

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday September 15, 2020 7:00pm**

A virtual meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, September 15, 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 7:05pm.

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Mr. Honig made a motion to approve the minutes from September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Appointments and Resignations** – None at this time.

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

**New Business**

**Request for Tax Refunds** – Mr. Honig made a motion to approve the refunds totaling \$3,279.20. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**Authorizing Resolution for Affordable Housing Plan** – Mr. Criss shared that this resolution has already been approved in March, however because of time-lapse due to COVID-19 all the other paperwork was signed past the thirty (30) day period allotted for the Affordable Housing Technical Grant resolution. This resigning is to ensure that the resolution is within thirty (30) days of all the other signed paperwork. Mr. Honig made a motion to authorize Mr. Criss to resign the resolution for the Affordable Housing Technical Grant. Mr. Brunetti seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

**COVID19 Update** – Mr. Criss shared that the Town is still in Phase 3 of 3 of the reopen plan. The Library is now open to the public by appointment only. Town hall is still open to the public by appointment only. We are closely watching Region #10 to see how the hybrid model is going and will wait to open fully until we see that there are no spikes or an uptick in COVID-19 cases. FEMA had originally sent out criteria on items/services that would be reimbursable. Other towns are reporting that submitted applications are being rejected. The State is now looking into this issue. The Town of Harwinton's application has been accepted and to date is in good standing. The town is going to allow three (3) on three (3) basketball as well as double-play pickle-ball as long as it has the TAHD approval of guidelines. Both sports require masks to be worn. Halloween will not be formally cancelled. The town is still going to do the Annual Trunk or Treat event however it will be a drive-thru model as long as we have approval from the TAHD.

**First Selectman's Report** – Mr. Criss attended the last Board of Finance meeting to re-request the money for the Edmunds project and the auditing services as requested by the Board of Finance. The BOF approved the money for the Edmunds project but then cut the amount allowed to pay the auditor to only \$1,500; \$9,500 less than what the BOF had requested and approved in March.

There are about seven (7) computers that will need to be upgraded in order for all the departments to utilize the Microsoft 10 required upgrade. Mr. Criss had stated that the town has been diligent in upgrading equipment with the funds allotted each year, however Windows 7 will no

longer be supported after January causing the need to accelerate replacement of the seven (7) computers at once.

Mr. Criss is still waiting on the security package for the security system RFQ. We would like to have it secured before October 2<sup>nd</sup> when the absentee ballots will be available. The security system project will need the Board of Finance approval.

Mr. Criss testified against Eversource but in favor of a proposed draft bill that is to hold utility companies accountable. Mr. Criss recommended that they expand PURA's authority under federal regulation in order to oversee phone and cable companies as well. Mr. Criss shared another bill that is under a proposed stance right now; the bill concerns land use & housing and community housing policies. For years the town has covered the cost of evictions, storage and auctions without reimbursement. There are some proposals that are requiring property owners to pay for those costs. Mr. Criss will give updates in the weeks to come as he learns more.

**Correspondence** – Fire Marshall report.

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

**Adjournment** – Mr. Brunette made a motion to adjourn at 7:33pm. Mr. Honig seconded. All in favor; Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by: First Selectman's Office

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT  
ON 9-18-20 AT 11:15am  
ATTEST TOWN CLERK *Janet Bryan*