



Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

January 26, 2016

6:30 PM

Griswold Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room
28 Main St, Jewett City, CT 06351



MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Kevin Skulczyck

Members Present:

Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman
Steve Merchant, Sr., Second Selectman
Martin McKinney, Third Selectman

Others Present:

Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton, Recording Secretary
27 other interested citizens

Pledge of Allegiance

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **January 12, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to approve the January 12, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence – None**

MOTION: M. McKinney made a motion, seconded by S. Merchant, to move to item #6 **Any Other Business**, to discuss the tax sale on 4 Beach Drive. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyck stated that he sees numerous residents in the audience that are concerned about what this tax levy will do to a deeded right of way that they have. He hopes that the residents can work together, as well as with the Town, to find a way to purchase this property. There is a possibility that someone could come in on the day of the sale and purchase it, but it would only be able to be used for recreational purposes, it is not a building lot.

- Lynn Tyrrell – 36 Holly Drive – Ms. Tyrrell stated that she believes the property is being taxed incorrectly, as it is only a beach. How can this be corrected.
- Theresa Madonna – Osga Lane – Attorney Madonna stated that she was

contacted by the residents in the Beach Drive community to see what they could do about the potential sale of this property. The residents are interested in forming a Limited Liability Company so they can take ownership of the property. Unfortunately, these families cannot afford to pay the back taxes. If no one purchases the parcel on February 16, 2016, at the public auction, Ms. Madonna is hopeful after speaking with K. Skulczyck that the property could be reassessed and purchased by the residents from the Town. This would require moving quickly, because the assessed value would need to be appealed by February 20, 2016.

- Roland Gervais – 111 Latham Drive – Would like to know what the Town’s definition of ‘Recreation Use’ is. Can a trailer be put on that property?
- Ed Berdick – 764 Voluntown Road – Asked how the arrears could have grown so much, without the Town doing something before.

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M, McKinney, to move back to item #4 New Business. Motion carried unanimously.

4. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action on presentation for CPACE program for commercial, industrial and multi-family energy improvements and adoption of resolution and authorization for First Selectmen to execute necessary documents

K. Skulczyck stated that it is necessary to go to a Town Meeting to implement this. Nicholas Zuba, CPACE Program Manager for CT Green Bank was present to discuss the program. CPACE offers energy saving measures, as well as renewable energy sources for commercial, industrial, and multi-family properties. 116 out of 169 towns have already joined this program.

MOTION: was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to set a town meeting date of February 23, 2016 at 6:00 PM, in the downstairs meeting room at 28 Main Street, Griswold, CT to consider and act on the following:

Shall the Town of Griswold adopt a resolution to approve Commercial Property Clean Energy (C-PACE) program.

Motion carried unanimously.

b. Discussion and possible action on presentation from Samantha Sojka of Eversource on Home Energy Solutions Program and authorization for First Selectman to execute any necessary documents

Ms. Sojka, of Eversource, explained what the Home Energy Solutions Program will do for the town and its residents. Certified contractors will assess homes to see what kind of energy saving solutions homes could be in use of. These contractors will perform any necessary work to implement these solutions. Two local contractors have been chosen to do the work, Lantern Energy and TVCCA. Lantern Energy has decided to make a \$25 donation, for every \$99 co-pay received, to the charity of the Town’s choice. It was suggested that the donation be given to the Griswold Pride Dare Program. The Town will also receive points for resident’s participating in the program. For every 100 points, the town will earn a \$5,000 Bright Idea grant, up to two can be earned per year, to be used on any energy saving project. Out of 169

communities, 153 have joined with Eversource.

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to authorize Kevin Skulczyck to sign a contract with Eversource. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to choose the Griswold Pride Dare Program to be the recipient of Lantern Energy's donations. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Discussion and possible action on ability to teleconference for meetings

K. Skulczyck requested this item be tabled, as he is still waiting on documents for CCM.

MOTION: M. McKinney made a motion, seconded by S. Merchant, to table this item. **Motion carried unanimously.**

d. Discussion and possible action on re-appointment of Mark S. Sulik as a member of the Ethics Commission for a term of 3/6/2016 to 3/5/2019

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to re-appoint Mark S. Sulik as a member of the Ethics Commission for a term of 3/6/2016 to 3/5/2019. Motion carried unanimously. **Motion carried unanimously.**

e. Discussion and possible action on appointment of Sonja Fisch as an alternate member of the Recreation Commission for a one year term of 1/26/2016 to 1/25/2017

MOTION: M. McKinney made a motion, seconded by S. Merchant, to appoint Sonja Fisch as an alternate member of the Recreation Commission, for a one year term of 1/26/2016 to 1/25/2017. **Motion carried unanimously.**

f. Discussion and possible action on re-appointment of Erika Bevis as an alternate member of the Recreation Commission for a one year term of 1/14/2016 to 1/13/2017

MOTION: M. McKinney made a motion, seconded by S. Merchant, to re-appoint Erika Bevis as an alternate member of the Recreation Commission for a one year term of 1/14/2016 to 1/13/2017. **Motion carried unanimously.**

g. Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to accept tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector, in the amount of \$496.43. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Old Business - None

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

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to discuss a letter from Attorney Matt Willis. **Motion carried unanimously.**

The letter was read. Discussion followed.

MOTION: S. Merchant made a motion, seconded by M. McKinney, to continue with the eviction process of the ambulance company. **Motion carried unanimously.**

7. Public Forum

Ransom Young – Enjoyed the presentations that the road repair consultants gave and would like to see more meetings with them.

Dave Vieaux – Asked if there is a list of town owned properties that are for sale.

John Connelly – Asked if there has been discussions with the water company about putting a new water main on Main Street.

8. Adjournment

MOTION: K. Skulczyck made a motion, seconded by S. Merchant, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Jaimee O'Neill-Eaton