



LORI L. SPIELMAN  
First Selectman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187  
TEL 860-870-3100 FAX 860-870-3102  
[www.ellington-ct.gov](http://www.ellington-ct.gov)

JAMES M. PRICHARD  
Deputy First Selectman

SARAH D. COOK  
MELINDA M. FERRY  
DAVID E. STAVENS  
RONALD F. STOMBERG  
JOHN W. TURNER

Monday, November 5  
Town Hall Meeting Hall  
Board of Selectmen Meeting

## MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, James Prichard, John Turner, Ronald Stomberg, Melinda Ferry, Sarah Cook

SELECTMEN ABSENT: David Stavens

OTHERS PRESENT: Felicia LaPlante, Acting Finance Officer/Treasurer; Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Troopers' Supervisor; Timothy Webb, Director of Public Works/WPCA Administrator; Jeremy Galeota

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order at 7:47 P.M. by First Selectman Spielman.

### **II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

### **III. CITIZENS' FORUM [Non agenda items]**

Jeremy Galeota (6 Virginia Drive) asked a question regarding bonding and interest that he hopes the BOS will consider in the future. Mr. Galeota asked if, in the future, the BOS and Board of Finance (BOF) can provide estimated costs of bonding and interest as a part of referendum questions. He believes that the citizens do not realize how much interest will be paid on projects over the years. There are two substantial projects that are being voted on tomorrow, and interest on those projects could end up being over a million dollars. This information could help voters decide what projects they should borrow money for. Mr. Galeota also asked the BOS to consider saving for the projects as opposed to borrowing for them. Mr. Galeota suggested that the grants are the same as the interest for these projects, and with the proper planning, they can be saved for ahead of time.

Mrs. LaPlante said that every motion that is submitted to the Town for projects that are bonded are created by the bonding attorney. She thinks it is a good point that residents should know how much interest is involved in these projects. She will discuss this with the bonding attorney for future projects.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. October 15, 2018 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 15, 2018 BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING.

B. October 23, 2018 Special Town Meeting at 6:15 p.m.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2018 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD AT 6:15 PM AT THE TOWN HALL MEETING HALL.

C. October 23, 2018 Special Town Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED (AYE: PRICHARD, STOMBERG, FERRY, COOK; ABSTAIN: TURNER) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 23, 2018 SPECIAL TOWN MEETING HELD AT 7:00 PM AT ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM.

D. October 29, 2018 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED (AYE: TURNER, STOMBERG, FERRY; ABSTAIN: PRICHARD, COOK) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 29, 2018 BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING.

**V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Neighborhood Complaints (Multiple) – Barking Dogs/Noise

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE ISSUE OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLAINTS REGARDING BARKING DOGS/NOISE TO THE BOS ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR STUDY, REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD OF SELECTMEN, PENDING THE RECEIPT OF RECOMMENDATIONS/LEGAL OPINION FROM THE TOWN ATTORNEY.

Ms. Spielman stated that she would like to pass this on to the Ordinance Committee and wait for advice from the Town Attorney. There is a complaint regarding the property off of Route 140 with hound dogs howling as well. She has received a complaint document, but the people who submitted it prefer to remain anonymous.

Ms. Ferry suggested that they take into consideration the noise at the shooting range in Ellington. Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Troopers' Supervisor, stated that regulations are specific to hunting, not a shooting range. The way that the State Statute is written requires a distance from a structure. Ms. Spielman, Sgt. Santa, and Senator Larson met with families who were bothered by the range. A specific State Statute does not apply. The Town would have to adopt something separate for that issue. Ms. Spielman stated that it's hard to tell when the shooting noise will occur. Sgt. Santa stated that there was a discussion with the Ordinance Committee, and they decided that it would not go further at that point.

Mr. Prichard suggested sticking to dealing with the dog issue first and then tackling the shooting noise issue separately. Ms. Ferry said that she would like to keep the shooting noise issue in mind going forward. Mr. Turner said that before adopting anything they should hear from other towns regarding how they handle this issue. The intermittence of the dogs barking, while it might be aggravating, might not constitute a noise violation. They need to consider how this is measured and enforced.

Ms. Spielman stated that she met with the Town Attorney regarding this. She also talked about the issue of bringing dogs into Town buildings. Noise ordinances are difficult to enforce.

B. Middle Road Fields Project

1. Withdrawal of Application for Special Permit
2. Withdrawal of Planning and Zoning 8-24 Referral

Ms. Spielman said that she has advised the Planning and Zoning Commission that the Town is withdrawing the application for a Special Permit and the request for an 8-24 Referral regarding the proposed Middle Road Fields project that was intended for the Jacob Roger Poulin Foundation project. Ms. Spielman said that other locations are being considered

**VI. NEW BUSINESS****A. Tax Refunds/Abatements**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,991.68 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ABATEMENT STATEMENT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2018. **[ATTACHED]**

**B. Donations for Veterans Programs**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON FINANCE OFFICE TO ACCEPT DONATIONS FOR VETERANS FUNDS IN ORDER TO OFFSET COSTS RELATED TO VETERANS PROGRAMMING AND RELATED EXPENDITURES.

Ms. Spielman stated that a good portion of the money from the Penguin Plunge was donated to a veteran's project. LuAnn's Bakery also raised money along with other businesses in Town, and they would like a place to put that money so it is earmarked for veterans' programs. Ms. Spielman said it is wonderful that so many things are being done to help veterans. The money for the Penguin Plunge was donated to put up flags at the rotary recognizing military personnel.

**C. Board of Selectmen 2019 Meeting Schedule**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE 2019 MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, AS PRESENTED IN THE DRAFT.

Ms. Spielman stated that in 2019 she is considering having more joint meetings of the BOS and BOF.

**D. Resignation: Kim Schneider, Ad Hoc Beautification Committee**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF KIM SCHNEIDER FROM THE AD HOC BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE.

**E. Surplus Equipment – Department of Public Works**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE DISPOSAL OF A MARITIME SKIFF MODEL 16 WITH A 2008 EVINRUDE E-TEC 75 HORSEPOWER ENGINE, OUTBOARD AND TRAILER UTILIZED BY THE ELLINGTON RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS' OFFICE, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Ms. Spielman stated that they want to dispose of the boat, motor, and trailer due to leakage. Sgt. Santa discussed the flaws with the boat and that it would take too much money, time and effort to fix.

**F. 2019 Health Insurance Plan Benefit Renewal**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AMEND SECTION 9-2.A OF THE PERSONNEL RULES & REGULATIONS BY INCREASING THE HEALTH INSURANCE DEDUCTIBLE FROM TWO THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,500) TO THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000) FOR SINGLE COVERAGE AND FROM FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$5,000) TO SIX THOUSAND (\$6,000) FOR TWO-PERSON AND FAMILY COVERAGE, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019.

FURTHER, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019 THE TOWN SHALL FUND SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE ORIGINAL \$2,500/\$5,000 DEDUCTIBLE COST THROUGH PROPORTIONATE DEPOSITS TO A HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA) IN THE FIRST PAY PERIOD IN JANUARY 2019 AND THE FIRST PAY PERIOD IN JULY 2019 FOR EACH EMPLOYEE.

IN ADDITION, 100% OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ORIGINAL \$2,500/\$5,000 DEDUCTIBLE AND THE NEW \$3,000/\$6,000 DEDUCTIBLE COST WILL BE DEPOSITED TO THE EMPLOYEE'S HSA IN THE FIRST PAY PERIOD IN JANUARY 2019.

THE ABOVE CHANGE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON INSURANCE ADVISORY BOARD AND THE ACTING FINANCE OFFICER; PENDING UNION CONCURRENCE FOR THOSE EMPLOYEES COVERED UNDER A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.

#### **VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

- A. Building Department
- B. Emergency Services
  - 1. Resident State Troopers' Office: Ms. Spielman was on Channel 3 to discuss the signs regarding the turf field in Ellington being stolen.
  - 2. Emergency Management Director
  - 3. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps
  - 4. Ellington Volunteer Fire Department
  - 5. Crystal Lake Fire Department
- C. Fire Marshal
- D. Hall Memorial Library: No report was submitted this month.
- E. Tax & Revenue Collector
- F. Town Planner
- G. Human Services Department
- H. Finance Office

#### **VIII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Town Policies Committee:
  - 1. Pets/Dogs in Town Buildings

Mr. Turner discussed that the Policies Committee had met earlier in the evening and discussed the issues that have been brought forward based on some experiences in the Town Hall and other departments. The Committee acknowledges that not everyone, including children, is comfortable around dogs or other pets, and that there may be allergies. They do, however, understand the need for service and working dogs. They have asked for additional input. The consensus of the Policies Committee is that service dogs are welcome in the building, but other pets do not have a place coming into the Town Hall. The Senior Center language states that pets are not allowed at the building except during approved programs. The Library programs might include emotional support programs or programs where kids read to dogs. This leaves room for some discretion in those case. The Committee will wait for more information and input from the Town Attorney.

#### **IX. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS**

Mr. Turner stated that there was a meeting tonight that he could not attend for the Board of Education (BOE) Working Group on long-range planning. There is also a workshop on November 15, 2018. He encouraged anyone who is interested to attend and listen to the reports that have been prepared so far, and offer input and concerns. Most of the information provided tonight included work on demographic level projections for grade levels.

#### **X. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

- A. Staff
  - 1. New Hires
    - Thomas Modzelewski, DPW Foreman

Ms. Spielman stated that Mr. Modzelewski previously worked as a mechanic for the Department of Public Works (DPW). Mr. Webb stated that Mr. Modzelewski was hired as a Mechanic Truck Driver and then was promoted to Lead Mechanic. He worked for the DPW for three years. He worked diligently and closely with Mr. Descheneaux, the current Foreman who is retiring this year. He was also involved with

pump station repairs and pipe replacement for the Vernon pump station. Mr. Modzelewski knows the crew and knows the Town, and he is going to spend more time with Mr. Descheneaux to train.

Mr. Turner asked what the hiring process for this position was. Mr. Webb responded that there were eleven applications for this position, and five were interviewed. The position required a Class A license, which narrowed down the applicants. There was an interview panel that included outside professionals.

Mr. Webb also confirmed that, per Mr. Stavens' recommendation, that the DPW Foreman should have a P6 license; Mr. Modzelewski is required to get that license within one year. There are also other employees who are going to join him to get their P6 licenses.

## 2. Resignations

- Jefferson Smith, EMT/Ambulance Driver

Mr. Turner stated that he believes that Mr. Smith is going into the army.

## B. Other:

- The new annual report was handed out tonight and Ms. Spielman said that she is very pleased with the result.
- There will be a Veteran's Day assembly at Ellington High School on November 12 from 8:00-9:30 A.M.
- This year there were more scarecrows than last year that were displayed for the scarecrow contest. The contest was a big success and the people who won the various categories were thrilled.
- The Beautification Committee will be planning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Holiday Lighting Contest.
- Mr. Turner stated that the Ad Hoc Emergency Services Committee is meeting on November 13. There are a couple of items regarding insurance to go over and they will also be introducing JNL Associates, the company that is contracted for the emergency services survey. They are going to talk about what they're going to do. Anyone who wants to attend is welcome.

## XI. CORRESPONDENCE

The BOE workshop regarding the Working Group on long-range planning will be November 15 at Ellington High School from 7:00-8:30 P.M.

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 8:24 P.M.

Submitted by meaghan maguire Approved by [Signature]

Meaghan Maguire  
Recording Secretary

Lori L. Spielman  
First Selectman

TAX COLLECTOR'S REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS		PERSON/CORPORATION		MM/PERS.PROP		TAX/ASSESSOR		V.I.A	
NOVEMBER, 2018		REFUNDS		REAL ESTATE		REQUESTING DEPT.			
DOLLAR AMOUNT					YEAR		REASON FOR		
\$158.22	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 4/25/18		
\$136.15	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 3/26/18		
\$516.77	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 11/10/17		
\$431.75	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 1/31/18		
\$331.40	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 11/13/17		
\$499.21	ALLY BANK			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 1/10/18		
\$15.09	BARBER UTILITIES LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 8/23/18		
\$130.48	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 5/22/18		
\$118.72	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 6/8/18		
\$393.08	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 1/31/18		
\$382.93	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 2/16/18		
\$86.38	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 6/15/18		
\$60.67	CAB EAST LLC			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 7/20/18		
\$17.40	CLAVET DENNIS D			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 7/28/18		
\$42.83	DUNFORD NATHAN			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH REG IN OH 8/16/18		
\$68.66	FRANCIS CHRISTOPHER R			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH REG IN RI 7/26/18		
\$29.39	HARRISON AMELIA K			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH TRADED 7/31/18		
\$570.60	HARRINGTON DOUGLAS			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VETERAN'S EXEMPTION		
\$45.49	JP MORGAN CHASE BANK NA			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH TRADED 8/4/18		
\$16.68	LONG LUCILLE C			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH TRADED 7/3/18		
\$7.93	MILLER JOANNE			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH GIFTED 7/3/18		
\$66.22	MOSELEY MARISA L			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH DONATED 8/18/18		
\$9.01	NERON BRENDA L			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH REG IN MA 8/14/18		
\$809.62	OKESON WILLIAM			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 8/10/18		
\$54.29	ROSENBAUM JOSEPH D			MV	2017	TAX	AOA EXEMPTION		
\$38.84	SHORES KENYON			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	ACCOUNT OVERPAID		
\$360.27	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2016	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 5/1/17		
\$126.74	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 3/19/18		
\$286.72	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 7/25/18		
\$110.32	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 1/3/18		
\$36.29	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 5/30/18		
\$128.57	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 8/15/18		
\$248.53	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 7/31/18		
\$395.62	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 9/26/17		
\$92.25	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 7/18/17		
\$62.13	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 6/6/18		
\$360.27	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 6/11/18		
\$147.25	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 3/8/18		
\$540.39	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 5/2/18		
\$143.76	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 12/18/17		
\$407.12	USB LEASING LT			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 3/28/18		
\$423.96	VAULT TRUST			MV	2016	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 2/20/18		
\$83.68	WALKER TRAVIS M			MV	2017	ASSESSOR	VEH SOLD 2/23/18		
\$8,991.68	NOVEMBER 2018 REFUND TOTAL						2017 BAA REDUCED ASSMT		