

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

SARAH D. COOK
MELINDA M. FERRY
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, May 11, 2020

Town Hall Meeting Hall and Via ZOOM Conferencing

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, James Prichard, John Turner, Ronald Stomberg; Present via ZOOM Conferencing: David Stavens, Melinda Ferry, Sarah Cook

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Webb, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator; Present via ZOOM Conferencing: Tiffany Pignataro, Finance Officer/Treasurer; Kevin Kenzenkovic, Temporary Finance Director; Susan Phillips, Hall Memorial Library Director; Joy Hollister, Human Services Director; Jim York, Fire Marshal; Jay Rich, Chief, Robert Smith, Deputy Chief, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department; Peter Hany, President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps; Michael Purcaro, Chairman, Board of Education; Peg Busse, David Olender, Joe Wehr, Board of Finance members; Betsi Feldman

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by First Selectman Spielman.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. CITIZENS' FORUM: No one came forward.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – April 13, 2020

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2020.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Town Meeting April 13, 2020 – Postponed/Reschedule to June 8, 2020

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ON JUNE 8, 2020 AT 6:45 PM IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING HALL, 55 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON [PUBLIC ACCESS VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING] TO DISCUSS AND VOTE UPON THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

- a. Ordinance: Snow and Ice Removal from Sidewalks
- b. Ordinance: Chapter 48. Wetland and Zoning Violations

B. Windermere School Project – Application Timeline in Review

Ms. Spielman stated that this project will be removed from the agenda until it becomes active.

C. 2020-2021 Budget: Acceptance of Board of Education Prepaid Grants:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT PREPAID GRANTS AND FUNDS FULLY REIMBURSABLE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JULY 1, 2020 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2021, AND TO APPROPRIATE THE SAME TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION IN A SUM ESTIMATED AT \$3,139,517, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Tax Refunds/Abatements

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,155.70 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS STATEMENT DATED MAY, 2020. [ATTACHED]

B. Probation: Patrick Sweeney, Police Officer, Ellington Resident State Troopers' Office

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT REGULAR EMPLOYEE STATUS TO OFFICER PATRICK SWEENEY, POLICE OFFICER, ELLINGTON RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS' OFFICE, EFFECTIVE MAY 6, 2020, AS RECOMMENDED BY SERGEANT BRIAN SANTA, ELLINGTON RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS' SUPERVISOR, RECOGNIZING THAT OFFICER SWEENEY HAS SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THE REQUIRED PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF THIRTY-NINE (39) SHIFTS WORKED.

C. Probation: Rebecca Einsiedel, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT REGULAR EMPLOYEE STATUS TO REBECCA EINSIEDEL, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/RECORDING SECRETARY, EFFECTIVE APRIL 21, 2020, AS RECOMMENDED BY FIRST SELECTMAN LORI SPIELMAN, RECOGNIZING THAT MS. EINSIEDEL HAS SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THE REQUIRED PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF 180 DAYS FROM DATE OF HIRE.

Ms. Cook was temporarily separated from the ZOOM meeting due to connection issues and therefore did not vote on items D and E.

D. Probation: Erich Martin, EMT/Ambulance Driver

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED BY THOSE PRESENT [AYE: TURNER/STOMBERG/PRICHARD/STAVENS/FERRY] TO GRANT REGULAR EMPLOYEE STATUS TO ERICH MARTIN, EMT/AMBULANCE DRIVER, EFFECTIVE APRIL 28, 2020, AS RECOMMENDED BY PETER HANY, PRESIDENT, ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS, RECOGNIZING THAT MR. MARTIN HAS SUCCESSFULLY PASSED THE REQUIRED PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF 180 DAYS FROM DATE OF HIRE.

E. Re-establish Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee

Ms. Spielman reported this Committee is very active and is instrumental in maintaining the health of Crystal Lake.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED BY THOSE PRESENT [AYE: TURNER/ STOMBERG/PRICHARD/STAVENS/FERRY] TO RE-ESTABLISH THE AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE FOR ONE YEAR TO MAY 31, 2021.

F. Stein Road Parking Area Project – referring the project to the Planning & Zoning Commission for a report pursuant to Conn. Gen Stat. §8-24

Ms. Ferry asked what the engineering cost was for the drawings that were provided to the BOS. Ms. Spielman said Russo Engineering did the specs and the cost was \$3,401.50; this came out of the Engineering budget.

Ms. Ferry said she has not heard of this project previously and asked if it came through the Recreation Department. Ms. Spielman said that this project has been in discussion with Recreation as well as the Ad Hoc Robert Tedford Memorial Committee. It is in the phase of developing an overall plan, but nothing is moving forward without the proper approvals.

Ms. Ferry said that she drove there today and it is very steep; she is concerned that it will require a lot of fill. She asked if stairs will be added. Ms. Spielman referred to the drawing which shows that there will be a trail that will connect to the existing trail. Ms. Spielman said that there are other jobs currently going on in Town so there is availability of fill for the project. Also, it will be topped off with millings for finish, but none of this will happen without the approvals. Ms. Ferry asked if at this point there will be no cost to the Town and Ms. Spielman said that this is correct.

Mr. Stavens asked which option presented is preferred and how many parking spaces there would be. Mr. Stomberg asked if the neighbors had been made aware and if they are comfortable with this. Ms. Spielman said that there are trails up there that the neighbors already use and this will enhance the area. Mr. Webb said that Option 1 [ATTACHED] is preferred as it has less impact on the neighborhood. He added that there is a sanitary sewer up there and there have been discussions with the neighbors in the area; further input from the neighbors will be very important going forward. Mr. Webb said that the parallel parking will provide 5 to 6 parking spaces.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE STEIN ROAD PARKING AREA PROJECT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A REPORT PURSUANT TO CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATE STATUTE SECTION § 8-24.

G. Postpone Commission Recognition Program to October 5, 2020 Board of Selectmen Meeting

Ms. Spielman requested that this recognition program be postponed in the event the Town Hall will be open in October.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RESCHEDULE THE COMMISSION RECOGNITION PROGRAM FROM THE JUNE 8, 2020 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING TO THE OCTOBER 5, 2020 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING TO RECOGNIZE COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD MEMBERS ALONG WITH EMPLOYEES WHO REACH YEARS OF SERVICE MILESTONES IN THE YEAR 2020, DUE TO THE SOCIAL DISTANCING RESTRICTIONS CAUSED BY THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS.

H. Parachute Activity at Ellington Airport/Annual Review

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT AIRPORT AUTHORITY THAT THE LICENSE TO PERMIT PARACHUTE JUMPING AT ELLINGTON AIRPORT BE RENEWED FOR ONE YEAR.

I. Town Personnel Policies Committee Referrals:

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED DRAFT POLICIES TO THE TOWN PERSONNEL POLICIES COMMITTEE TO STUDY, AND TO INCLUDE INPUT FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS, THE LABOR ATTORNEY, AND/OR THE HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS AS DEEMED BY THE COMMITTEE TO BE NECESSARY, AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

1. FMLA Leave Expansion and Emergency Paid Sick Leave Policy (Coronavirus): Ms. Cook asked if the Town had anyone apply for the FMLA Leave Expansion. Ms. Cannella said that there have been no employees to date, but there are two employees who are currently working from home, who may need to transition at some point.
2. Temporary Telecommuting Policy
3. Infectious Disease Control Policy
4. Communicable Disease Policy
5. Workplace Bullying Policy

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- A. Building Official
- B. Emergency Services
 1. Resident State Troopers' Office
 2. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps: Ms. Spielman commended EVAC for reaching 100% calls answered on the first call.
 3. Ellington Volunteer Fire Department
 4. Crystal Lake Fire Department
 5. Emergency Management Director
- C. Fire Marshal
- D. Hall Memorial Library
- E. Tax & Revenue Collector
- F. Town Planner
- G. Human Services Department
- H. Finance Department
 1. Financial Highlights Report: Ms. Spielman referred the BOS members to the format of the report submitted by Ms. Pignataro, commenting that the report is a great summary and a breath of fresh air. Mr. Stavens said that the report was very good.

Ms. Cook asked if there is any information regarding if the summer camps were going to be open this summer. Ms. Spielman said that has been approval for limited camps.

VIII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Personnel Committee
 1. Resignations: There were none.
 2. Appointments

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT DAVID ARZT, JEAN BURNS, J. ALBERT BRETON JR., RODGER HOSIG, AND VICTOR LAPTIK TO THE AD HOC CRYSTAL LAKE MILFOIL COMMITTEE TO ONE-YEAR TERMS ENDING MAY 31, 2021.

Ms. Spielman reappointed Joy Hollister as Municipal Agent to a two-year term ending June 1, 2022.

B. Other: There were none.

IX. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS:

Ms. Ferry, as liaison for the Board of Education, Human Services and Hall Memorial Library commended the employees for having done an outstanding job dealing with working around the Coronavirus. She said she appreciates that they have adapted. Ms. Spielman said that it is quite a challenge.

X. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

A. New Hires

- Hunter Foisy, EMT/Ambulance Driver, Per Diem

B. Resignations/Retirements

- Jacqueline Wagner, Tax Clerk
- Lori Smith, Recording Secretary, Permanent Building Committee: Ms. Spielman commented that Ms. Smith had been the Recording Secretary for this Committee for over 30 years.

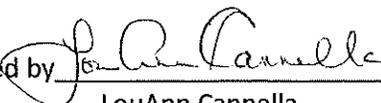
C. Other:

- Ms. Spielman said she has been getting some complaints regarding dirt bikes around Town and at the Batz property.
- Ms. Spielman said that the Town is finally the proud owner of 72 Maple Street. Mr. Turner asked if there are any plans set to remove the house. Ms. Spielman said that the tenants will be leaving on June 6 and the process of removing the items on the property will begin; the project will move forward from there. Mr. Turner asked if the Fire Chiefs could be involved in the removal of the house and perhaps plan to use it for some training.
- Public Works will be installing plexi glass throughout some Town offices for protection. Ms. Spielman said that many employees are working at the Town Offices.
- Ms. Spielman said that that the Farmers' Market was held at Ellington High School last Saturday and it was very successful. People pre-ordered and picked up their items. Mr. Turner asked if it will be held weekly and Ms. Spielman said that it will. She added that EVAC was handing out masks and that the traffic flow was very good.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

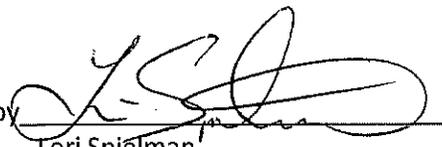
MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 7:32 P.M.

Submitted by



LouAnn Cannella
Recording Secretary

Approved by



Lori Spielman
First Selectman

TOWN OF ELLINGTON
TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR'S REFUND REPORT
MAY 2020

V.I.A

Amount	Name	Tax	GL Year	Requesting Dept.	Reason
\$65.46	AUBIN SALLY B	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	JUNKED OCT 2019
\$7.70	CANTY BRUCE E + CANTY ROBYN M	MVS	2018	ASSESSOR	REG IN FL AUG 2019
\$202.28	CCAP AUTO LEASE LTD	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	SOLD TO LEASEE APRIL 2019
\$71.53	LAPOINTE ROBERT D JR	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	REG IN FL MAY 2019
\$176.98	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	SOLD APRIL 2019
\$345.14	TOYOTA LEASE TRUST	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	SOLD NOV 2018
\$39.60	VW CREDIT INC	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	SOLD AUG 2019
\$247.01	VW CREDIT INC	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	SOLD APRIL 2019
<u>\$1,155.70</u>	REFUND TOTAL FOR MAY 2020				

