

Warren P. P. P. P. P.
2018 JUL -3 PM 2:43



Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
June 26, 2018
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 PM by Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

Members Present: Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
Steve Merchant Sr., Second Selectman
Ed Burke, Third Selectman

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
17 other interested citizens
1 member of the press

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

- a. **June 12, 2018 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to approve the June 12, 2018 regular meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Correspondence** - None

6. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on one tax refund for a total of \$83.20 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to approve the one tax refund in the amount of \$83.20. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Discussion and possible action on waiving bidding procedures as allowed by Griswold Code of Ordinances Chapter 24-2(D)(4) for contract with BVH for energy study contracts at the school campus** – There was brief discussion regarding a study to be done at the school campus to assess the switch over to gas service. BVH has done consulting work for the school campus in the past, thus according to the Griswold Code of Ordinances Chapter 24-2(D)(4) the BOS has the authority to waive the bidding process. Frank Everett, Chairman of the Gas Line Committee, gave a brief review. He noted the agreement with Eversource and the deadlines. They have to bring something online by this December. The idea of this study is to assess the best order of conversion and how to save the most money. This is basically an energy study. There is a \$5000 grant from Eversource and the total proposal for services is \$29,000. Because they have prior information regarding the school structure it would be beneficial to use BVH for the study. F. Everett noted for E. Burke that there is not already one million dollars set aside. T. Babbitt is hopeful the study will recommend the best equipment that does offer a rebate from Eversource.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to waive the bid requirement as provided under the Griswold Code of Ordinances Chapter 24-2(D)(4) for a contract with BVH energy to study the equipment at the school campus and the future equipment to be installed. **Motion carried unanimously.**

F. Everett noted the BOF has to approve the money at a meeting tomorrow night and then it will have to come back before the BOS.

- c. Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign “Contract Between the Town of Griswold and the Borough of Jewett City Regarding Collection of Taxes” for FY 2018/2019** – It was noted that the contract is similar to that of last year with updated numbers and dates.

MOTION: Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by T. Babbitt, to authorize the First Selectman to sign “Contract Between the Town of Griswold and the Borough of Jewett City Regarding Collection of Taxes” for FY 2018/2019”. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Discussion and possible action on re-appointment of Susan Gunderman and Andrea Dameron as members of the Public Health & Safety Committee for a term of 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2024**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to re-appoint Susan Gunderman and Andrea Dameron as members of the Public Health & Safety Committee for a term of 7/1/2018 to 6/30/2024. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on forming a committee of residents/businesses to evaluate the continuation of the Borough (tabled from 6/12/18)** – E. Burke noted he has spoken with Atty. Stuart Norman, Alan Geer, James Bernie and John Connelly who have all agreed to be on the committee. He would like to post it on the website to get three more interested individuals.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to put an ad on the website to see if we can get anyone who is interested. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board - None

9. Public Forum

Tim Sharkey – Lenox Ave. – T. Sharkey wanted to know why a contract was signed for natural gas without doing an energy study first.

Dave Vieaux - Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux noted he agrees with T. Sharkey. He also noted the changes over three years should be done as cost effective as possible. He also suggested breaking down the cost of the energy study down over three years.

Steve Douglas – Bitgood Rd. – S. Douglas asked questions about what T. Babbitt observed during the test shooting at the proposed gun range site. He also suggested flooding an environmental quality meeting on July 25th in Hartford.

Laurie Sorder - Ashland St. – L. Sorder gave a brief history of what information has been shared before about the possibility of Borough/Town consolidation and suggests that someone have a talk with Ken Sullivan to become aware of what was learned in the past. She also noted that in the past the Borough attorney advised against it.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick noted that the possible penalty for not having the gas flowing by December 31st was not shared with the public. He also noted his feeling that the school really decides what happens with the gas line at the school campus and asked who the key person is on the gas committee. He also suggested having an advisory question on consolidation of the Town/Borough.

Pam Patalano – Hopeville Rd. – P. Patalano – P. Patalano wanted to know if we could insist another sound test be done regarding the proposed shooting range. P. Patalano also asked about additional tree cutting in the forest.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux noted they may not have shot in all directions if they have actually determined the orientation of the proposed location. If that orientation should change then we could perhaps request an additional sound test.

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young mentioned the bear that was spotted on Rixtown Rd. and showed a picture of it. He noted he feels the bear was driven out by the rifle range test. If there is a referendum by both the Borough and the Town, if you own property in each district, can you vote in each referendum?

Tom Gaudreau – Bitgood Rd. – T. Gaudreau asked about the position of the guns during the shooting because of the location of where the bullets were found. He also made reference to the remains of the bullets that were found.

Steve Douglas – Bitgood Rd. – S. Douglas noted he put in an FOI request to the DAS and received emails starting about May 23, 2018. He noted the state planned the shooting event well in advance and it is clear by the emails that the shooting drill was strategized.

Sharon Viadella – Lester Rd. – S. Viadella asked who decided the shooting was going to take place where the sand pile was because it is the lowest part of the land.

Dave Gaudreau – Bitgood Rd. – D. Gaudreau also noted if there is a change in the orientation of the proposed range then another sound study needs to be done.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick noted he heard the state can use algorithms to change the sound test results for scaling and location.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie suggested the first school to bring on line with the gas should be one of the schools that needs to have the oil tanks changed out. He also noted there is no one driving the gas line committee.

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young wanted to know what time the shooting was finished.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly noted his concern that Eversource has a monopoly and control over the price of the gas delivered.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie noted he believes you can purchase gas through other companies, much like electricity.

Tim Sharkey – Lenox Ave. – T. Sharkey wanted to know if the sweeper could go out and sweep again where Eversource has been doing road work.

James Barnie – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie noted he does not feel the consolidation committee would not have enough time to put a question about consolidation out to vote for the election.

Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick noted he previously mentioned an advisory question only in regards to the Town /Borough consolidation.

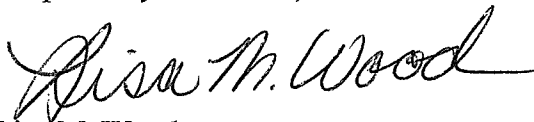
Betty Knox – Alvina Ave. – B. Knox asked for an update on the bridge project on Rt. 138, safety concerns and a possible completion date.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux also noted that bridge project has a chunk missing out of the ramp coming into town and his car has bottomed out. D. Vieaux also noted a computer program will not accurately refigure sound results.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by T. Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting at 7 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa M. Wood". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant