

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday January 2, 2018 7:00pm

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in the selectmen's conference room.

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

Attendees: Atty. Michael Rybak - Town Attorney, Peter Thierry – Board of Finance, Josie Albertson Grove – Republican American, Terry Kelly.

Call to Order

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

Request to add items to the Agenda

Mr. Criss requested to add two items to the Agenda:

- 1) Executive Session for Legal,
- 2) 2) Recommendation to the Board of Finance for \$1,000 for Environmental Evaluation purposes for the Thierry Property.

Mr. Brunetti made a motion to add these two items to the Agenda. Mr. Fowler seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

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

Appointments and Resignations

None at this time.

Public Participation – Mr. Kelly shared his feelings regarding the \$300,000 spent on Mr. Jack Gedney, former principal of Region 10 Lake Garda Elementary School, after the alleged allegations. His feelings were that the decision to spend that amount of money should've gone to a Town Meeting. Mr. Criss and Mr. Thierry advised Mr. Kelly that the Board of Education passes their budget in May through a referendum; each town votes. Once the budget is approved, the BOE has the authority to work within that budget. They advised Mr. Kelly to address his concerns to the BOE who have direct control over the budget in which Mr. Gedney's salary was included. Mr. Criss did share Mr. Kelly's concerns about the issues not being discussed with the town leaders. Discussion ensued.

New Business

Request for Tax Refunds – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to accept the request for tax refunds. Mr. Fowler seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Confirm Annual Town Meeting & Call – The Annual Town Meeting is set for January 23rd, 2017 at 7:00pm. The Call has been drafted. Mr. Criss read through the drafted Call and it was reviewed by the selectmen. The first seven items are the standard, typical items. Annual Reports are done. Mr. Criss welcomed thoughts on the Call. Mr. Brunetti suggested moving item 12 (The Library) before item 10, maybe not have the repairs be at the end of the Call, but rather in the beginning or middle to help the meeting move along. Does there need to be an approval for buildings to be demolished, should we leave that in there? Atty. Mike Rybak recommended that we leave that in the Call. Atty. Rybak also mentioned that he can move item 12 to be item 10 on the Call. Mr. Criss confirmed that Mr. Tracy agreed to be the moderator. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to sign the Call with the proposed changes. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Recommendation to BOF - Mr. Criss explained that the Environmental Evaluation (looking for lead, asbestos, anything that has to be abated) for the Thierry Property will cost about \$1,000. The Board of Finance approved an amount not to exceed \$6,000 to do the survey and the appraisal. We are estimated at \$3,450. It would be prudent for us to do this evaluation done on the property before the Annual Town Meeting. John Fredsall, the Highway Supervisor, is putting together numbers for the demolition as those questions may come up at the meeting. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to get approval from the BOF for the \$1,000 of the \$6,000 to be used for the Environmental Evaluation. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Executive Session – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 7:44pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries. Mr. Fowler made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:10pm. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. No action was taken.

First Selectman's Report – L. Wagner is no longer going to be offering professional services of technical support for the housing rehabilitation program for 2018. Mr. Criss will reach out to Ted Shafer (Burlington First Selectman) to put a bid request together for someone else to take that over. We have a \$300,000 grant to be used for the housing rehabilitation program.

Correspondence – Fire Marshall report. The Landing Zone Grille was closed by the Torrington Area Health Department due to health code and fire code violations. It will not be able to open again until all issues are addressed.

Adjournment – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 8:12pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by _____
Jen Minery

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 01/08/18 AT 12:16 PM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK