



Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
January 10, 2017
6:00 PM
Griswold Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main St, Jewett City, CT 06351



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll** – Meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman

Members Present: Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman
Steve Merchant, Second Selectman
Martin McKinney, Third Selectman

Other Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent
4 other interested citizens

2. **Notification of Emergency Exits** – K. Skulczyck noted the location of the exits
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Pledge was cited.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **December 13, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to accept the December 13, 2016 regular meeting minutes as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Correspondence** – None

6. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector** – The large amount of refunds was noted as being due to a tax service sending payment on several real estate bills that were previously paid at closing of sale.

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the tax refunds as submitted by the tax collector. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Presentation of certificate to Griswold Youth Football** – K. Skulczyck presented certificate of recognition to Beau

- c. **Discussion and possible action on mailbox policy presented by Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent** – T. Babbitt presented the BOS with the proposed ordinance policy. He noted a written plan is required to receive any reimbursement from FEMA for mailboxes damaged by the town during a snow removal or emergency event. The public works would repair/replace any mail boxes deemed to be damaged by the town and then reimbursement by FEMA, if any, would be sent to the town.

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to accept the mailbox policy as presented by Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. **Discussion and possible action on Stonington's participation by call policy** – K. Skulczyck other towns such as Stonington are doing this. It allows for board members to participate via phone call on speaker. It was noted that it is allowable by FOI and possibly setting parameters to go by such as having a quorum physically present or limiting the number of times allowed during a calendar year. It was also noted that the audio equipment needs to be updated and this could be considered in doing so. It was decided to take no action on this item tonight.

7. Old Business

- a. **Update on letter received from Commissioner Currey** – K. Skulczyck noted the correspondence back and forth from the Commissioner have been provided on the website. Basically the responses back did not answer the questions asked. He noted that he feels the best way for the town to proceed at this time is through legislation, which is being put forth at this time.

8. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to bring onto the agenda for discussion the topic of regionalization services. **Motion carried unanimously.**

S. Merchant brought up the issue of money being spent to wash blankets for the dogs and the amount of dog food and suggested buying the dog food from a local vendor in bulk. K. Skulczyck commented there are several regulations placed by the state that are required in operating the dog pound. Because our facility is older a lot of those requirements are waived at this time, but that could change at any time. If the improvements become required that would cost a lot of money. Perhaps it is best to hold off on regionalizing until we are required to make such improvements as the cost of improvements or regionalizing would be much more. The feasibility of installing a washer and dryer at the town garage was discussed. This may diminish the costs. It was suggested other regionalization efforts be explored but also noted the cost to the end user of the service, is often more.

9. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – Inquired to see if Rt. 164 project developer is aware of the possibility of the gun range coming to town. Also noted he feels we should be proceeding on a judicial route regarding stoppage of the proposed gun range. Suggested the many who wanted to volunteer at the dog pound help out and transport the blankets to be washed.

Ryan Snide – Tatro Rd. – Noted he can't find information on the website regarding scheduling and cancellation of meetings.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – Agreed with M. McKinney that regionalization of the health services was not necessarily a good choice. Also made reference to the serious cuts that will likely be made to the BOE budget.

Thomas Gaudreau – Bitgood Rd. – Agreed with R. Snide on the meeting information on the website. Also wanted to know about the calendar on the website and why it is not updated.

Todd Babbitt – Cook Hill Rd. – Noted the Town Attorney has five or six ordinances he is looking over and will come back to the Ordinance Committee next month with any suggestions. Then they would go back before the BOS and town meeting.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – Complimented Public Works on a good job done with removal of the snow.

Thomas Gaudreau – Bitgood Rd. – Asked how to determine if the mailbox is the proper distance off the road. The postal service standard was noted.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by K. Skulczyck, seconded by M. McKinney, to adjourn the meeting at 6:47 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant