



**Town of Griswold**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**June 28, 2016**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Griswold Town Hall**  
**Downstairs Meeting Room**  
**28 Main St, Jewett City, CT 06351**



**MINUTES**

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

**Members Present:** Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman  
Steve Merchant, Sr., Second Selectman  
Martin McKinney, Jr., Third Selectman

**Others Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
Thomas Giard, EDC Chairman  
23 interested citizens

2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – Pledge was cited
3. **Approval of Minutes**
  - a. **June 14, 2016 – Special Meeting Minutes**
  - b. **June 14, 2016 – Regular Meeting Minutes**
  - c. **June 24, 2016 – Special Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney to approve the June 14, 2016 special meeting minutes, June 14, 2016 regular meeting minutes, June 24, 2016 special meeting minutes. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. **Correspondence** – None
5. **New Business**

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

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney to approve one tax refund as submitted in the amount of \$259.97. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign a DOH “Use Restriction” as a requirement of the Small Cities CDBG Program for the McCluggage Manor project – It was noted this is an updated agreement that needs to be signed as part of a housing grant we have received.**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to authorize the First Selectman to sign the DOH “Use Restriction”. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**6. Old Business - None**

**7. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by M. McKinney, seconded by S. Merchant, to bring the resolution of opposition to the proposed gun range onto the agenda for discussion. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyk commented the resolution is a result of the wish of the majority of the residents at the town meeting. He also noted the resolution has been sent out to 169 towns as well as state and local officials and the Council of Governments. It is also being supported by CCM. He also noted he expects a major announcement the early part of next week.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to bring T. Giard, EDC Chair on the agenda for discussion on the request of contractual funding. **Motion carried unanimously.**

T. Giard noted the EDC has been reviewing plans for a river walk and is interested in turning the town owned property of 28 School St. into a passive area such as a park and parking. They reached out to Kent & Frost who have agreed to do a design for the cost of \$7300. He noted he feels this would be an economic driver and would allow a nice access to cross the river to Veteran’s park. T. Giard confirmed the property would as a result be taken off the market. K. Skulczyk commented there was an offer on the property that was refused. It was decided to further discuss this item at the special meeting on Thursday.

**8. Public Forum**

**Dave Vieaux** - Leha Ave. – Supported the idea of the river walk but must also include in the cost the value of the land.

**Steve Douglas** – Bitgood Rd. – Noted Putnam’s river walk does very well and supports the idea. Also spoke out in opposition to the gun range and specifically house values.

**Anthony Cardin** – Bitgood Rd. – Wanted to know if the wording on a proposed petition for referendum was accurate. Was informed he could email it to the First Selectman and he would get back to him.

**Darlene Zuraw** – Lester Rd. – Wanted to know if the minutes were available. She was informed they are available on the website or the Town Clerk's office.

**Richard Smith** – Tatro Rd. – Noted he heard there were some zone changes coming up that were trying to get sneaked in, also eminent domain and foreclosure processes. He was informed there is nothing in the works and all zoning changes would have to be properly noted. He also asked about safety boundaries if the gun range goes through. K. Skulczyck noted he now gets no return phone calls from the State.

**Ali Bakhshalizadeh** – Dawley Rd. – Asked the First Selectman to expand on his words of confidence that the shooting range will be resolved. K. Skulczyck only commented he thought it would be a quick response.

**Ryan Snide** – Tatro Rd. – Asked how much money was left and if it could go towards next year. K. Skulczyck commented it is money to be used for contractual services and if not used must go into the general fund at the end of the fiscal year. R. Snide also thanked the Board for doing what they said they would do and supporting the people.

**Darlene Zuraw** – Lester Rd. – Spoke in favor of the river walk but is concerned about crime and safety. K. Skulczyck noted there is concern and methods to control safety are being considered.

**Jeff Wing** – Old Bethel Rd. – Spoke out against the gun range and the noise associated with it.

**Ransom Young** – Rixtown Rd. – Spoke about the noise generated from the firearms the state police use.

**Alan Cornelius** – Hopeville Rd. – Asked if there was an ordinance to regulate sound in town. K. Skulczyck commented there is not, primarily because we do not have someone certified to enforce it. It may be considered by the ordinance committee, however, the state would not necessarily have to abide to such ordinance.

**Jeff Wing** – Old Bethel Rd. – Commented they are fully automatic weapons that the police would be using at the facility.

**Ryan Snide** – Tatro Rd. – Wanted to know when the ordinance committee meets.

**Ali Bakhshalizadeh** – Dawley Rd. – River walk sounds like a good idea but concerned with the proximity to the school grounds due to drug traffic. Suggests making a harsh noise ordinance now. Reinforced proper sound software be used.

**David Vieaux** – Leha Ave. – Commented there is a state ordinance for noise levels but you need to have someone licensed to enforce it.

**Sharon Viadella** – Lester Rd. – Asked if an announcement were made about the gun range, where would they find the information. K. Skulczyck commented the webpage and facebook as well as other media.

## 9. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by M. McKinney, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant**