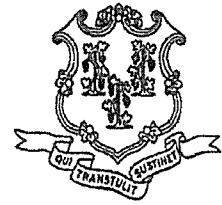


Lauren P...

2017 AUG 24 AM 11:41



**Town of Griswold**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 22, 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 6:10 PM by Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman. He apologized for the delay in opening the meeting.
2. **Notification of Emergency Exits** – Exit locations were noted.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The pledge was cited.
4. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. **August 8, 2017 – Special Meeting Minutes**
  - b. **August 8, 2017 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the August 8, 2017 special meeting minutes and August 8, 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 tax refunds as submitted for a total amount of \$508.89. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Presentation of Elsa by TFC Piper** – It was noted this was cancelled at the last minute do to TFC Piper having a family emergency.

- c. **Presentation of Citation to Ed Banas** – K. Skulczyck presented Mr. Banas with a citation noting his accomplishments. Ray Hackett, personal friend, also spoke of Mr. Banas' achievements. Mr. Banas graciously accepted the citation.
- d. **Discussion and possible action on appointing Jack Cipriano as fill-in building official** – K. Skulczyck noted that J. Cipriano currently often serves as a fill-in building official in Peter's absence. Peter Zvingilas, Building Official, noted that J. Cipriano does a fine job filling in.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to appoint Jack Cipriano as a fill-in Building Official. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- e. **Discussion and possible action on request by Building Official to return to full-time employment** – P. Zvingilas noted the building projects in town have increased as well as his work enforcing blight, wetlands and zoning issues. He emphasized the amount of work that will need to be done to get everything inspected and handed over to the Assessor to collect taxes. K. Skulczyck noted the Building Official is appointed by the BOS and P. Zvingilas confirmed that appointment will end in November. K. Skulczyck agreed the work load has increased but is not sure that we are there yet and the BOF will have to review as well. M. McKinney asked if the position went full-time, if a part-timer person would be needed. K. Skulczyck noted possibly looking at the responsibilities of the Building Official before the appointment in November and assessing the amount of work related to the duties.
- f. **Discussion and possible action on signing of contract with Borough for collection of taxes** – L. Sharkey, Tax Collector, noted the only difference is the number of accounts being collected by the Borough due to the Borough eliminating the collection of motor vehicle taxes. This year's contract amount is \$18,169. The contract uses the same formula as last year. The total number of bills to be collected for the Borough is 8% of the total number of bills to be collected for the town and borough. Thus the Borough will pay 8% of costs.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the signing of the contract with the Borough for collection of taxes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- g. **Discussion and possible action on waiving Inland Wetlands Application fee for a for construction of a flood prevention wall by the JCDPU** - K. Skulczyck noted that Ken Sullivan has been working with M. Tristany on this project and confirmed the town has the right to waive the application fee.

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

S. Merchant wanted to know why or why not we would waive the fee. K. Skulczyck commented it is a municipal project by the Borough. T. Babbitt confirmed that during the last flooding event, the borough was almost taken over and the idea of this wall is to prevent that. T. Babbitt confirmed the JCDPU and the Borough are seeking FEMA funding for this project. K. Skulczyck noted this does not waive any requirements of Inland Wetlands only the application fee.

**MOTION:** Motion on the floor to table was voted on. **Motion failed unanimously.**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney to waive the Inland Wetlands Application fee. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- h. Discussion and possible action on request of UCFS to waive tax bill for House at 11 Mary Street based on exempt status** – K. Skulczyck explained the ability of the BOS to waive the current tax bill of \$1688.24 for 11 Mary Street. The property has been purchased by UCFS, a non-profit organization, and the house has not been being used and is going to be torn down in the very near future.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to approve the request of UCFS to waive the tax bill for 11 Mary Street due to tax exempt status under Section 12-88 of the CGS. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**7. Old Business - None**

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

**9. Public Forum**

**Steve Douglas** – Bitgood Rd. – S. Douglas made comment on the most recent letter from the AG regarding the gun range. K. Skulczyck noted the AG would not respond to the Town's question which is why the request was made from the minority letter. This was a verbal request only. S. Douglas also questioned priority funding and the process of the state review board, as well as other statutes relating to environmental quality. K. Skulczyck commented he is looking forward to an open discussion meeting with political leadership.

**Dave Vieaux** – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked if we could look into filing judicial action. K. Skulczyck noted that can be done but it would be a large cost of \$50,000 to \$100,000, which everyone knows would have to be approved by the voters of the community. M. McKinney noted the town did agree to, and spent, the allotted \$5000. He suggested that private groups should think about possibly raising money.

**Sharon Viadella** – Lester Rd. –S. Viadella asked does the Town of Griswold or Borough of Griswold know if that property has been sold. K. Skulczyck noted there is no record, at town hall, of that property having been sold.

**Ed Berdick** – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick asked if there is anyone at the state level that the BOS members may know that have heard anything about a contractual options or none recorded deeds on those properties. K. Skulczyck commented he is not aware of anything, but will look into it.

**Pam Patalano** – Hopeville Rd. – P. Patalano asked – Is there a cap on how much the town has to spend and are they going to fight it? It was noted it was previously agreed to allow spending of \$5000 and that is all the town has authorized.

**Thomas Gaudreau** – Bitgood Rd. – T. Gaudreau the town should consider the devaluation of residential property and the loss to the tax base in relation to the cost of fighting the project.

**James Barnie** – Hopeville Rd. – J. Barnie has any bond funding been approved for this project. K. Skulczyck noted there has been no additional appropriations but they continue to check daily. J. Barnie also suggested it would be cheaper to fix the suggested flooding problem at the current facility.

**Steve Douglas** – Bitgood Rd. – S. Douglas noted that state officers who were at the big meeting held here in town have been putting out pamphlets and noting that residents of Griswold are providing false information.

**Sharon Viadella** – Lester Rd. – S. Viadella asked about the additional tree cutting on Lee Road. S. Merchant noted he would check it out.

**Dave Vieaux** – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked if the state would be cutting trees on private property.

**Lauren Churchill** – Rodger Rd. – L. Churchill noted there is harvesting being done by the Mystic Rod and Gun Club.

**Thomas Gaudreau** – Bitgood Rd. - T. Gaudreau asked how close we are to having a meeting on the ordinance. It was noted the goal is October.

## 10. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**



**Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant**