

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday September 1, 2020 7:00pm**

A virtual meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 via Webex.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss - Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectman Paul Honig.

**Call Meeting to Order**

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mr. Honig made a motion to approve the minutes from the BOS meeting August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Appointments and Resignations** – Mr. Criss shared the request from the Recreation Commission to appoint Brian Kelleher to fill a vacancy on the Recreation Commission Board. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to appoint Brian Kelleher to the Recreation Commission. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Public Participation** – None at this time.

**New Business**

**Request for Tax Refunds** – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to approve the refunds totaling \$2116.24. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Re-request Edmonds Funding** – Mr. Criss shared that the Board of Finance has asked to re-request the money for the Edmonds project rather than use the money that has already been allocated in the last fiscal year. The BOF would like us to re-request for this 2020/2021 fiscal year. Mr. Brunetti made a motion for the Board of Selectmen to re-request approval from the Board of Finance for this 2020/2021 fiscal year to make a final payment to Edmonds for the other half of the Edmonds project, that is currently on hold due to the re-request, which totals \$5,125 from Budget Line # 1014 and for the approval to spend out of Budget Line # 1025, up to an amount and not to exceed, \$10,000 for the auditing consultant fees to get the Edmonds project completed. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**COVID19 Update** – Phase 3 of 3 of the reopen plan for the Harwinton employees is now in effect; August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 – September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. There will still be no public use of the municipal restrooms. Public meetings will be allowed to have half the capacity of what the meeting rooms hold. Town hall is open to the public by appointment only. Phase 3 has been uploaded to the website and has been emailed to all the departments.

We are up to forty (40) confirmed COVID-19 cases; the last five (5) cases were considered active.

The Governor is trying to extend the emergency protocol until February 2021. Region #10 started the hybrid learning model.

We are continually getting PPE supplies from FEMA. Our emergency status will stay in effect until the Governor lifts the state's emergency protocol.

**First Selectman's Report** – Mr. Criss updated the Board on the Affordable Housing Technical Grant for \$11,100. NWCOC will assist in completion of the Affordable Housing Technical Assistance Plan. Mr. Criss shared the plan with the selectmen. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to

authorize Mr. Criss to sign and execute any and all documents and not to engage in any of the work on the plan until the \$11,100 has been received. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Mr. Criss updated that the Harwinton Library is moving forward on the library construction grant that Ms. Freiler, the Library Director, has applied for not to exceed \$80,000 for a backup generator. The last piece of this grant process is to have a formal vote to execute and sign all documents to submit to the Library Association. Mr. Brunetti made a motion for Mr. Criss to execute and sign documents for the library construction grant. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Building Resilient Infrastructure & Communities (BRIC) is a new program under FEMA to identify if a structure is in need for improvement for storms and hazardous events. We are looking to get funding for the Wintergreen Housing generator through the BRIC program. As long as the town is the sponsor for Wintergreen, they can apply for the BRIC grant. The Emergency Team is looking for an emergency response trailer and will be applying for a grant through BRIC as well.

The Town is finalizing an RFQ for the security system; we are working with a security advisor so we can have a detailed package for contractors looking to submit quotes.

Mr. Criss is working on a committee with DEEP on a recovery solution team to find a more sufficient way to process trash and to reduce tip fees.

DOT has put out a Connectivity Grant. This will be the first Connectivity Grant that we will be applying for, if the selectmen agree on the project. An idea that Mr. Criss proposed to the selectmen is to apply to create a walking path for our Senior Citizens to give them a safe walking path to keep them out of the blind spots on Bentley Drive.

Mr. Criss is working with the Harwinton Lake Association with their master plan. Discussion ensued.

The Tax Collector sent a report on the tax collection up to this point; she feels comfortable that the taxes should all be paid by the deadline of October 1, 2020. Some of these taxes haven't been paid by banks yet. We are only off by 7% compared to the tax collection rate from last year.

The Highway Foreman submitted his retirement notification for November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Public Works Director and Mr. Criss are working diligently together for a replacement.

**Correspondence** – None at this time.

**Executive Session – Personnel/Legal** – Nothing at this time.

**Adjournment** – Mr. Honig made a motion to adjourn at 7:50pm. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by: First Selectman's Office

RECORD AT HARWINTON CT  
9-8-20 AT 8:35 am  
ATTEST TOWN CLERK  
*James B. Bays*