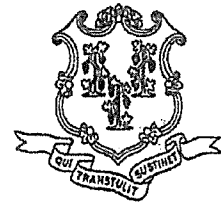




Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
October 24, 2017
6:00 PM
Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main St., Jewett City, CT 06351



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll** – Meeting was called to order at 6:02 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
Ryan Aubin, Recreation/YFS Director
Stuart Norman, BOE Chair
Sean McKenna, Griswold School Superintendent
Thomas Giard, EDC Chairman
Brian Baker, CIP Chairman
Frank Everett, SBC Chairman
24 other interested citizens

2. **Notification of Emergency Exits** – Emergency exits were noted at the adjacent town meeting.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** - Pledge was cited at adjacent town meeting.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **October 6, 2017 – Special Meeting Minutes**
 - b. **October 10, 2017 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the October 6, 2017 Special Meeting Minutes and the October 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Correspondence** – None

6. 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 8 tax refunds as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Recognition of previous First Selectmen** – Certificates were presented by the BOS to previous First Selectmen for recognition of their service. Anne Hatfield and Thomas Giard were present.

- c. Discussion and possible action on request by BOE chairman, Stuart Norman, for support of the BOS for inclusion of CIP funding for the proposed gas line expansion-** Stu Norman, BOE Chairman, gave a brief presentation on the proposed gas line expansion running pass the school campus. He outlined possible costs and pros and cons associates with the project. There was continued discussion which led to many unanswered questions. The request was made by the BOS to be added to the special BOE agenda for Monday, October 30, 2017, in an attempt to gather more information and specifically more details of costs associated with the project that the town would incur. The BOS did not feel comfortable endorsing this project without a more accurate number of the costs.

- d. Discussion and possible action on request by Ryan Aubin, Parks & Recreation/YFS Director, for renovations to the existing youth center** – R. Aubin made a presentation to the BOS about plans for renovation to the existing recreation center. The goal would be to make larger space and it up more for better visibility. The BOS encouraged R. Aubin to come back to them with an actual number of the cost for the project and making sure that all plans are approved by the Building Official and the Fire Marshal.

- e. Discussion and possible action on request by Peter Zvingilas, Building Official/ZEO, for reappointment for another four year term** – There was brief discussion about review of the statutes for the job description and it was suggested to table this item.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to table this item. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Old Business - None

- 8. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board** - There was brief discussion on the way contracts with businesses are handled by the Town. The BOS is in review of any business that provides service to the town in the form of a contract that has an aggregate total of more than \$7500 for the fiscal year. Town Ordinance is specific that any contracts over \$7500 must go out to bid.

9. Public Forum

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – (spoke twice) R. Young spoke in opposition to the school spending more money and noted his belief that eventually all BTU's will be the same price.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – Commended the BOS on the recognition of previous First Selectmen and the ability to recognize that enough information is not available to make an informed decision regarding the gas line.

Thomas Giard – Jennifer Lane – T. Giard noted that in five years from now, Eversource will not be making the offer to run the pipe at no cost. This will help development of Rt. 164 and in a few years the money invested would come back.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – (spoke twice) Does the money for the gas line need to go to vote and is there any new information on the gun range. K. Skulczyck noted that it would be part of the annual budget and that would be voted on. He also noted there is no new information on the gun range but has received a commitment that all money for the gun range has been taken out of the budget on the table. Also felt that Heritage Village would be the prime customer for Eversource and perhaps they should incur more of the costs.

Joan Heffernan – Beach Dr. – J. Heffernan detailed events with property at 4 Beach Drive and an easement that was given. K. Skulczyck called a point of order due to legal action.

Ryan Snide – Tatro Rd. – R. Snide asked about the special meeting yesterday and the appropriation of \$5,000. Noted he is not in favor of the expansion of the gas line and would like to support Ryan Aubin and his renovation of the Recreation Center. K. Skulczyck noted the \$5000 was for a previously approved easement were the approval of the money was from a Sr. Center grant and was inadvertently left out of the original approval motion.

Rosemarie Eldridge – Richard Ave. – R. Eldridge wanted to know when the residents were alerted about the possible expansion of the gas line. K. Skulczyck noted it has been being discussed for a couple of years among various commissions. She also wanted to know why the high school does not have air conditioning. It was noted that GES is new and has air conditioning, GMS has limited areas of AC and GHS is 25 years old and does not have AC.

Theresa Madonna – Osga Lane - T. Madonna wanted to know what the pending litigation is that prompted the point of order to Mrs. Heffernan's questions. K. Skulczyck noted that any time attorneys are engaging in legal matters he has been advised not to discuss.

Thomas Gaudreau – Bitgood Rd. – (spoke three times) T. Gaudreau asked if Eversource was completing a loop for their benefit, but also noted it is a benefit to the town and feels we should be dictating the terms. K. Skulczyck noted that PURA is requiring Eversource to complete the loop but it still remains a benefit to the town. T. Gaudreau also wanted to know if Eversource would have to repair the road curb to curb. K. Skulczyck noted they are required to only do the area they disturb. T. Gaudreau also wanted to know if the Louis Button on the ballot was the same one trying to sell his land to the state. He also noted he has a layout of the possibilities for the East Haven range that he is willing to share.

Sharon Viadella – Lester Rd. – (spoke twice) S. Viadella noted it seems like Eversource has more room for negotiations and also wanted to know if any of the BOS members knew if the gun range property had been sold. No member of the BOS has any knowledge of the sale. Also wanted to know if there was another meeting after this one.

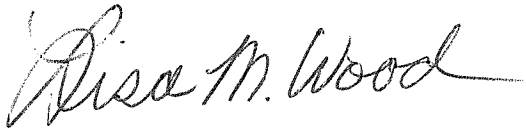
Steve Douglas – Bitgood Rd. – (spoke twice) S. Douglas wanted to know if training was provided by Eversource for the training of the new burners and also wanted to know if the boilers were removed if they could be sold. M. McKinney noted it is not feasible from a cost aspect to remove and sell them due to asbestos, labor and the always updating energy requirements that have to be met. S. Douglas also questioned why the vacancies on the ballot are different than those listed on the website. It was noted there is a difference between elected and appointed vacancies.

Allison Joslyn – Lester Rd. – A. Joslyn wanted to know how one forms a committee. K. Skulczyck noted the request would come before the BOS for direction. A. Joslyn also wanted to know if he had any solutions to offer in fighting the gun range. K. Skulczyck commented hopefully there is no funding and we keep working with those in office such as our state reps and senators as well as Joe Courtney.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**