



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
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www.ellington-ct.gov

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, October 5, 2020

Town Hall Meeting Hall and Via ZOOM Conferencing

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, James Prichard, John Turner, Sarah Cook, Melinda Ferry; David Stavens (via Zoom)

SELECTMAN ABSENT: Ronald Stomberg

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Webb, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator; Peter Hany, Sr., President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC); James York, Fire Marshal; Brian Greenleaf, Director of Finance and Operations, Ellington Public Schools (arrived 7:54 pm)

PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Felicia LaPlante, Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer; Betsi Feldman, Treasurer, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD); Lauren Desrocher, Chairman, Linda Anderson, Valerie Amsel, Bruce Dinnie, Ad Hoc Ellington Trails Committee; Susan Phillips, Director, Hall Memorial Library (HML); Keith Durao, Peg Busse, Jim Fay, Allie Burdick, Danielle McCoy, Rachel Steel, Wendy Peterson

- I. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by First Selectman Spielman.
- II. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
- III. **CITIZENS' FORUM:**

Keith Durao, 24 Hayes Avenue, stated that he was in attendance at the September 14, 2020 BOS Meeting, but was not listed in the minutes. He also spoke about the comments made regarding the alleged violation of the Personnel Rules and Regulations item from the September BOS meeting.

Peg Busse, 37 Abbott Road, referenced an article from the September 18, 2020 Journal Inquirer that discussed a land purchase by Vernon that was partially over the Ellington town line.

Jim Fay, 53 Shenipsit Street, thanked the BOS for having the Zoom recordings of the meetings on the Town website, and offered to record any future meetings. He inquired about the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion, and also commented on which Personnel Rules and Regulations were applicable to Elected Officials.

Allie Burdick, 16 Crystal Ridge Drive, shared that she is the Director of Ellington Equality; she provided background information on the group, and its overall mission and goals.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**A. September 14, 2020 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**

The members agreed to amend the September 14, 2020 minutes to reflect the attendance of Keith Durao.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, AS AMENDED.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was none.**VI. NEW BUSINESS:****A. Tax Refunds/Abatements**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,842.57 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS STATEMENT DATED OCTOBER, 2020. [ATTACHED]

B. Snow Plow Contract: Cooker Construction 1-Year Extension

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE ASSISTANT FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH COOKER CONSTRUCTION, SOMERS, CT, TO PROVIDE SNOW PLOWING SERVICES AS OUTLINED IN "ARTICLE 3: DATES OF COMMENCEMENT, TERM AND OPTION TO RENEW" IN THE CURRENT CONTRACT, FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO APRIL 30, 2021, UPON ALL OF THE SAME TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE CURRENT CONTRACT, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. FURTHER, TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT EXTENSION.

C. Board of Selectmen 2021 Meeting Schedule

Sarah Cook requested that the next Charter Revision Commission review the meeting requirements to potentially consolidate or remove a budget-related meeting.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE FOR THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, AS PRESENTED IN THE DRAFT. [ATTACHED]

D. Ad Hoc Trails Committee: Proposal for Batz Property Improvements

Lauren Desrocher, Chairman of the Trails Committee, spoke to the two projects they are looking into for the Batz Property: a viewing platform over a pond and a non-permanent amphitheater. Trails Committee member Linda Anderson shared that they would be seeking grant money upon the approval of these projects; at this time, they would just like to be able to move forward to see if the projects are feasible. First Selectman Spielman thanked the Committee for everything they've done in progressing Ellington's trails system and offered to assist with the amphitheater project. Tim Webb recommended that they look into the America the Beautiful grant program.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF A VIEWING PLATFORM AND WILDFLOWER/POLLINATOR FIELD AT THE BATZ PROPERTY, 97 SHENIPSIT STREET, AS ENDORSED BY THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REFER THE BATZ PROPERTY AMPHITHEATER PROJECT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION TO SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT STATE STATUTE SECTION §8-24.

E. Authorization to Appoint Temporary Special Counsel

Melinda Ferry asked if there were limitations to the choice of counsel, and if this was a good use of Town funds. First Selectman Spielman stated that specialized counsel would be looked into, and Ms. Cook expressed that she felt it would be a good investment.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED THAT THE FIRST SELECTMAN IS AUTHORIZED TO APPOINT TEMPORARY SPECIAL COUNSEL, AS REQUESTED BY THE FIRST SELECTMAN, TO OBTAIN A SECOND OPINION ON AN EMPLOYMENT RELATED MATTER.

F. Surplus Equipment, Department of Public Works

Mr. Webb explained that the item being disposed of is an old wood chipper that is no longer working well.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO DISPOSE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT AS REQUESTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS IN HIS MEMO TO THE FIRST SELECTMAN DATED SEPTEMBER 28, 2020 [ATTACHED].

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

- A. Building Official
- B. Emergency Services
 - 1. Resident State Troopers' Office
 - 2. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps: The running of the 2nd ambulance was discussed. With the current uncertainty of the FEMA reimbursement, it was recommended that EVAC look at the call data and availability of paid staff versus volunteers to make future staffing decisions.
 - 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. Finance Department: Peter Hany, Sr. shared that EVAC was able to sell 10 extra pagers at \$50 each, so \$500 will be returned to the EVAC Charging Fund.
- H. Human Services Department: The first meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity and Inclusion is scheduled for October 14th; First Selectman Spielman plans to attend.
- I. Recreation Department
- J. Department of Public Works Quarterly Report: Mr. Webb acknowledged the outstanding work being done by the crews in light of the current challenges.

VIII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Personnel Committee: No resignations or appointments were addressed.
- B. Town Ordinance Committee
 - 1. Ordinance Committee Recommendations to the BOS
 - a) Revision to Chapter 74, Article II – Open Burning
 - b) Ordinance: Medical Self Insurance Fund

John Turner shared that the Open Burning revision was a routine adjustment of a definition, and that while the Insurance Fund will take time to build and fully implement, there's potential to save money down the road.

- 2. BOS Recommendations for Adoption of Ordinances

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED REVISION TO CHAPTER 74, ARTICLE II – OPEN BURNING AS RECOMMENDED BY THE FIRE MARSHAL.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED ORDINANCE – BOARD OF EDUCATION MEDICAL SELF INSURANCE FUND.

- 3. Set Public Hearing

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020 AT 7:00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING HALL, 55 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, AS WELL AS OVER ZOOM TELECONFERENCING, TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO COMMENT ON THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

- a) Revision to Chapter 74, Article II – Open Burning
- b) Ordinance: Medical Self Insurance Fund

- 4. Set Town Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ON DECEMBER 14, 2020 AT 7:00 PM IN THE TOWN HALL MEETING HALL, 55 MAIN STREET, ELLINGTON, AS WELL AS OVER ZOOM TELECONFERENCING, TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ORDINANCES:

- a) Revision to Chapter 74, Article II – Open Burning
- b) Ordinance: Medical Self Insurance Fund

IX. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS:

Ad Hoc Crystal Lake Milfoil Committee: Mr. Turner shared that Dave Arzt does an outstanding job with this Committee; First Selectman Spielman added that the dam project has been completed.

X. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

- A. Staff:
 - 1. New Hires:
 - Suzanne Davis, Temporary Clerk, Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
 - Linda Suhr, Temporary Clerk, Town Clerk/Registrar Offices
 - 2. Resignations/Retirements/Other: There were none.
 - 3. Promotion/Transfer/Etc.

- Patricia Choiniere from Administrative Secretary to Accounting Assistant— Finance Office
- B. Other:** Ms. Spielman updated the BOS on Town activities.
- Employee Recognition: This event will be held when photos and a proper gathering can safely occur. First Selectman Spielman recognized the following: Allen Bump, Marine Police, 40 Years; Bart Alexander, Police, 25 Years; Lisa Kuraska, Library Assistant, 25 Years; Diane McKeegan, Town Clerk, 25 Years; Kim Gallicchio, Lead Custodian, 20 Years; Gay Szumyk, Library Assistant, 20 Years; Kim Gambacorta, Assistant Animal Control Officer, 10 Years; Michael Hesnan, Marine Police, 10 Years; Deborah Landry-Schiessl, EMT/Ambulance Driver, 10 Years.
 - Staff Training – 52 employees participated in recent CIRMA Sexual Harrassment Prevention and Bloodborne Pathogens training – a makeup session will be held in December, and an online option has been provided.
 - Over 40 employees and family members received a flu shot at the Town of Ellington Flu Clinic held on September 29, 2020.
 - The Long Term Recovery Committee held its first meeting in September; the Committee will reconvene on Tuesday, October 27 at 2:00 pm.
 - Boxes of fresh food and body wash were split between Ellington, Vernon and Stafford; these items were distributed between Human Services, the Crystal Lake Food Pantry, the Senior Center, Hall Memorial Library and Snipsic Village.
 - The old Valley Fish building, formerly the Cogswell School, is being taken down. The Historical Society is saving what is salvageable for the Nellie McKnight Museum; there is a lot of old documentation and photographs, as well as intact woodwork that may be interesting to display.
 - First Selectman Spielman has been involved in diversity training in person, online, and working in conjunction with the Manchester Police.
 - A large barn fire at 267 Jobs Hill Road occurred on Friday, October 2; the fire departments acted promptly, and the community rallied to round up and board the 39 displaced horses at the location.
 - The Nellie McKnight Museum will have an Open House and Grand Opening of the new Farm Exhibit on October 17; there will also be a pumpkin carving/decorating contest. Social distancing will be practiced.
 - A “meet the candidates” program at Hall Memorial Library has been organized by the Ellington Equality group for October 19th; Mr. Webb stated that the Main Street sidewalk project may be in progress by then. Mr. Turner reminded those present that proper paperwork should always be completed for events on Town Property.

