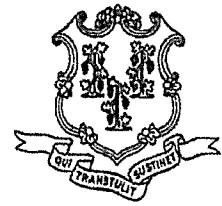


*J. O'Neill-Sator, ass't*  
2017 MAR 30 PM 4:39



**Town of Griswold**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**March 28, 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 Sr., Second Selectman  
Martin McKinney Jr., Third Selectman

**Others Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
Todd Babbitt, Road Superintendent  
Erik Christensen, Finance Director  
Tom Giard, EDC Chairman  
Mario Tristany Jr., Town Planner  
23 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. **February 27, 2017 – Special Meeting Minutes**
  - b. **February 28, 2017 – Regular Meeting Minutes**
  - c. **March 10, 2017 – Special Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to approve the February 27, 2017 special meeting minutes, February 28, 2017, regular meeting minutes and the March 10, 2017 special meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 5. Correspondence

- a. **Letter regarding exiting the STEAP program was discussed** – K. Skulczyck noted the STEAP grant we were currently participating in has been closed out and it had previously been discussed leaving the STEAP and entering the Urban Act Funding Grant which being labeled a distressed community makes the town eligible.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to give K. Skulczyck permission to sign the letter to the state requesting exit from the STEAP program. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Letter to fellow Board members requesting appointment of Tom Giard to the non-paid position of Director of Economic Development was discussed** – T. Giard and K. Skulczyck both spoke expressing their concern that it gives more credibility to the ability that Tom has in representing the town and its economic growth.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to appoint Tom Giard to the non-paid position of Director of Economic Development. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 6. New Business

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

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to approve the tax liens as submitted for a total amount of \$705.21. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney to move item 6c before 6b. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on recommendation by EDC to approve Tax Abatement Application of East Coast Auto** – M. Tristany read into the record a March 16, 2017 letter from the EDC approving the application of East Coast Auto for Tax Abatement. T. Giard, EDC Chairman, noted it was discussed and supported by EDC. M. McKinney asked if the abatement was based on the whole property and questioned the creation of jobs. M. Tristany noted it would be based on the new assessed value which has not been done yet. Both owners, Daniel Hunter and Michael Dingivan, spoke on behalf of their application and the improvements made as well as the employees. M. McKinney suggested bringing the total abatement amount out over a longer period of time.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the tax abatement as allotted by the rules of the ordinance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Discussion and possible action on presentation by Jen Siskind of Earth and Water Institute regarding issues surrounding fracking waste** – Tom Gaudreau gave a brief introduction to the progress of the Fracking committee and introduced Jen Siskind. She gave a twenty minute presentation reviewing the history and possible negative impacts of allowing fracking waste to be transported through town. She also provided information on where regions, states and towns were at with the banning of fracking waste. T. Gaudreau emphasized putting the proper controls on transporting the waste and proper training of those who are handling it. K. Skulczyck thanked them for their presentation.
- d. Discussion and possible action on removal and appointments of IWWCC members** – It was noted by L. Wood that Mr. Waitte and Mr. Franklin both sent in a resignation, but there was no correspondence with Mr. Grzelak who had missed several consecutive meetings and Mr. Norman wishes to be reappointed. K. Skulczyck commented sending an official letter to Mr. Grzelak. It was noted that he was sent a letter this week and several letters from the Commission previously as noted by Vice-Chair R. Parrette. C. Kinnie chairman, said it is within the power of the BOS to remove a member for six consecutive absences, voluntary resignation, according to the by-laws.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to accept the resignation letters of Edward Waitte and Kevin Franklin and to accept a voluntary resignation of alternate member Alex Grzelak for consecutive absences as allowed by the by-laws of the Commission and suggested by the chairman; to also appoint Lauren Churchill from an alternate member position to a regular member position to fill the remainder of a term of 1/1/2014 to 12/31/2017 and to reappoint Glen Norman as a regular member for a term of 1/1/2017 to 12/31/2017. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. Discussion and possible action on request by Frontier Communications to grant an easement for a utility pole located on Slater Ave.** – T. Babbitt, Road Superintendent, noted he has no issues with granting the easement but suggested they revert back to the Town the present easement for the other pole.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to approve the request by Frontier Communications to grant an easement for a utility pole located on Slater Ave. with the provision that they release the right to the easement for the pole they are currently using. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- f. Discussion and possible action on proposed acquisition of 16 Soule St. property** – K. Skulczyck noted the property is adjacent to the current town property and the owner is asking \$35,000 for the property. The property would allow for approximately 15 additional parking spaces for the town. T. Babbitt noted the owner does have an easement over the current town property to access the property. M. McKinney suggested doing a remediation assessment. It was agreed that M. McKinney would reach out to the property owner to see if a study has been done or if not if they would be willing to split the cost to acquire such study.

**7. Old Business - None**

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

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to bring the item of appointment for Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council onto the agenda for discussion and possible action. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyck noted the council has two member positions from the town and there is only one currently filled by Ed Berdick. Mr. Barnie has submitted a letter of interest.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to appoint James Barnie as a town representative member of the Atlantic Broadband Advisory Council. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. Public Forum**

**Thomas Gaudreau** (Bitgood Rd.) – Presented a proposed fracking ordinance to the BOS.

**Steve Douglas** (Bitgood Rd.) – Asked M. McKinney about his comment about not getting involved in the fracking waste issue. M. McKinney commented his thought was he wants to hear from both sides of the issue. S. Douglas suggested limiting transportation of fracking waste if any, to the interstate highways only. S. Douglas also noted the number of truck accidents on 395 and inquired as to the location of the Aquifer Protection locations. He also suggested considering extending the sewer lines to exit 24 as part of an Urban Act grant.

**Ransom Young** (Rixtown Rd.) – Spoke about proper handling of contamination waste and the trucks used to transport it.

**Sharon Viadella** (Lester Rd.) – Asked about the latest update on the gun range. K. Skulczyck commented that Commissioner Currey and the Attorney General have not yet addressed the letters sent from the state office a month ago. They have recently sent another letter to follow up and ask for the response.

**Dave Vieaux** (Leha Ave.) – Spoke in regards to his opposition about the tax abatement approved tonight and suggested a dollar amount be made available for residents.

**10. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**



**Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant**