

J. O'Neill. Eaton,
2019 AUG 29 PM 12:46 a.s.t.



Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
August 27, 2019
6:00 PM
Griswold Town Hall
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

Members Absent: Ed Burke, Third Selectman (with notification)

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Tina Falck, Senior Center Director
9 interested citizens
1 member of the press

2. **Notification of Emergency Exits** – Emergency exits were noted
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**- Pledge was cited
4. **Approval of Minutes**
 - a. **July 13, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes**
 - b. **July 15, 2019 – Special Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to accept both the July 13, 2019 regular meeting minutes and the July 15, 2019 special meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. **Correspondence** - None

6. New Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on ten tax refunds for a total of \$1744.05 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by T. Babbitt, to approve the ten tax refunds for a total of \$1744.05. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on request by Sr. Center Director for joint program with First Congregational Church to offer breakfast** – T. Falck introduced Mr. Quinn of the First Congregational Church. He noted they are celebrating the church's 300th anniversary and would like to celebrate doing something more meaningful for the community. This would be a free breakfast offered the last Saturday of each month, for twelve months, starting in November. This would be a pilot program and may bring discussion about other programs down the road. They would like to pair with the Senior Center since the church does not have an approved facility for this service. It would be hosted by volunteers. Tina Falck noted she would volunteer as well as some of the seniors, and possibly high school students or boy scouts, and the location is accessible for those in need.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by T. Babbitt, to authorize the Senior Center to conduct a free breakfast at the Senior Center starting November 2019 for twelve months as a trial period in conjunction with the First Congregational Church. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action or town policy/ordinance regarding carrying of firearms in/on town owned properties and buildings** – T. Babbitt noted there have been recent issues with carrying of firearms at both the senior center and the park. He provided a couple of sample ordinances from other towns for review.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to send the sample ordinances to the ordinance committee for their review and report back to the Board of Selectmen. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Old Business

- a. **Discussion and possible action on update of sale of the old Senior Center bus** – T. Falck noted she contacted municibid and did not receive any return information. She contacted the gentleman the Town bought the van from and he said after 120,000 miles the van has reached its useful life and should be sold as soon as possible. The bus currently has 119,700 miles on it. He also noted the purchase price should be around \$2000 - \$2500.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to authorize T. Falck to move forward with a seal bid sale. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on use of funds from the Anthony Fund** – T. Babbitt noted that the BOE did name a member to sit on the Anthony Fund committee. It was also noted that now the committee is full and could move forward with a meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to accept the recommendation of the BOE for Chris Champlin to sit on the Anthony Fund committee and to move forward with sending a letter to the Treasurer to notify the members and set up a meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on the offer of St. Anne's Church in Glasgo** -- T. Babbitt informed E. Berdick that he has found a contact who would be glad to provide access for him to the inside of the church and provided him with that phone number.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to table action on this item until E. Berdick has time to report back with an update. **Motion carried unanimously.**

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

- a. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to bring onto the agenda, placement of planting of the white oak tree as part of participation with the CT Tree Protection Association, for discussion and possible action. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Babbitt suggested the property at the Highway garage. E. Berdick also suggested the Sheldon Road field complex.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to plant the white oak at the Sheldon Road facility with the exact location to be determined in the field with T. Babbitt and E. Berdick. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to bring onto the agenda, for discussion and possible action, the reuse of the existing Sr. Center. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Babbitt noted there has been preliminary discussion for a while about the improvements needed at the Alternative School. It has been mentioned that the existing Sr. Center may be a better place for the Alternative School as it is one floor and is handicap accessible and has a kitchen. He suggested putting together a committee to look at the space and see if it would be feasible.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to pursue forming a committee to assess the needs of the Alternative School and if the existing Sr. Center would fit those needs. The committee to consist of T. Babbitt, 2 members of the Board of Ed, a member at large, and hopefully an employee of the alternative school that is also a resident. **Motion carried unanimously.**

9. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux wanted to know where the town is at with enforcement of connex boxes and non-authorized home occupations. T. Babbitt noted they are still looking to form a sub-committee of P&Z to address the boxes and letters should be going shortly to address home occupations.

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young mentioned concerns about a possible ordinance against carrying firearms.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly noted the property behind the school that extends to the Quinebaug River where people used to hunt and wanted to know if that area was posted. T. Babbitt noted the school campus is specifically outlined as a restricted area and that area is included.

Mike Lane – Stonehill Rd. – Gave an update on the clean-up at VMP with Emily and Armaun. They had a few volunteers, did some cleaning and power washed the gazebo and still plan to do some painting.

Sharon Viadella – Lester Rd. – S. Viadella asked if there was any update on the cemeteries for Ryan Snide. T. Babbitt noted he has a meeting with someone this week and plans on bringing that up. She also informed the Board that the State of CT will not allow them to place the plaque with the C.C.C. statute to be erected at Pachaug State Forest.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Lisa M. Wood,
Executive