

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

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 in the selectmen's conference room.

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

Attendees: Josie-Albertson Grove – Republican American

Call 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 previous minutes. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

King County & Ordinance 106

Mr. Criss asked for a motion to add King County and Ordinance 106 to the Agenda. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to add both items to the agenda. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Appointments and Resignations

Highway Supervisor John Fredsall handed in his retirement letter, his last date will be December 31st, 2018. His last working date will be November 16th, 2018. The Assistant Town Clerk resigned and moved. The Town Clerk is looking for a new assistant.

Public Participation – None at this time.

New Business

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

Ordinance 106 – This is the old ordinance that addresses the Emergency Volunteer Benefit program. This is a program that the Board of Finance did away with last year; the BOF had the ability to fund it, the BOS had the ability to approve it. With the agreement of all three (3) chiefs, they took that fund and dispersed it among the departments. There is an open ordinance on the books that states there has to be an Emergency Volunteer Benefits Committee that is Ordinance 106. In order to repeal this ordinance it has to go to town meeting. Mr. Fowler made a motion to add this to the call for the town meeting – to repeal Ordinance 106. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Special Town Meeting – Town Attorney Michael Rybak is unable to attend the original date of the Special Town Meeting. He has suggested the Special Town Meeting to be rescheduled for either Tuesday September 11th or Tuesday September 18th. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to have the Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, September 18th, 2018 at 7pm. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries. The regularly scheduled BOS

meeting will be cancelled for that evening due to the town meeting. At the next BOS meeting the call will be drafted and ready for approval.

Locip – Mr. Criss provided a list for the selectmen to approve the updated Locip list to be approved by the Board of Finance. Mr. Fowler made a motion to have the BOF approve the Locip list. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

King County – Mr. Criss explained that for municipalities that have real estate owned by the United States Government are able to receive federal money in lieu of taxes which is basically pilot money. There is a determination that in the State of CT it was underfunded for the years 2015 – 2017 and that some towns may be eligible for money. In order to be eligible for money there has to be a filing with the class action lawsuit, King County Utah vs. U.S. Government. It was a court case that was heard and now they have done it across the country; all the states have the ability to do that as well. The town is looking to see if this applies to the Town of Harwinton. Atty. Rybak has taken a look at the paperwork. There is no cost for the Town of Harwinton just to be listed in case. Mr. Brunetti asked if we even qualify. Mr. Criss stated that they are trying to identify that now. Atty. Rybak shared with Mr. Criss that the attorney's fees and costs will be paid out of the final judgment so it will not cost the town any money and it will be reduced from the town recovery; any money owed to us, the fees would be taken from there. If we do not opt in the town will receive nothing and we will be barred from any recovery. Mr. Brunetti asked what Atty. Rybak's opinion was, Mr. Criss shared that we are to request a list from the Assessor to look into it (map locations, etc.). He also wanted Mr. Criss to brief the selectmen on this lawsuit to see if the town wants to opt in. Mr. Fowler made a motion to opt into the class action suit subject to the approval of the town attorney. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Constable – Mr. Criss stated that the public in general has been looking for extra police services. As the state police costs continue to go up, the town needs to start to look for other options. In the long run the liability insurance is a concern. We are in a tier with our insurance company, that locks our costs because we have no police. We have a three (3) year contract with our insurance company that gives us a certain rate. If we are to opt out we will then get a different rate and we will have to look at what those numbers are as far as liability insurance is concerned. Region 10 voted to arm their security and they do have one (1) SRO (Student Resource Officer); that officer is an officer in Burlington and Region 10. Region 10 has asked if we would be interested in hiring an SRO, similar to the Burlington situation and/or for the first step to be dually sworn into the Town of Harwinton through an inter-local agreement. And then, to possibly add another SRO with Harwinton being the lead community to add another SRO/constable for 180 days and then take up the rest of the cost for the remainder of the year. Right now the constable can come down to HCS but needs the State Police to enforce anything. Mr. Criss spoke with the town attorney about this since we are considering a constable program anyway. In order to help and assist with Region 10's issue, first step is to dually swear in the current SRO that is in place through an inter-local agreement and through town meeting. The ordinance will have to be changed as the current ordinance only allows for constables, and SROs are considered a special constable under 7-92. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to pursue the immediate need for Region 10. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries. Mr. Brunetti made a motion for Atty. Rybak to revisit our constable ordinance and include the deputation of an SRO for the Town of Harwinton under the existing conditions and to have all the information available for review for

the next BOS meeting for the selectmen to review for this to go to town meeting and to discuss this further at the next BOS meeting. Mr. Fowler seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

First Selectman's Report - Mr. Criss discussed that Atty. Rybak recuse himself from being the Blight attorney. Kramer & Anderson, from Litchfield are willing to take that on.

Correspondence -fire marshal report.

Adjournment – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 7:10pm. Mr. fowler seconded. Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by _____
Selectman's Office

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 8-14-18 AT 12:30 PM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK