

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday March 17, 2020 7:00pm

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 in the selectmen's conference room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss - Selectman Evan Brunetti, Electronically - Selectman Paul Honig, Arrived 7:05pm.

Attendees: Peter Thierry – Board of Finance

Call Meeting to Order

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the minutes from the BOS meetings March 3rd 2020. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion carries.

Appointments and Resignations – None at this time.

Public Participation – None

New Business

Request for Tax Refunds – The Tax Refunds totaled \$325.92 Mr. Brunetti made a motion to accept the Tax Refunds. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Town Meeting – Mr. Criss shared that the Annual Town Meeting has been postponed but no date has been determined yet, there are too many unknowns. Discussion ensued on the impact of COVID-19 on Region #10's response and postponement of the meetings as well as setting up WebEx which gave the town free service. Phone lines available through One Digital allows for tele-conferencing.

COVID19 Update – Mr. Criss shared the most current updates and the governor's recommendations. Discussion ensued. Mr. Criss shared the preventative and proactive measures the town is continually implementing and updating as new information comes in. The town hall & library will be closed to the general public. Appointments must be made with each individual department if it is absolutely necessary; we are strongly encouraging electronic & phone correspondence to adhere to the social distancing protocol. All department meetings will be tele-conferences. We will be sending a reverse-911 informational call to keep residents updated. We are keeping the town website updated with the most current information and links with a specific email set up; COVID19@harwinton.us.

First Selectman's Report – There was an item on the Annual Town Meeting regarding the Building Official's payment. There was a motion made to at the last Board of Selectmen meeting to pay the Building Inspector accordingly until the Town Meeting, to avoid legal labor issues. Mr. Honig made a motion to approve that the Building Official continues to get paid and to send this to the Board the Finance for approval. Mr. Brunet-

ti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries. Mr. Criss shared that the Harwinton Ambulance Association is in the same predicament and that there needs to be a vote that if the Annual Town Meeting isn't rescheduled before the HAA requires their payment to pay their vendor, that we can make that payment to the HAA so that those services do not shut down. The Town Atty counselled that if the BOS and the BOF agree to make the payments then payments can be made. Mr. Honig made a motion to pay the HAA the supplemental \$55,000 that was requested and send to the Board of Finance for their approval. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

There is a state grant plan for Municipal-level Affordable Housing Plans. The NWCOG sent over all the information including the budget plan for \$9,800. The plan will assist the town in identifying existing areas of affordable housing in town and make recommendations to the BOS for any future plans. This plan is a state mandate required by the state of Connecticut as passed in 2017 and mandated that every town have an affordable housing plan. Mr. Honig made a motion to approve a resolution to apply for the grant. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Mr. Criss shared that Edmunds, the accounting software, needs to be rebuilt as well as the additional support to for the Edmunds rebuild as recommended by the Auditors. Mr. Honig made a motion to approve \$10,000 for the Auditor support to come from budget line 1025 and \$10,250 from budget line 1014 for the Edmunds rebuild for a total of \$20,250 and to send this to the Board of Finance for their approval. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Mr. Criss shared the supplemental letter from the Auditor for the 2019 Audit in the amount of \$2,685. Mr. Honig made a motion to approve the supplemental amount for \$2,685 and to send this to the Board of Finance for their approval. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Correspondence – A letter from Sandra Welwood, the Auditor stating that she will no longer be auditing for the Town of Harwinton.

A copy of the EDC 'Starting a Small Business in Northwest Connecticut' was given to the Board of Selectmen.

Adjournment – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 7:44pm. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by _____
First Selectman's Office

FILED ON RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
3-19-20 AT 2:50 pm
ATTEST TOWN CLERK
James Bryan