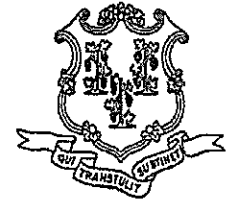




Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
March 10, 2020
6:00 PM
Griswold Town Hall
28 Main St., Jewett City, CT 06351

J. O'Neill, Editor
2020 MAR 11 AM 11:18 est.



MINUTES

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

Members Present: Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Jared Picco, Selectman

Members Absent: Richard Grabowski, Selectman (with notification)

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Tina Falck, Senior Center Director
13 other interested citizens

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

- a. **February 25, 2020 - Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the February 25, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **February 27, 2020 - Special Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to approve the February 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **March 4, 2020 – Special Meeting Minutes**

- d. **March 5, 2020 – Special Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to table action on the approval of both the March 4, 2020 and March 5, 2020 special meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Correspondence

- a. **Letter from CT Water requesting a volunteer** – T. Babbitt noted this is a request for a volunteer member to participate on a Customer Advisory Council that they are establishing. He noted we will seek a resident member of their service area who would like to serve in this position.
- b. **Resignation letter from Theresa Madonna** – The BOS noted the resignation from the ZBA as received with regret.

6. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on five tax refunds for a total of \$2591.89 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the five tax refunds for a total of \$2591.89 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on allowing the Senior Center Director to apply for a grant through the Senior Resources Older American Grant** – T. Falck noted she is a member of the GHA. The GHA requires a yearly inspection of all apartments. In doing so it is obvious that some residents need a little extra help with maintaining their apartment. She would like to seek money through Title III Agency on Aging Senior Resources, to be able to hire private company to come in and provide a service for those residents or those that may be returning home on rehabilitation. The service would be a one-time service per resident for a four hour block. T. Falck confirmed it is a 100% grant and would like to apply for between 8-10 thousand dollars.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to allow the Senior Center Director to apply for a grant through the Senior Resources Older American Act for an amount between 8-10 thousand dollars. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on request by Borough to waive town building fees for the development of a flood wall** – T. Babbitt noted we have received similar requests in the past. It is beneficial to extend the proposed wall.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, for the BOS to waive the building fees for the Borough in reference to the development of a flood wall at the waste water treatment facility. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Old Business – None

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

- a. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to bring on for discussion and possible action the issue of Avalonia Land Trust. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Babbitt noted a letter received from the Town Attorney and the history of the property transfer to Avalonia. The prior BOS denied the waiver of the back taxes due because Avalonia new the taxes were due when they took the property. Avalonia would like to modify the recreational license regarding use of the property and has proposed to pay a decreased tax amount to the town. It was suggested discussing further in Executive Session since this becomes a negotiation.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to table this item until the entire BOS is present. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to bring the MS4 stormwater consulting contract onto the agenda for discussion and possible action. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Babbitt noted this contract would close out the 2019 requirements. The cost of the contract is \$1200.

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by T. Babbitt, to authorize the First Selectman to sign the MS4 stormwater consulting contract for \$1200. **Motion carried unanimously.**

9. Public Forum

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young presented information on Rixtown cemetery. He handed out a deed for the cemetery as well as a map that was redrawn from one that was lost. He noted the lots were done by agreement and not by survey and do not abide by the concept of the map. He also noted Tilcon cannot buy the property because it is still privately owned.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick thanked the boy scouts for attending. He then brought attention to the area from E. Main St. leading out to 395 and asked that the BOS approach the JC water company about their facility on the left side of the road in that area and see if they could make some visual improvements to the property.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked about an update on status of long term blighted properties such as Patrylo's garage. T. Babbitt noted that property is delinquent on taxes. There is a group meeting scheduled with DEEP regarding concerns about contamination at the property. He is trying to get the status and see if any clean up funds are available before the town determines whether or not it should take the property.

Bevan Sweet- Havey Lane – B. Sweet had some concerns about the ongoing issues with American Industries and asked if the BOS could look, one more time, at what P&Z agreed upon last night before it goes through. He also wanted to know if the town sought any other


professional advice regarding silos and such. T. Babbitt noted the only professional advice was from the town attorney, but last night it was brought up that only enhancement and expansion. Adding silos would be expansion which is not allowed under the current agreement. Right now, the judge has ruled, that AI is to operate under the original agreement and not the 2015 agreement. Last time at court the judge was clear that, according to the way the residents filed their papers, only environmental issues could be considered. The judge also noted he wanted both the P&Z and ZBA to allow public comment sessions, which have been done and will be presented. T. Babbitt noted he will reach out to the town attorney. B. Sweet asked if there was anything the town could do to set the 128 hours rather than a variation so residents could plan events at their residence without the impact of AI. T. Babbitt noted there were a handful of times AI did call for permission to operate outside of hours. B. Sweet asked if there were any joint ventures between the BOS and AI. Both BOS members confirmed there were not.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick suggested mentioning there is some movement on a silo option to see if the judge would buy into it as an environmental concern.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by J. Picco, seconded by T. Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,


Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant