

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday October 3, 2017 7:00pm

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, October 3, 2017 in the selectmen's conference room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Evan Brunetti, Selectwoman Nancy Schnyer,

Attendees: Peter Thierry – Board of Finance, Barbara Buss - Library

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 amend the minutes – adding Atty. Michael Rybak and Beth Hamel to the Attendees - and to accept the minutes. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion carries.

Appointments and Resignations

No appointments and resignations at this time.

Public Participation

Mr. Thierry suggested a Town meeting for the purchase his property. Ms. Buss wanted to discuss the budget after reading the BOF minutes concerning the Library Project proposal going to Town meeting. Ms. Buss questioned why does this project have to go to Town meeting? Mr. Thierry explained that it is because the project is over \$20,000. Mr. Criss added that the Town has a capital account and because the account is labeled Municipal Improvements; because it is not specific to a project, it has to be brought to the Town for approval per project. The Town hall roof, the lighting, etc. had to be brought to Town meeting. Ms. Buss asked what happens if it is voted down. Mr. Thierry answered, that the Library can't spend the money. Ms. Buss asked when the Town meeting will take place. Mr. Criss said that there isn't a date yet. There is one item right now, the Library. The Thierry property will be added if the Town meets the criteria from DEEP. The BOF and the BOS approved for the Library project to go to the Town meeting. Mr. Criss would like to have the meeting as soon as possible to get the repairs done. Ms. Buss asked about the automatic door that was going to be done for the Senior Center and for the Library. Mr. Criss answered that they are getting pricing right now on wireless units, and also looking into units for the Senior Center, Library and Town Hall.

New Business

Request for Tax Refunds – No requests for tax refunds at this time.

Budget Update – There is no Budget. The Bi-partisan budget has been vetoed.

First Selectman's Report – Mr. Criss spoke with Atty. Michael Rybak about the Harwinton House and the trouble he is having with Vincent Lee at the DECD. He asked for the donation portion of the project, if it is not figured into the regular budget, can we refund the money by a vote of both the BOF and the BOS. Atty. Rybak advised, as long as it is not part of the actual town budget we can do that; also, if we have an active list. We are looking for the list. Ms. Schnyer shared that Harry Schuh, the Treasurer of the Historical Society, has a list, also Mel in the Finance Department has a list. Mr. Criss asked to have that legal opinion in writing from Mr. Rybak. Ms. Schnyer asked if it would go to town meeting, Mr. Criss and Mr. Thierry didn't think so. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to get the Board of Finance approval for the return of donations made to the Harwinton House project per Atty. Rybak's recommendation. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried. Ms. Schnyer asked about the \$67,000, can it be transferred to another project? Mr. Criss is working on that and also reimbursement for the outstanding \$8,000.

Update on the Wilcox and Thierry property. We received a letter from Dave Stygar and shared it with the Board of Finance and the Planning Commission. Dave Stygar did get back to us with a letter. Mr. Criss read the letter outlining the process. Planning voted favorable for an 8-24 referral to go to Town meeting with it provided we do the things they ask us to do which is the appraisal and the A-2 survey. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to reach out to the two surveyors that worked with the Town in the past to get estimates on getting appraisals and A-2 surveys done and to be forwarded to the Board of Finance for final approval. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All in favor. Motion carries. Mr. Brunetti made a motion to send the Wilcox and Thierry property to Town Meeting. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

A possible date for a Town Meeting was discussed as well as a referendum for the swap of the Wilcox property for the Thierry property. Mr. Brunetti suggested that it depends how the cash is going to work out and to see what the appraisals come back at. We should wait before making the meeting and the referendum decision. This type of transaction is different for land purchases and there are internal systems in place that allows the people to participate. Suggested dates for a tentative Special BOS meeting, Tuesday October 10th, Wednesday October 11th. Mr. Brunetti made the motion to tentatively set the meeting for October 10th at 6:30, if all the information was ready. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All were in favor. Motion carries.

Correspondence – The Fire Marshall report.

Adjournment – Mr. Brunetti made a motion to adjourn at 7:31pm. Ms. Schnyer seconded. All in favor. Motion carries.

Minutes submitted by _____
Jen Minery

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT
ON 10-10-17 AT 11:45 AM
ATTEST NANCY E. ELDRIDGE TOWN CLERK