



LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

MELINDA M. FERRY
AARON J. FOSTER
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 23, 2017
Town Hall - Meeting Hall

MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, Melinda M. Ferry, Aaron J. Foster, James Prichard, David Stavens, Ronald Stomberg, John Turner, Melinda Ferry

OTHERS PRESENT: Nicolas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer/Treasurer; Marie Sauve, Human Resources Coordinator; Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Trooper's Office Supervisor; Tom Dillon, EVAC; Nancy Stillman, President EVAC; Logan McDonald, ERP 512; Becca Cargill, ERP 512; Rachael Iverson, ERP 512; Madison Killoran, ERP 512; April Phelps, ERP 512; Gary T. Feldman, Sr., Chief, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD); Dan Flanagan, EVAC; John Rachek, Board of Finance Chair; Tom Palshaw; Cyndi Costanzo, Parks & Recreation Commission;

I. CALL TO ORDER:

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order by First Selectman Spielman at 7:01 p.m.

II. CITIZENS' FORUM

Tom Dillon, an Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps employee and the Union President for the ambulance, came forward to bring attention to and acknowledge the Ellington Rescue Post 512 members. He said that recently there have been many tough ambulance calls, including a motorcycle accident and 2 calls that required CPR. He recognized numerous first responders from the Ellington Ambulance and the Fire Department, including Tonya Glomboske, Logan McDonald, Rachael Iverson, April Phelps, Madison Killoran, Amanda Pretty, Debbie Schiessl, and many others. He remarked that at both CPR scenes, the victims were deceased when the ambulance arrived, but the patients were alive when they were left at the hospital. Mr. Dillon mentioned that the survival rate of CPR is only 8% when it is done by a medically trained individual, but it has been 100% during these 2 calls. He pointed out that the Post members, and their leaders, are doing a great job.

Ms. Spielman asked Mr. Dillon to clarify what the Post members do. Mr. Dillon detailed that they are high school students and ride on the ambulance with the day crew. They are able to see and be hands on with everything during the calls. They can do CPR, backboard and strap, and do everything at the EMR level. This program is very special and he wanted to acknowledge the Rescue Post members as an extremely special group.

April Phelps, the President of the Ellington Rescue Post, stated that the Rescue Post is currently at its top capacity of 30 kids with a growing waiting list. Over the past few weeks they have encountered issues that they are trying to overcome, but they are sticking up for themselves. Ms. Phelps noted that the more members they have, the better they will be as an organization and will be able to continue to help others

Cindy Costanzo thanked the Ellington Rescue Post members for their work during emergency response. She wanted to follow up with the Board about the Fuss & O'Neil estimate for the field turf and lights project, and asked what the next steps are. She has gone to the Board of Education as well as the Operations Committee meetings, and is not sure of the next official steps to the project. Ms. Spielman said that Mr. Tedford should be going to the Inland Wetlands Agency, Planning and Zoning Commission, and the other Boards to get their approval. The different boards will be looking at their areas specifically. For example, the Inland Wetlands Agency will look just at how the turf and lights will affect the wetlands in the area. Ms. Spielman said that after they have moved through and gained approval of the these Boards, they will need to return to the Board of Selectmen, then go to the Board of Finance, hold a Town Meeting, and then a referendum. Mr. Tedford should be aware of the process for this project.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 5, 2016 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2016.

B. December 12, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 12, 2016.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Sale of 10 Hall Road

Ms. Spielman reported that the Town property on 10 Hall Road has been given to Campbell-Keune Realty and is on the market for \$68,000. It has been on the market for 37 days. There have been a few showings and some interest, but no offers yet.

B. Town Hall Addition/Renovation

Nicolas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer/Treasurer, reviewed the debt projection for the following projects: Fire Station 243 on Nutmeg Drive, Town Hall Addition/Renovations, Athletic Turf Field, and Route 83 Sidewalks. He reviewed how the proposed debt would impact the present outstanding debt to date. He added that when the old debt is retired, the new debt takes the place of the retired debt, and at the same time, the outstanding debt is further reduced. He also reviewed the mill rate impact.

Mr. Foster questioned the values for the Route 83 sidewalks, since the assumption there is that we will receive the 80% funding. Mr. DiCorleto stated that we have the grant, but that we just need to put the money in to show we are doing the project, and that we are not borrowing money for the full project. Mr. Foster asked if Town Hall Addition/Renovations added up to the approved total. Mr. DiCorleto responded that it adds up to more due to the principal plus the interest rate.

