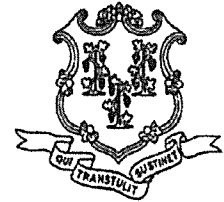




Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
September 27, 2016
6:30 PM
Griswold Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main St, Jewett City, CT 06351



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll – Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman**

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

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent
Tina Falck-Babbitt, Senior Center Director
Atty. Mark Branse, Town Counsel
Atty. Joe Fasi, Bond Counsel
41 other interested citizens

2. **Pledge of Allegiance – Pledge was cited.**

3. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **September 27, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by K. Skulczyck to approve the September 13, 2016 regular meeting minutes. **Motion carried.** M. McKinney abstained.

4. **Correspondence – None**

5. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the seven tax refunds for a total amount of \$211.83. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Presentation of Red Ribbon Week Proclamation presented to Jacob Haugland on behalf of the Young Marines** – Red Ribbon Proclamation was not presented at this meeting. Jacob Haugland was introduced and he noted he was participating in the meeting to earn his citizenship in the community merit badge.
- c. Discussion and possible action on resolution authorizing the First Selectman and Town Treasurer to issue up to \$995,000 Town of Griswold General Obligation Bonds, issue of 2016, Series B, issued by negotiation to TD Bank, N.A.**

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to table this item. **Motion and second were rescinded.**

MOTION: Motion was made by Martin McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to move this item after 5g on the agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Discussion and possible action on request by the BOF to consider and act upon the possible appropriation of \$114,500 from the general fund unassigned fund balance for required match funding for a grant for development of a new senior center** – T. Babbitt, Chairman of the Senior Center Building Committee gave a brief outline of the history of this project. The current center is limited by its size. It was confirmed for the BOS that the building is just for a senior center and not the original community center idea. The subject parcel is 2 acres and is adequate by zoning requirements and has been verified by J. Faulise. It was suggested the plan be done in phases in case future funding cannot be secured for the entire project to be built all at once. T. Falck-Babbitt also commented on the need for a new senior center. If the money is not approved for matching then they are not eligible for the grant. It was also pointed out that this amount is in excess of \$50,000 and would have to go to referendum.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to approve the funding. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. Discussion and possible action on purchase offer of Mr. Holowaty for land on Edmond Road** – Mr. Holowaty was present and K. Skulczyck gave a brief history of the property. G. LaBonne, Sotheby's RE agent, gave a brief comment that comparable land values from other towns were about \$7,000 per acre. This item would also have to go to town meeting and would require an 8-24 review from Planning and Zoning.

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve moving the sale of this property town meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

f. Discussion and possible action on setting a town meeting date for items d and e as listed above – Brief discussion took place.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to set the town meeting date for October 4, 2016 at 6 PM at the Griswold Public school location to consider and act upon the following: Shall the Town approve the sale of property located at Edmond Road for the sum of \$3000 and; shall the Town of Griswold appropriate \$114,500 from the general fund unassigned fund balance for required match funding for the grant for the development of a new senior center?
Motion carried unanimously.

g. Discussion and possible action on setting of 2017 meeting dates

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant to approve the 2017 meeting dates and that they begin at 6 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Discussion and possible action on resolution authorizing the First Selectman and Town Treasurer to issue up to \$995,000 Town of Griswold General Obligation Bonds, issue of 2016, Series B, issued by negotiation to TD Bank, N.A. – E.

Christensen and Atty. Joe Fasi gave comment noting this is the last phase of the school funding. This is a ten year loan and is a locket in rate of 1.7% which would keep the payment about the same. J. Fasi noted the resolution has to be approved and this is an extremely low interest rate. He also noted a couple of typical things in the contract, nothing out of the ordinary.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to read only the title of the resolution and waive reading the entire document and attach the resolution as APPENDIX “A” to the minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to adopt the resolution authorizing the Frist Selectman and the Treasurer to sign the required documents. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Old Business - None

7. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board – At this point, town attorney Mark Branse, gave an overview about issues regarding the proposed state shooting facility. The procedural aspects regarding to financing and approvals was outlined. Things noted were priority funding area, as well as Public Act 75-425 which created CGS Section 4b-3, State Properties Review Board. The requirements of these sections were outlined by Atty. Branse. It was noted that at this time the State of Connecticut is not allowed to spend any money on a facility in Griswold or anywhere else, until it’s shown on the State Facilities Plan and approved by the State Properties Review Board. There has been no approval for even the planning or investigation money to be spent.

8. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – Noted he would rather see the paperwork be gathered and the information brought forth to the courts rather than have a candidate deliver the information publicly.

Norm Higgins – Complimented the effort and money spent to find the angle on the gun range. Also had a concern over the higher prices of gas in Griswold than other towns.

Betty Knox – Criticized the process and approval of allowing the expenditure of \$5000 for the concern of a group of people to fight the gun range and is afraid a precedent is being set.

Darlene Zuraw – Wanted to know who is going to Hartford for the press release and also if the Town Attorney had any idea how much money the state has spent to this point pursuing this project here and in other locations.

Ed Berdick – Wanted to know why it is hard to determine if the Griswold location is a priority funding site and is there an emergency waiver provision for statute 4b-3.

Pam Patalono – Wanted to know if the funding in 1993 was for the purchase of just the land or the building as well.

Brian Snide – Is the state going to be held accountable for the money they are spending that has not been authorized?

Ransom Young – Wanted it repeated why Willington was not in the correct funding area.

Steve Douglas – Noted he felt it a conflict of interest to have the DAS Commissioner as a member of the Bonding Commission. Expressed thanks for the information being placed on the website. Still does not see a scoping notice that has been published for this project.

Barbara Cornelius – Wondering if the state was required at the very beginning of this process to notify residents and give them an opportunity to respond. Is there a legal requirement for the current gun range to be deemed unfit before moving forward with a new one? Is the state required to address our concerns of property values, toxicity and environmental concerns for the forest? What is the role of the Attorney General in this? There's no way to stop the negotiations at this point? Is Lee Road protected by zoning, we have heard there is a plan that is expiring?

Renee Bergeron – What's to stop the land from ignoring what has been found and just purchasing the land? Will there be town money left to fight this cause if need be?

Anthony Cardin – Asked the attorney if the state could purchase the land now?

Alan Cornelius – The state has not done any lead testing at the Simsbury sight. How do we know if there will be a lead impact here? Is the five year Plan of Development going to be completed before it expires and will it help with determination of the sight?

Ed Berdick – Noted that someone should check into the part of the wording regarding the process that says there can be an emergency situation. The state may try to utilize that.

Dave Vieaux – Would like to see the Plan of Development extended until the new plan is complete so there is no gap. Also noted the Simsbury range has not flooded to unusable condition since 1984.

Ransom Young – Emergent and emergency are the same words, I believe?

Norm Sylvestre – Noted that when someone speaks they should raise their hand to be recognized and when addressed they should stand to speak and state their name and address.

9. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**

Board of Selectmen, September 27, 2016 regular meeting minutes – APPENDIX A

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF UP TO \$995,000 TOWN OF GRISWOLD GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, ISSUE OF 2016, SERIES B, ISSUED BY NEGOTIATION TO TD BANK, N.A.

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Griswold hereby authorizes the First Selectman and Town Treasurer (the "Town Officials") to issue up to \$995,000 Town of Griswold General Obligation Bonds, as follows:

a. \$676,831.31 of the \$3,000,000 appropriation, bond authorization and project approved by the voters of the Town by referendum on January 14, 2014, for a new roof on the Griswold High School, there being an authorized and unissued balance of \$938,957.69 as of this date of adoption after taking into account all charges against said \$5,760,000 appropriation and bond authorization.

b. \$318,168.69 of the \$70,000,000 appropriation, bond authorization and project approved by the voters of the Town by referendum on June 20, 2007 for a new Middle and Intermediate School, there being an authorized and unissued balance of \$1,585,954.31 as of this date after taking into account all charges against said \$6,955,000 appropriation and bond authorization.

Section 2. The issuance of said bonds referred to in Section 1 (a) and (b) is hereby approved by the Board of Selectmen and shall be combined into one issue of up to \$995,000 bonds designated Town of Griswold General Obligation Bonds, Issue of 2016, Series B (the "Bonds") to be issued and sold on behalf of the Town to TD Bank N.A. (hereafter the "Purchaser"), in the form of a negotiated bank loan, the terms of which are in the attached Bond Purchase Agreement, Dated September 27, 2016, which the Town Officials are hereby directed and authorized to sign on behalf of the Town of Griswold, together with any other certificates, agreements and documents set forth therein or otherwise required or desirable to implement the issuance of bonds herein authorized, including but not limited to a Tax Regulatory Agreement.

Section 3. The Bond Purchase Agreement, with any revisions the Town Officials – with the advice of counsel – deem appropriate, is hereby approved, including but not limited to the specific provisions hereafter set forth: for indemnification of the Purchaser, make whole redemption provisions, transfer restrictions, waiver of certain rights with respect to prejudgment remedies and trial by jury, obligation to file or provide annual financial information, the designation of the Purchaser as the certifying, paying, and registrar agent of the Town with respect to the Bonds, and the "Representations of the Town".

Section 4. The Town Officials are authorized and directed to pay costs of issuance incurred in connection with the issuance, including costs incurred and payable in accordance with the Bond Purchase Agreement.

Section 5. The Bonds are authorized to be signed on behalf of the Town by the Town Officials, and such signatures and the Town Seal are authorized to be by facsimile. The Town Officials are authorized to take such action as is necessary or appropriate, and to enlist the support, assistance and signatures of other town officials and personnel as may be required and upon advice from bond counsel, to issue the bonds and complete the transactions herein contemplated.