

Wanni Prawal  
2020 JAN 30 PM 1:53



**Town of Griswold**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 28, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Griswold Town Hall**  
**28 Main St., Jewett City, CT 06351**



**MINUTES**

1. **Call to Order/Roll** – Meeting was called to order by Todd Babbitt, First Selectman at 7:23 PM (meeting started late due to special town meeting)

**Members Present:** T. Babbitt, First Selectman  
Richard Grabowski, Selectman  
Jared Picco, Selectman

**Others Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
13 other interested citizens

2. **Notification of Emergency Exits** – Exits were noted
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Pledge was cited
4. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **January 14, 2020 - Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the January 14, 2020 regular meeting minutes as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **January 23, 2020 - Special Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to approve the January 23, 2020 special meeting minutes as submitted. **Motion carried.** J. Picco abstained.

5. **Correspondence – Resignation of Dawn Mattos from IWWCC**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to accept the resignation with regret and to send a thank you to Ms. Mattos. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 6. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on two tax refunds for a total of \$733.86 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to approve the tax refunds for a total of \$733.86 as submitted by the tax collector. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on appointments to the Public Health & Safety Committee to fill two unexpired portion of terms of 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2022 and one expired portion of a term of 7/1/2014 to 6/30/2020** – It was noted that we had four applicants for three positions. J. Picco noted Mr. Barnie has already been attending most of the meetings and went ahead with the following motion.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by R. Grabowski, to appoint James Barnie as a member of the Public Health & Safety Committee to fill a term of 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2022. **Motion carried unanimously.**

It was asked if anyone was interested in filling the term that expires 6/30/2020. Mr. Hogan was present and indicated he would be willing to do that.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to appoint John Hogan as a member of the Public Health & Safety Committee to fill a term of 7/1/2014 to 6/30/2020. **Motion carried unanimously.**

P. Marzec noted she would not mind if she were not appointed at this time. She recently retired and noted she knew they were short of members and also noted her husband and daughter are on the committee. J. Barnie noted he felt the PH&S committee was going to be requesting the BOS to add the position of two alternates to the committee by amending the ordinance.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to appoint Tina Falck as a member of the Public Health & Safety Committee to fill the term of 7/1/2016 to 6/30/2022. **Motion carried.** T. Babbitt abstained.

- c. **Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign contract with Boundaries LLC for update on municipal assessor's map** –R. Grabowski noted Boundaries LLC has been performing this service for the past couple years and supports that they are a local company.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to authorize the First Selectman to execute a contract with Boundaries LLC for updating the municipal Assessor's maps. **Motion carried.** J. Picco abstained.

## 7. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on request by SCCOG for Municipal Resolution Endorsing SCCOG RPIP Grant Applications** – T. Babbitt noted he was able to verify that there is only a cost to the town if they utilize any of the shared services. R. Grabowski had concerns about the availability of the services and budgeting costs. T. Babbitt noted there are a few towns that are covered by the SCCOG that would not need the services and that any expected use should be accounted for during the budget process. J. Picco also expects the services be readily available, on our schedule, if they should be needed.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the request for the Town of Griswold to participate in the municipal resolution grant application. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to bring the request by Leona Minski for reappointment to the Griswold Housing Authority, onto the agenda for discussion and possible action. **Motion carried unanimously.**

R. Grabowski noted one of the requirements of the GHA is to have a resident member and Ms. Minski has been serving in that capacity.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to appoint Leona Minski for a term of 2/1/2020 – 1/31/2025, as a resident member of the Griswold Housing Authority. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 9. Public Forum

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick commended T. Falck on speaking out at the town meeting tonight and noted that having a later start time be considered in the future. He also asked about the conveyance of the church property. T. Babbitt noted, in the past there has been a concern about meetings starting later and lasting too long. He also noted the town attorney is working on the title search with the attorney for the church. E. Berdick also noted he is against the way the state is going about securing the tolls and perhaps the town should prepare a resolution against the tolls. J. Picco gave an update on the meetings and status regarding the tolls.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie referenced the lawsuit the state of RI is involved with regarding their recent implementation of tolls and what effect that could have on the State of Connecticut. J. Barnie also noted his support in being able to utilize a human resources professional through the SCCOG grant participation previously approved tonight.

Dana Bennett – Dina Lane – D. Bennett noted her support for the comments tonight in regards to tolls and has a sample resolution. D. Bennett also questioned the appointment to the P&Z commission at the last meeting. T. Babbitt noted a letter was received from the

DTC. L. Wood noted that the DTC chair was going to reach out to D. Bennett tomorrow. It was noted that perhaps a policy should be looked at as far as notifications of vacancies to the respective town committee chairs.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux commented that the alternate position was discussed at the last few DTC meetings. D. Vieaux wanted to know if anyone has contact our state representation about the tolls. J. Picco noted that Senator Somers has put out multiple press releases and articles about her opposition to tolls. Sometimes those are not picked up by the press. There is also a town hall meeting scheduled. D. Vieaux also wanted to know the status of the opinion letter sent by the Borough Benefits Committee. T. Babbitt noted the letter has been received, is available and should be coming forward. D. Vieaux also noted that several of the items presented at the town meeting tonight are already covered under state statute.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick noted that the town meeting tonight was not in vain because the issue was brought forth and addressed and now the people are aware.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly suggested, in the future, put the controversial issue for town meeting at the end if possible.

Tina Falck – Cook Hill Rd. – T. Falck noted that she and E. Berdick along with FOPF are gearing up for the town wide clean up. They would like to again have the logo contest in conjunction with the school. T. Falck also addressed the summer lunch program and asked J. Picco to see what he could do to help.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie commented on the time the ordinance committee has to put in and also noted, since the town meeting tonight was almost unanimous against the firearms ordinance change, it would probably not be prudent for the town to post signs.

Dave Bennett – Dina Lane – D. Bennett noted he is an alternate of the PZC and has been at the last couple of meetings. He noted there was not any discussion about the alternate position vacancy and noted that the membership has been actively attending and there is not enough room to sit everyone at the front table.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly noted that years ago people were not exposed to even bb guns. You could also go and leave your house unlocked with money on the table and it would be there when you came back.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux noted he would appreciate it if the town attorney could review the statute about the posting of the signs prohibiting firearms, and make sure that he is reading it right.

Tina Falck – Cook Hill Rd. – T. Falck commented that Mr. Connelly's comment about not growing up with guns in that time period, is a testament as to why the majority of the senior population is afraid of guns.

## 10. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

**Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant**