



**Town of Griswold**  
**Board of Selectmen**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**August 12, 2014**  
**6:30 PM**  
**Senior Center, 22 Soule St., Griswold**



**UNAPPROVED 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 Mikutel, Second Selectman  
Philip Anthony, Third Selectman

**Others Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
7 interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **July 22, 2014 – Regular Meeting Minutes**
- b. **August 4, 2014 – Special Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the July 22, 2014 regular meeting minutes and the August 4, 2014 special meeting minutes as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence - None**

4. **New Business**

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

**MOTION:** Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve the tax refund as submitted by Tax Collector, Rich Grabowski. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on appointment of Catherine Szafran to serve as an alternate member of the Recreation Commission for a term of 8/13/2014 – 8/12/2015** – S. Mikutel noted he does not know the applicant at all and would like a little more information. P. Anthony agreed. L. Wood mentioned she spoke with Ryan

Aubin, Recreation Director, and he said he would be glad to have the applicant on the Commission. She has been volunteering on the Veteran's Memorial Park Committee. K. Skulczyck noted he also does not know the applicant. S. Mikutel is reluctant to make an appointment without knowing anything about the person. It was agreed to require all applicants from this point forward to come before the Board of Selectmen when requesting appointment to a town board or commission.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to table action on this item and have the applicant come before the Board at the next meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**c. Discussion and possible action on setting a town meeting date for purpose of transfer of property from the Town of Griswold to the Griswold Housing Authority**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to schedule a town meeting for the purpose of Griswold Housing Authority's request for the transfer of property for McCluggage Manor elderly housing, for August 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. Old Business - None**

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

**a. MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action the outdoor musical event at Sam Chickan Road. **Motion carried unanimously.**

S. Mikutel noted the state police were called to visit the site at 11:45, on August 8<sup>th</sup>, because someone had reported a noise disturbance. S. Mikutel said he spoke to the trooper when he was leaving the site and the trooper did confirm they were there due to the noise and asked the owner to keep the noise down. This is not the first time the state police have been down there late at night due to noise disturbance. S. Mikutel wanted to make sure the applicant knows that if he is going to be holding these events down there he cannot be disturbing the neighborhood.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to authorize sending a letter to the property owner expressing that in the future, if these events are held, he will do the right thing and keep the noise at a level late at night that will not disturb the neighborhood. S. Mikutel will write the letter.

P. Anthony asked that P. Zvingilas check this out, because he had some of the same complaints from residents but has also heard he is charging money for overnight stays and this may be a commercial entity.

K. Skulczyck commented a letter was received about three weeks ago about the event going to take place. He planned a meeting of town officials along with the property owner, including safety and health officials. It went from a commercial event to

again holding a party at his house. There was a traffic plan in place, and Tom Holowaty was on duty Saturday night but there were no traffic or parking issues. The property owner was told, in no uncertain terms, that he was not holding a commercial event.

**Motion on the floor carried unanimously.**

- b. **MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action, the issue of voting information signs. **Motion carried unanimously.**

S. Mikutel commented we need to bring a little more specific on the signs as to what we are voting on. People were a little confused about what the vote was for and if we could be specific as to primary vote, budget vote, etc... P. Anthony commented he agrees and also had some residents ask him the same. K. Skulczyck commented it is a step forward and we can work on that, but at least the people are seeing them.

- c. **MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action the status of town labor negotiations. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyck commented he asked the town attorney for an outline of proceedings to date. He also mentioned the last meeting was cancelled due to the town attorney for personal reasons. It was suggested having the town attorney come for a meeting for executive session. It was agreed to schedule it for 45 minutes.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony to set a meeting with the town attorney to discuss the labor contracts with town employees, for 5:15 PM on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Motion was amended by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to include a backup date of September 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:45 PM.

**Motion on the floor carried unanimously.**

- d. **MOTION:** Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to bring onto the agenda for discussion and possible action, the request by a resident to fill a position on the Board of Ethics. **Motion carried unanimously.**

P. Anthony gave a brief background on the applicant. The applicant, Julian Smith, came forward and also commented on his background. He deals with privacy issues with his current job in the health insurance field. He noted for S. Mikutel he has not attended an Ethics meeting or read the Ethics ordinance, but noted he will do so. J. Smith noted he does attend a lot of the meetings his wife is involved in and Board of Education meetings. P. Anthony commented he is willing and seems to have the right attitude and enthusiasm and would be an asset. K. Skulczyck noted he feels the applicant is qualified and would be a good addition. S. Mikutel noted he appreciates the applicant being here.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to appoint Julian Smith as an alternate member of the Ethics Commission. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 7. Public Forum

**David Vieaux** - D. Vieaux noted he is concerned with the noise level in town. He noted that the CT DEP Title 22a Section 22a Part 69, Control of Noise, which basically says after 10 PM you cannot exceed 57 decibels. P. Anthony asked if it is enforced by the state and across the state. D. Vieaux noted the attorney out of New London for this area says it is enforceable but the state police will not enforce it. S. Mikutel commented the town has to take the initiative. D. Vieaux noted that was the suggestion made to him by the state police, that perhaps the town should adopt its own ordinance. K. Skulczyck noted it is something the town will consider.

**Ed Burdick** – E. Burdick wanted to amplify the idea of having a procedure and policy in place for appointing residents to commissions and it should apply to all Boards and Commissions. There is potential exposure for liability and litigation if something should happen should an alleged malefactor get in by lack of procedure. K. Skulczyck noted it is a good point and the BOS is going forward with a policy.

**Norm Sylvestre** – N. Sylvestre commented on the blight in town and nothing being done about it. K. Skulczyck noted the state police are the ordinance enforcement officer. P. Zvingilas is the zoning enforcement officer and the ordinances are enforceable by the state police. K. Skulczyck noted he has been working with the state police on clean up of a property with multiple used appliances outside. N. Sylvestre then emphasized the Town of Griswold needs to take action.

**Norm Higgins** – N. Higgins in front of his property over the wall is owned by the town and is blighted. The town has come by with a large mower, but it needs to be done again and more than one pass. N. Higgins also commented about the corner heading towards 138 from Pleasant View, if you stop at the line, you cannot see up the road to the left. It was good a couple of years ago when the issue was addressed, but they planted new bushes at that time, which have now grown. N. Higgins commented with the Bicentennial quickly approaching, a lot of people will be coming through this area.

## 8. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Lisa M. Wood**  
**Executive Assistant**