Mr. Foster asked if we could lump in the Special Town Meeting with the Annual Town Budget Meeting and referendum to make it all one event. Ms. Spielman stated that there is a huge span of time in between them, and the point is to move things along faster.

Mr. Foster asked when the STEAP grant is applicable until, and what level of design they were at when estimating the total cost. Ms. Sauve said the STEAP grant is available until early 2018. Ms. Spielman said that the level of design was close to finished when they were estimating costs.

Mr. Foster asked about the line in the motion that says "the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified." He questioned whether this meant that the cost could go up. Ms. Spielman said that it is not necessarily a cost, but it addresses the case in which they might need to switch something out, as in a door swinging one way versus the other.

Mr. Foster asked if, when this goes to a Special Town Meeting, will this be voted on or is that just a presentation. Ms. Sauve responded that it is just the presentation.

Mr. Foster asked what the total spending would be over 20 years. Mr. DiCorleto responded that he does not have that number. Mr. Stavens asked what amortization percentage was being used, and Mr. DiCorleto said that the standard 5% was used.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS), AND PASSED (AYE: PRICHARD, TURNER, STAVENS, STOMBERG, FERRY; NAY: FOSTER) TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Ellington appropriate \$2,860,000 for costs related to the design, construction, equipping and furnishing of renovations and an addition to the Ellington Town Hall, contemplated to consist of: (a) renovations and reconfiguration of the existing Town Hall to provide facilities for the First Selectman, the Finance Department/Treasurer, Emergency Management, the Registrars of Voters and Human Resources, vaults, meeting rooms, staff facilities, lavatories, and support, boiler/mechanical, service and storage spaces; (b) an approximately 5,930 square foot, one-story addition to be located to the north of the existing Town Hall to provide facilities for the Town Clerk, the Tax Collector and the Assessor, a vault, a conference room, lavatories and lobby, mechanical, electrical and storage spaces; (c) site improvements including a patio, an outdoor foyer, sidewalks, a crosswalk and landscaping; and (d) related improvements and work. It is contemplated that the project will be completed substantially as described in the report developed by the Fuss & O'Neill Design Build, LLC and James Vance and Associates Architects, dated November 10, 2016 and entitled "Ellington Town Hall Renovation & Addition, 55 Main Street, Ellington, CT 06029". The Permanent Building Committee shall be authorized to determine the scope and particulars of the project, and to reduce or modify the project scope; and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction, acquisition, and installation costs; site improvements; infrastructure improvements; equipment, furnishings, and materials; architectural, engineering, consultant, and other professional fees including legal fees; administrative costs, including costs related to the application for and acceptance of grants; the payment of net temporary interest and other financing costs; and other expenses related to the project or its financing.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the appropriation be funded in part by a \$500,000 State of Connecticut Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant and the \$2,360,000 balance by the proceeds of bonds or notes and temporary notes issued by the Town to finance in part the appropriation.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen, if the above recommendations are approved by the Board of Finance, hereby authorizes the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting to be held in the Meeting Hall of the Ellington Town Hall, 55 Main Street in Ellington, Connecticut, on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. to act upon a resolution with respect to the above recommendations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby designates said resolution for submission to the voters at referendum in the manner provided by Section 7-7 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, which vote shall be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2017, between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Ellington Senior Center, 40 Maple Street, Ellington, CT in the manner provided by the Town Charter and the Connecticut General Statutes, Revision of 1958, as amended. The Town Clerk shall incorporate notice of such referendum into the notice of Special Town Meeting. The aforesaid resolution shall be submitted to the voters under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON APPROPRIATE \$2,860,000 FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING OF RENOVATIONS AND AN ADDITION TO THE ELLINGTON TOWN HALL, TO BE FUNDED BY A \$500,000 STATE OF CONNECTICUT STEAP GRANT AND THE \$2,360,000 BALANCE BY THE ISSUE OF BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWN?”

Voters approving the resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing the resolution shall vote “No”. Electors will vote at the usual polling places in the Town. Persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors will vote at the following polling place: Ellington Town Hall, 55 Main Street in Ellington, Connecticut. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk is authorized to prepare and to cause to be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-369b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, an explanatory text with respect to the aforesaid question to be submitted to the voters pursuant to Section 7-7 of said General Statutes; and to further authorize the First Selectman, in his discretion, to prepare and distribute such additional explanatory materials with respect to such question as are permitted in accordance with said Section 9-369b.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tax Refunds/Abatements

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,199.78 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS STATEMENT DATED JANUARY 2107. (ATTACHED)

B. First Selectman's Office Additional Staff

Ms. Spielman stated that LouAnn is out of the office again for surgery, and Julia, the part-time Administrative Secretary for Parks & Recreation, has been working 12-16 hours per week in the First Selectman's Office since September, but there continues to be a large workload and getting everything out has been tight. Ms. Sauve has had to do a lot of extra work. Mr. Stomberg asked if this position is considered temporary until LouAnn returns.

Ms. Sauve stated that Ms. Spielman has added a social media presence which has been well received by residents, but it takes a large amount of time. The new Emergency Management Director has been very involved in his role and has made considerable improvement to the Department which requires secretarial support. The newly formed Safety and Health Committee has generated work with bringing buildings into compliance with OSHA standards which requires educating employees on OSHA requirements. An IT security risk assessment has been performed, which recommends educating employees on the security risk and how to keep the computer system secure, which is also a new task and will be ongoing. The amount of new responsibilities has been overwhelming, and everyone is putting in extra time.

Mr. Foster asked if the proposed additional staff (16-20 hours per week) will be enough help. Ms. Sauve said probably not, but expressed concern regarding the impact to the budget. They would like to consider a full-time position in the new budget. Ms. Spielman said that they have thought about using a temp agency, but that would require retraining someone often.

Mr. Foster asked at what point someone becomes a full time employee. Ms. Sauve said that they become a full time employee at 35 hours per week, but they are eligible for medical benefits under the Affordable Care Act at 30 hours per week. Mr. Foster asked if it would make sense to have the job set for 16-30 hours a week, in case they need the person more some weeks but less others. Mr. Stavens added that there could be a stipulation so that the hired employee would work no more than 30 hours a week. Ms. Sauve noted that the proposed motion is for a part-time employee without referencing the number of hours and "part-time" would include anything under 35 hours a week.

Mr. Stomberg asked if there was room for a workstation. Ms. Spielman said that there was one already set up.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FOSTER), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO HIRE A PART-TIME EXECUTIVE SECRETARY.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REVISE THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY JOB DESCRIPTION AS PRESENTED.

C. Town Infraction Tickets

Ms. Spielman said that it was brought to her attention that other towns have been writing their own infraction tickets vs using the State-issued tickets. If the local police write Town tickets, then there could be benefits to the Town and its residents. For example, instead of the revenue going to the State, the money from the tickets could go straight to the Town. There would also be the ability to write tickets for less money than the State infraction fees.

Sgt. Santa detailed the information that they have found by looking at other towns in the State. This would allow the Town to enforce Town Ordinances with attached fine amounts. Other

towns really like this program, such as the Town of Mansfield, because it lessens the financial burden on residents, but allows the Town to actually enforce things such as parking. Instead of issuing a State fine of \$90 for illegal parking, the local Police Department would be more likely to enforce and collect a fine of \$25. People are less likely to plead not guilty to a \$25 ticket. Currently, on tickets, the Town only receives about 10%, while the rest of the amount collected going to the State. In addition, the Town would have to establish a hearing procedure. State Statute details what they need to do if someone pleads not guilty. In Mansfield, this is a great way to enforce underage drinking. It could also help enforce animal control.

Ms. Spielman said that when this was brought up, many different departments were interested and said how this could work for them. This could be helpful to the Dog Warden, the Planning Department, and Public Works (during snow storms).

Mr. Turner asked if they would pick what ordinances to enforce, or if it would be across the board. He also asked if an Ellington Police Officer has to write the ticket. Sgt. Santa said that they would enforce across the board, and that any on-duty State Trooper could also write tickets.

Mr. Prichard asked where the money collected would go. Sgt. Santa said that most likely the Town Clerk's Office would collect the fees. In Mansfield there is a drop box.

Mr. Turner asked if ordinances have fees applied to them, or if the fees have to be set. Ms. Spielman said that Sgt. Santa will look into that and have to come back to the Board. Ms. Sauve said that typically ordinances don't include fees because they would need to be reassessed often. The Board of Selectman would have the authority to set the fees.

Mr. Foster asked if there would be the ability to pay these tickets online. Ms. Sauve said that they would need to look into it. Ms. Spielman noted that if you pay online there is normally a 3% charge, and they should be able to set that up.

Sgt. Santa said that the Hearing Officer cannot work for the Town. Mr. Foster asked if that person would need to be paid. Sgt. Santa said that in other towns it is done on a voluntary basis. The only other fee is if a ticket is contested, the Town has to pay an \$8 fee to the court. Ms. Spielman said that after more information is collected they can talk about this next month.

D. Revision to Personnel Rules & Regulations: Section 9-4 Retirement Plan

Mr. Foster asked how many people were on this plan, and was told 8.

Ms. Spielman said that this motion is basically to amend the Retirement Plan to remove the Plan F benefit that states it is at no cost to the Retiree, as it has become too costly to fund this benefit. Mr. Foster asked how much Plan "F" costs. Ms. Spielman said that it costs the Town \$102,000 a year.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AMEND SECTION 9-4 – RETIREMENT PLAN OF THE PERSONNEL RULES & REGULATIONS BY REMOVING THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE FROM THE RETIREE'S HEALTH INSURANCE SECTION: *FOR EMPLOYEES RETIRING AFTER JUNE 30, 2013, THERE WILL BE NO COST TO THE RETIREE FOR ANTHEM MEDICARE SUPPLEMENT PLAN 'F', EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. FURTHER RESOLVED, TO NOTIFY RETIREES THAT THIS COVERAGE WILL NOT BE FUNDED BY THE TOWN AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2017.*

E. Year-end Transfers and Appropriations

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE YEAR-END TRANSFERS, ADJUSTMENTS AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016, AS SUBMITTED AND AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE.

FURTHER RESOLVED TO INCREASE PREPAID GRANTS AND FUNDS FULLY REIMBURSABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2015 AND ENDING ON JUNE 30, 2016 AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN A SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$93,841. NEW ALLOCATION TOTAL IS \$1,882,162 (\$1,788,321 APPROVED AT TOWN MEETING ON MAY 12, 2015 PLUS \$93,841) AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE.

FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO CALL A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE MEETING HALL OF THE ELLINGTON TOWN HALL, 55 MAIN STREET IN ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT, ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE 2015-2016 YEAR-END TRANSFERS AND ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS THAT REQUIRE TOWN MEETING APPROVAL.

F. Salary Adjustment 2016-2017

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF FINANCE A TRANSFER OF \$123,145 FROM THE SALARY ADJUSTMENT ACCOUNT TO VARIOUS TOWN DEPARTMENTS' ACCOUNTS TO COVER THE COST OF SALARY INCREASES, AS SPECIFIED IN THE SALARY ADJUSTMENT SCHEDULE SUBMITTED BY THE FINANCE OFFICER.

G. Housing Rehabilitation Program – Waiver of Owner's Share of Project Cost [Housing Rehab Case #SO-245]

Mr. Stavens asked what the total cost of the project was and if the resident would be responsible for 25% of that cost. Mr. Foster asked if the people are over the age of 62. Ms. Spielman said that these people had to qualify for this project.

Mr. Foster noted that there are other grants possible for home repair. Ms. Spielman noted that this project has been in place for a very long time. Mr. Stavens still was unclear about the total cost of the project.

Mr. Turner stated that it's clear that the applicants do not have the means to do the project themselves. However, if approved, there will be a lean on the property. When the residents pass away or sell the house, the Town will receive the money back.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A WAIVER OF OWNER'S SHARE OF PROJECT COST FOR HOUSING REHAB CASE #SO-245 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PROJECT MANAGER; AND FURTHER RESOLVED, TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE THE WAIVER.

H. Housing Rehabilitation Program – Award Contract for Lead Paint Inspection Services

Mr. Foster asked why the motion says that the amount will not exceed \$18,000 when the bid is in at \$12,000. Mr. Stavens said that was the estimated cost, so it is there in case more is done.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR LEAD PAINT INSPECTION SERVICES FOR THE FY 2016 SMALL CITIES HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM TO BOSTON LEAD COMPANY, LLC FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$18,000 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PROGRAM MANAGER; AND FURTHER RESOLVED, TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT AGREEMENT.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Building Department

B. Emergency Services

1. Resident State Troopers' Office
2. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps

Mr. Stomberg asked Nancy Stillman, the Chief of EVAC, if they could provide time duration and reasons for the ambulance being out of service. Ms. Stillman said that the time is provided. Mr. Foster asked if that was 14 hours out of the whole month. Mr. Stomberg asked about the condition of the vehicle. Mr. Stomberg clarified that he was concerned about the times when it was not available for service.

Ms. Stillman said that they do not schedule 2 crews, and if a 2nd call comes in they get together a scramble crew. For example, there were 6 second calls and they were able to get together 4 scramble crews.

Mr. Turner asked for clarification regarding the critical time; time of dispatch to time of patient contact. He wanted to clarify that the time of dispatch to time with the patient is 10.35 minutes for December and 8.7 minutes for all of 2016. Ms. Stillman said that this was correct.

Mr. Turner asked Ms. Stillman where they stand with the EMS report. Ms. Stillman agreed that it would be closed out in the next couple of weeks. Chief Feldman clarified that it is okay that they use the existing plan and just update the data to current.

3. Ellington Volunteer Fire Department
4. Crystal Lake Fire Department
5. Emergency Management Director

C. Fire Marshal

D. Hall Memorial Library

E. Tax & Revenue Collector

F. Town Planner

G. Department of Public Works

H. Finance Department

1. Financial Statement – December 2016RFP Tabulation – Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Triple Combination Pumper
2. BOS Capital Improvement Committee Recommendations – January 9, 2017
3. CCM Legislative Alert – ECS/LOCIP
4. CCM – Adopted FY71 State Budget/Spending Cap

Mr. DiCorleto added that a few years ago there was a checking issue with the bank account where people in Chicago were writing fraudulent Board of Education payable checks. After that, he put controls on the account so that now when the Board of Education write accounts payable checks, they download that file to the bank for positive payment. They must verify the date of the check, the check number, and the amount. If there is a discrepancy, they need to verify. The Town also have ACH payments with controls on them. The accounts payable is only done through deposits, there are no checks written. The Tax Office, Accounts Payable, and the General Fund are all protected. He also explained that he does not make payments to vendors of ACH, he uses paper checks.

Mr. DiCorleto expressed his frustration with the State of Connecticut returning to the Town and making cuts after the budget has already been approved. For Ellington, it was not that much, but for other towns it was a big issue.

Mr. Stavens asked if the motor vehicle tax cap affects the Town. Mr. DiCorleto said that he is unsure, and there should be more information once the budget is done.

VII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel Committee:

1. Resignations

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF CHARLES JACKSON FROM THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS.

2. Appointments

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT FREDERICA M. WEEKS AS DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR TO A TWO-YEAR TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2019.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT JOHN STREIBER AS DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR TO A TWO-YEAR TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2019.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT CHARLES McCLEARY AS A MEMBER OF THE ETHICS COMMISSION TO A FOUR-YEAR TERM ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2021.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ANDREW SLICER AS THE ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE AD HOC EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE TO COMPLETE AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING FEBRUARY 28, 2017.

Mr. Turner asked Ms. Stillman if this appointment of Andrew Slicer was recommended by the Ambulance Corps, and Ms. Stillman responded that it was.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT KURT SULLIVAN TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS TO COMPLETE AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2019.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JOSEPH MALONE TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO COMPLETE AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2018.

B. Town Ordinance Committee

1. Discharge of Firearms in Proximity

Mr. Stomberg said that the Town Ordinance Committee met January 3, 2017. He explained that they reviewed Firearms Ordinances written by other towns and had input from Sgt. Santa and the Town Planner, Lisa Houlihan. They have taken no action at this time. Ms. Ferry said that people have been dealing with this for some time and would like an ordinance considered. She was wondering why they put this on hold. She added that these residents have a strong case and are looking for support to help solve the problem. Ms. Spielman said that they have checked into the noise ordinance, but the noise ordinance is still underneath the meter.

Sgt. Santa said that the State Statute spells out distances specific to hunting, but not in regards to a range at your house. In addition, different people may define "safe distances" differently. Mr. Stomberg asked Sgt. Santa to clarify that the Town cannot legislate stricter rules than what the State already has in place.

Mr. Stomberg said that the reason they have let this sit is that there could be personal issues involved. For example, the people complaining about the guns could be trespassing on the other persons land. Mr. Stomberg said that the resident is on his own property and that there are documented calls that have gone there on complaint, should there be an issue.