XI. CORRESPONDENCE: There was none.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 8:05 PM.

Submitted by


 Julia Connor
 Deputy Recording Secretary

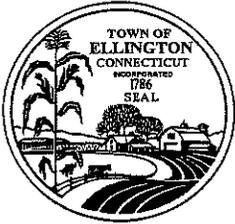
Approved by


 Lori Spielman
 First Selectman

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

VIA

Amount	Name	Tax	GL Year	Requesting Dept.	Reason
\$16.34	CATE DARIN S	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD FEBRUARY 2020
\$966.22	CORELOGIC CENTRALIZED REFUNDS (161 West Shore Rd)	RE	2017	ASSESSOR	CORRECTED HOUSE ASSMT PER INSPECTION
\$1,033.76	CORELOGIC CENTRALIZED REFUNDS (161 West Shore Rd)	RE	2018	ASSESSOR	CORRECTED HOUSE ASSMT PER INSPECTION
\$71.72	DESANTIS JOSEPH H	MV	2018	ASSESSOR	CORRECTED ASSMT - JET SKI TRAILER
\$34.39	GADBOIS KENNETH S + JOANNE L	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	REG IN ME JUNE 2020
\$96.82	GERBER CONSTRUCTIN INC	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	TOTAL LOSS MAY 2020
\$19.79	GERBER CONSTRUCTIN INC	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SCRAPPED JUNE 2020
\$72.02	KULINSKI ALEXA R	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	REG IN NY JULY 2020
\$19.76	LUGINBUHL LESLIE H	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD JULY 2020
\$391.85	MCBRIDE ZACHARY E + JAMES N	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	APPLY AOA EXEMPTION
\$24.74	METZ PAMELA G	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	REG IN SC AUGUST 2020
\$8.48	PALOZEJ EDWARD M	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD AUGUST 2020
\$63.12	PICARD BARBARA M + BRIAN P	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	REG IN NH AUGUST 2020
\$73.74	PICARD BRIAN P + BARBARA M	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD JUNE 2020
\$51.09	SHORTS MARY + DOUGLAS A	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD AUGUST 2020
\$94.37	STACKS THOMAS J + SUSAN M	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	TRANSF TO DAUGHTER JANUARY 2020
\$10.00	TOMPKINS SHIRLEY A	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	JUNKED JULY 2020
\$473.51	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD MARCH 2020
\$222.00	VCFS AUTO LEASING CO	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD MARCH 2020
\$43.92	WHITE DANIEL R	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD FEBRUARY 2020
\$54.93	WILBER SARAH L	MV	2019	ASSESSOR	SOLD APRIL 2020
\$3,842.57	REFUND TOTAL FOR OCTOBER 2020				



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Board of Selectmen 2021 Meeting Schedule

All Board of Selectmen (BOS) Meetings will start at **7:00 p.m.** and are held in the Town Hall Meeting Hall/via ZOOM (when necessary). **Bold** indicates Board of Finance meetings regarding the **Town Budget**.

Note: Board of Finance Meetings will also be held at 7:00 p.m.

January	4	Monday	Board of Selectmen Capital Improvements Hearing with Board of Finance members in attendance
	11	Monday	Regular Meeting
	25	Monday	Capital Improvements Deliberations (Capital Improvements Committee Recommendations)
February	8	Monday	Regular Meeting
	16	Tuesday	Board of Finance Meeting - Board of Selectmen Capital Improvements Presentation
	22	Monday	Board of Selectmen 2021-2022 Budget Meeting
March	8	Monday	Regular Meeting
	9	Tuesday	Board of Finance Meeting - Board of Selectmen 2021-2022 Budget Presentation
April	12	Monday	Regular Meeting
	13	Tuesday	Board of Finance Budget Public Hearing at Ellington High School at 7:00 PM
May	10	Monday	Regular Meeting
	11	Tuesday	Annual Town Budget Meeting at Ellington High School at 7:00 PM
June	14	Monday	Regular Meeting <i>and Commission Member Recognition</i>
July	12	Monday	Regular Meeting
August	9	Monday	Regular Meeting
September	13	Monday	Regular Meeting
October	4	Monday	Regular Meeting <i>and Employee Recognition</i>
November	8	Monday	Regular Meeting
December	6	Monday	2021-2023 Board of Selectmen Organizational Meeting
	13	Monday	Regular Meeting



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

Department of Public Works

Timothy Webb
Director/WPCA Admin.

21 MAIN STREET - PO BOX 187
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Lori Spielman, First Selectman

FROM: Timothy M. Webb, Director of Public Works *T.M. Webb*

DATE: September 28, 2020

RE: Surplus Equipment, Department of Public Works

The Public Works Department is seeking to surplus the 1994 Morbark Model 17 Wood Chipper. This unit was recently replaced via the 2020 Capital Improvement Budget. The Chipper will be placed on the Munic-ibid upon Board of Selectman approval.

ljs