

Ann P. Minor, Asst.

2021 JUL -1 PM 4:09



Town of Griswold

28 Main Street
Griswold, CT 06351



Board of Selectman

Special Meeting

Wednesday, JUNE 30, 2021

IN-PERSON ONLY

Downstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall

10:00 AM

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 10 AM by Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

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

Others Present: Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Atty. Michael Carey, Town representation
Atty. Eileen Duggan, Town representation
Juackino Cipriano, Building Official
Rudy Demiraj, Union representative
Kenneth Bomba, Union president
4 other interested citizens

2. **Public hearing pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 29-260 to hear evidence and legal argument on personnel matter involving the Town's Building Official** – Atty. E. Duggan presented the discipline case. She reviewed all information provided to the Board of Selectmen and handed out an outline of her proceedings. The final recommendation was that the town should, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §29-260, discharge Mr. Cipriano for just cause.

Atty. Duggan confirmed for R. Grabowski, that there was only one case where the envelope containing CHRO papers were put on Mr. Cipriano's desk.

R. Demiraj presented the case on behalf of Mr. Cipriano. He gave a review of the claims made against Mr. Cipriano, the investigations that took place, and those who would speak on his behalf. He noted discrepancies in the supporting testimony of the investigation. Those who planned to speak in support of Mr. Cipriano were allowed by Atty. Carey to speak in spite of Atty. Duggan's objection. T. Falck, L. Martell and

K. Bomba were addressed by both R. Demiraj and Atty. Duggan. There were several objections made by Atty. Duggan as to the questions being asked.

Atty. Duggan summarized that Mr. Cipriano did not violate the last chance agreement as far as touching or harassing, but as to retaliation and insubordination.

R. Demiraj summarized that it was not clear that Mr. Cipriano retaliated or was insubordinate by the definition of insubordination itself. He noted Mr. Cipriano is not copiable of any of the mentioned violations and should be returned back to work.

There were no further questions by the Board of Selectmen.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to close the hearing. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 3. Possible executive session to discuss the personnel matter involving the Town's Building Official, attendees to include the Town Attorney(s) and others whose presence may be required and appropriate**

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to enter into executive session. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Atty. Carey reminded Mr. Cipriano he had the right to have the pending conversation of the Board of Selectmen to be held in public. Mr. Cipriano declined. Atty. Carey noted decisions, if any, would be made in public after executive session.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco to commence executive session commenced at 11:47 AM and to invite in E. Christensen and Atty. Carey. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Executive session ended at 12:45 PM.

- 4. Discussion, deliberation, and action on personnel matter involving the Town's Building Official**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to reconvene this meeting on July 8th at 5 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- 5. Adjournment**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to adjourn the meeting at 12:46 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



**Todd Babbitt,
First Selectman**