C. Town Policies Committee

1. Special Requirements for Acceptance of Lake Association Roads

Mr. Turner said that the Policy Committee met twice and will be on the agenda next month with a recommendation.

VIII. SELECTMAN LIAISON REPORTS

Mr. Foster said that he attended a Board of Education budget meeting with Ms. Ferry. He said that they have a lot going on and are very busy.

IX. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

A. Resignations:

1. Thomas Carriere, EMT/Ambulance Driver
2. Joseph Tarzi, Recording Secretary

B. New Hires:

1. Meaghan Maguire, Recording Secretary
2. Bruce Wilson, Assistant Animal Control Officer [Per Diem]
3. Amy Harrington, Assistant Animal Control Officer [Per Diem]

C. Other

Ms. Spielman said that she attended a Legislative Breakfast in Tolland.

Ms. Spielman said that at a recent staff meeting computer risk management was discussed. They identified risk adjustments that could be made in each department. There are a few minor things in different departments that need to be done to keep everything secure and better serve IT. For example, the ambulance building needs a lock on the door. Ms. Stillman responded that they have already put a lock on the door.

Ms. Spielman noted that she met with Ms. Stillman and the EVAC Executive Board members Mr. Flanagan, Mr. Hoffman and Mr. O'Donnell with Mr. Turner, and Ms. Sauve also in attendance. They were given an update and talked about the Rescue Post students. A letter was sent out by EVAC to explain why hourly pay for the Rescue Post students was being discontinued, but also it explained that they were also receiving different benefits.

Ms. Spielman reminded the Board that the turf field project will soon be on the agenda for various other Boards.

Ms. Spielman said that the State will reimburse the Town 90% for the Route 83 sidewalk.

Ms. Spielman said that there was a bid opening for the EVFD pumper. There are currently 2 bids that are being looked over by the Chief and the staff.

Ms. Spielman has received many letters pertaining to the Ellington Rescue Post not wanting to have their pay taken away. She wants to do something to show them that they are still getting something in return for their time. Ms. Stillman said that any emails she has received she has responded to with a letter explaining the situation. She has also talked about putting that letter up on their website and Facebook page.

Ms. Spielman noted that she spoke with a resident regarding Porter Road. There are still many people going up the road in their vehicles, which is a problem because it digs everything up. She anticipates the activity will increase more around graduation. A lot of kids go up there and have large bonfires. Mr. Turner asked about the discussion with Mr. Butler regarding blocking off Porter Road. He was told that in order to do that, he needed to get permission from the surrounding landowners, but has not hear back from him. Ms. Spielman said that the problem is that people will get in from other areas (such as Webster Road or Hopkins Road). Mr. Turner expressed concern that it is just a matter of time before someone gets hurt. The roads are not good and the only equipment that can get up there are ATVs. If there is extraction needed from a vehicle, it would be hard to get equipment up there.

Mr. Tom Palshaw, 120 Pinney Street, asked if the road was a Town road. Ms. Spielman responded that this portion is not a Town road. Mr. Palshaw asked if the owner could put up trail cams and violators could be charged with trespassing. Sgt. Santa responded that this is correct.

Ms. Spielman said that they are working on updating all Town buildings with Material Safety Data Sheets.

Ms. Spielman explained that they are coming up with a checklist for residents with crumbling foundations. She is working with Ray Martin, Building Official, to help residents understand what they need to do in case they have a crumbling foundation. The list will include getting an estimate from a contractor for sidewalks, footings, foundations, electrical, septic, driveway, porches, back filing, and footing drains. There needs to be an itemized checklist to help these people avoid being scammed. No other town does this and once this checklist is done, it will be sent out to other towns by the Capital Region Council of Governments.

Mr. Turner asked if there is a list of who is effected by the crumbling foundations. Ms. Spielman said that there is no list, noting that some residents are afraid to reveal this problem. People in Mosley Plains were going to put their house on the market, but they found out they had issues. In all, the Town is just trying to help people out with this problem.

Ms. Spielman said that the next edition of the Ellington Events newsletter is scheduled to be mailed February 6.

Ms. Spielman noted that January 30 is the Capital Improvements Deliberations. February 14 is the BOS Capital Improvements presentation to the BOF.

X. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (STAVENS), SECONDED (PRICHARD), AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 8:51 P.M.

Submitted by Meaghan Maguire Approved by _____
Meaghan Maguire


Lori Spielman

