the audit from our current auditors. The auditors were 25% into the audit; therefore, Mr. Criss was unable to competitively price the job. Mr. Criss then requested a price adjustment from the current auditors.

Mr. Criss was asked about the C-PACE energy program from a local business interested in solar heat. The program was reviewed last year. Mr. Criss forwarded the information to Attorney Rybak for an opinion.

Highway Supervisor, John Fredsall informed Mr. Criss that shim paving will begin soon on town roads. It will be bid again in hopes of using local contractors again.

Improvements to the Library's parking lot are scheduled to commence in mid-July. This work has already been approved at a town meeting.

In an effort to reduce security costs but still maintain security, Mr. Criss, with authorization from Region 10 and Troop L, has arranged for a satellite office for our resident state trooper to be located at Harwinton Consolidated School beginning this fall.

Mr. Criss announced that our Animal Control Officer, Diane Dodge, will be retiring this month. Mr. Criss thanked Ms. Dodge for her service and wished her the best of luck. The Town will be looking for a new Animal Control Officer as well as an Assistant ACO.

The ACO vehicle was to be replaced but the pickup used by maintenance is in need of repairs and will be replaced first.

Highway Supervisor John Fredsall and Mr. Criss met with state personnel regarding Shingle Mill Road Bridge. Over the next three years the bridge will be replaced. The Town will receive 75% replacement costs from the state for the bridge.

Ambulance Update- The paperwork is at the DECD and the town is waiting for a wage schedule from the Department of Labor. The paperwork should be received shortly and the process to select a bidder should begin soon.

Mr. Criss has received a draft of the 457 plan.

Mr. Criss thanked Larry Connors and Amanda Surveski for replacing Harwinton's sign post on the green. Larry Connors and Town Historian, Roger Plaskett mounted the sign on Memorial Day. The Harwinton Historical Society paid for the new sign.

### **Correspondence**

The Selectmen reviewed the Fire Marshal's report for May, 2013.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Truskauskas moved to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Melissa Santoro  
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