

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOVEMBER 5, 2014**

Present: First Selectman Edward G. McAnaney, Joanne Sullivan, Brian Fitzgerald, Timothy Reynolds and Mel Chafetz. First Selectman McAnaney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from October 15, 2014 Regular Meeting

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 15, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen with a correction to item Selectman's update part b - Resignation of John J. Murphy from Zoning and Planning effective 10/6/14. Mr. Murphy's term end date was incorrectly noted as 11/17/15. It should be 11/21/17. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Public Comment:

Lou Casinghino of 136 Marbern Drive spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Commission regarding agenda item #6. He noted that the Parks & Recreation secretary position was eliminated approximately 10 months ago. After discussions with the Board of Selectmen a Registration clerk position was created at 10 hours per week. The agreement was that the number of hours could be revisited if necessary. An additional 5 hours has been requested and Mr. Casinghino urged the Board to approve the request.

Bob White of 995 Newgate Road read a statement noting that Libraries in Suffield built in the 1800's and in 1972 were done using grants and donations without taxpayer funds. He stated that the costs for the new entrance project are more than expected nearly \$2 Million. He noted that the Town commitment to the entryway is \$100,000 or about 5% of the project cost. Mr. White urged the Town to spend a portion of the undesignated fund balance to allow the project to be completed.

Kerry White of 995 Newgate Road urged the Board members to individually support and commit additional Town funds to the project.

Bobbie Kling of 1120 Newgate Road noted that the Town turned the Calvary Episcopal Church and converted it into a beautiful Senior Center through many donations and grants. She thought that the Town contribution to the project was around \$315,000. She recommended that the Town consider paying for what is needed to make the project successful by spending some of the undesignated fund balance.

Faith Roebelen of 92 Wendover Road attended to request that the Town look into creating a blight ordinance. She passed out an article showing that Enfield had recently passed one. She noted that this request has been brought up in the past and with the number of homes for sale it should be considered.

Gerry Crane of 308 Halladay Drive was in attendance and commented on multiple

items. He thanked the Board for hosting the neighborhood forum that took place in September at the Ebb's Corner firehouse. He thought the meeting went well but hopes that any future meetings could be advertised more. As a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission, he spoke in support of the request to increase the Registration clerk hours and suggested that more hours may be needed in the future. On the Library project, Mr. Crane was in agreement with other speakers that the Town should support the Library project.

Anne Borg of 1310 Mountain Road spoke in support of the Library and asked the Board to approve the money needed to finish the Library building.

Appointments to Historic District Commission

Appoint John Schwemmer as a full member (from an alternate) through November, 2018 to fill the vacancy left by Milton Edmonds Jr. who did not seek reappointment.

Appoint Melissa Mack as an alternate member through August 31, 2016 to fill the vacancy left by John Schwemmer.

Selectman Fitzgerald moved to table this agenda item until the next meeting. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Appointment of Jack Bucior as a full member (from an alternate member) of the Zoning and Planning Commission through November 21, 2017 to replace John J. Murphy who resigned on October 6th.

Selectman Sullivan made the motion to appoint Jack Bucior as a full member (from an alternate member) of the Zoning and Planning Commission through November 21, 2017 to replace John J. Murphy who resigned on October 6th. It was noted that the alternate opening will need to be filled. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Reappointment of the following members of the Social Services Commission through 11/30/18: Rob Michalman, Sharon Kozaczka, Marcia Dufore, and Rev. Bridget Fidler.

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to reappoint the following members of the Social Services Commission: Rob Michalman, Sharon Kozaczka, Marcia Dufore, and Rev. Bridget Fidler through 11/30/18. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Increase the hours of the Recreation Registration clerk from 10 – 15 hours.

Selectman Fitzgerald made the motion to increase the hours of the Recreation Registration clerk from 10 – 15 hours and move to the Board of Finance. A brief discussion took place regarding Online Program Registration. Selectman Chafetz questioned if a method exists to determine the needed level of coverage. He noted that if the Parks & Recreation Commission/Department seeks to increase the hours for the position through the budget process they should include justification for the increase. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Approve the transfer of \$42,652.43 from Contingency (01-95011-50920) to Legal Settlements (01-41551-50327) to cover the judgment to Preferred Electric LLC along with foreclosure committee fees for a tax foreclosure action.

First Selectman McAnaney noted that the Superior Court had reversed its decision regarding attorney fee costs in the Preferred Electric LLC matter. The court ruled that the Town is now liable for \$30,000 in attorney fees. The total judgment is \$32,652.43 on this count. The addition \$10,000 in the request is to offset committee fees and legal fees for a tax foreclosure matter.

Selectman Reynolds made a motion approve the transfer of \$42,652.43 from Contingency (01-95011-50920) to Legal Settlements (01-41551-50327) to cover the judgment to Preferred Electric, LLC. in the amount of \$32,652.43 along with foreclosure committee fees for a tax foreclosure action in the amount of \$10,000. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Approve a tax rebate to Bonnie McDonald in the amount of \$1,473.16 due to a Board of Assessment Appeals change to reclassify a lot from buildable to unbuildable wetlands.

Selectman Sullivan made the motion to approve a tax rebate to Bonnie McDonald in the amount of \$1,473.16 due to a Board of Assessment Appeals change to reclassify a lot from buildable to unbuildable wetlands. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Selectman's Update

a. Library Move

First Selectman McAnaney noted that the Library move went smoothly with the assistance of many Town Departments and that the temporary library is open to the public.

b. Bid awarded for Improvements and Repairs to White's Pond Dam project

Trademark Contractors, LLC of Bristol was awarded the contract. There was an additional alternate item added to the bid and the Town Engineer will be seeking Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance approval to fund that additional item. The work will take place over the fall and winter.

c. Town Clerk position update

George Beiter will be leaving his position on Friday, November 7th. The Democratic Town Committee (DTC) has received six requests for consideration. The nominating committee is interviewing the interested candidates and the DTC will have a special meeting to recommend a nominee to the Board of Selectmen at their November 19th meeting.

Raven Reid has moved from the Tax Collector's office to the Town Clerk's office as part time Assistant Town Clerk.

d. Speed Tables for South Stone Street Project is out to bid

The project to install speed tables on South Stone Street is out to bid. The Town Engineer is sending notice of the project to nearby property owners.

e. The Tri-board Meeting (Boards of Selectmen, Education and Finance) has been set for Monday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Senior Center.

Selectman Reynolds made a motion to convene Executive Session to discuss Contract Negotiations. Selectman Chafetz desired an open discussion regarding the Library contract negotiations. After discussion, a vote was taken with 4 in favor and 1 (Selectman Chafetz) opposed to entering Executive Session.

Executive Session convened at 7:34 p.m. and ended at 8:53 p.m. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

The next Board of Selectmen Meeting will be Wednesday November 19, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Trase
Recording Secretary