

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
January 22, 2013

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on January 22, 2013 in the Selectmen's Conference Room.

Members present: First Selectman Michael Criss, Selectman Jon Truskauskas, and Selectman Frank Chiaramonte.

Attendees: Attorney Michael Rybak, Peter Thierry, and Andrew Kasznay.

Call to Order

Mr. Criss called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the minutes from the meeting held on January 8, 2013. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion passed.

Public Participation

None

Appointments and Resignations

A letter received from Sharlene Copeland, Senior Center Director/Municipal Agent, recommended the reappointment of Peggy Shanahan to the Commission on Aging. A memo was received from the Planning Commission recommending the appointment of Michael Letourneau as an alternate member to the Planning Commission.

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the reappointment of Peggy Shanahan to the Commission on Aging. Term is November 15, 2010 through November 18, 2013. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion passed.

Mr. Truskauskas moved to approve the appointment of Michael Letourneau as an alternate member of the Planning Commission. Term is November 30, 2012 through November 30, 2015. Mr. Criss seconded. Motion passed.

New Business

Possible Land Acquisition-Executive Session

Mr. Truskauskas moved to enter into Executive Session at 7:02 p.m. for the purpose of discussing possible land acquisition. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Attorney Rybak, Peter Thierry, and Andy Kasznay were invited to attend.

At 7:19 Mr. Truskauskas moved to end executive session. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor. No action taken.

First Selectman's Report

Attorney Rybak gave an update on the status of the ambulance facility. He received an email today from Attorney Paindiris that stated everything is in order for a closing on January 29th. A 430 page environmental report from CEA was received approximately three (3) weeks ago. HRP has issued their approval letter. Closing adjustments will require a check in the amount of \$9429.72. Attorney Rybak recommended keeping insurance on the facility. Mr. Truskauskas made a motion to approve check in the amount of \$9,429.72 for the closing on the ambulance facility. Mr. Chiaramonte seconded. All were in favor.

Proposed ordinance for Board of Education Elections- Mr. Criss asked Attorney Rybak to draft an ordinance for Board of Education Elections. Mr. Criss would like to see nominees for the Board of Education on the ballot for November elections rather than electing them at a town meeting. Many area towns have already changed to this practice. In order for ordinance to take effect, a town meeting will have to be held by April 23rd to approve the ordinance and the ballot will have to go to the Secretary of State by May 9th. He recommended having the Board of Education member elected at the Annual Town Budget Meeting in May and then everything will be in order to have elections in November.

Mr. Criss thanked Maria Domack of Torrington. Mrs. Domack had a birthday party and asked for dog items instead of birthday gifts and she donated those gifts to our Animal Control Facility. Many great gifts were received such as food and bedding for the animals.

Mr. Criss has spoken with the towns of Goshen and Litchfield about housing their animals at our Animal Control Facility because neither town has a facility of their own. The fee is \$10 per dog per day.

Mr. Criss announced that Eugene Torrence, former Police Chief of Thomaston, was sworn in today to serve as the School Resource Officer for Region 10 and has already met with Safe Harbor Youth Service Bureau.

Mr. Criss is looking into holding a sealed bid auction for town owned properties taken at the last tax auction that the town would like to sell. John Fredsall is preparing a summary report on each property.

Mr. Criss announced the topic of outdoor wood burning stoves will be coming up during the legislative session. Mr. Criss noted we follow rules set by Torrington Area Health.

Mr. Criss announced negotiations for the highway contract will begin soon and meetings will have to be scheduled. The current contract expires June 30, 2013.

The Selectmen review the Animal Control Officer's report for December, 2012.

Attorney Rybak stated he has spent two hours researching blight ordinances from other towns. All agreed that the town of Old Saybrook had a softer approach and is more in line with Harwinton's view.

Mr. Truskauskas moved to adjourn at 7:48 p.m. Mr. Chiamonte seconded. All were in favor.

Minutes submitted by: Melissa Santoro
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