



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786

# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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LORI L. SPIELMAN  
First Selectman

DAVID E. STAVENS  
Deputy First Selectman

MELINDA M. FERRY  
JAMES M. PRICHARD  
RONALD F. STOMBERG  
JOHN W. TURNER  
CHARLOTTE J. WARD

## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, June 13, 2022

Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall  
and via ZOOM Conferencing

Before the meeting, the following Board/Commission/Committee/Agency members were recognized for 10, 20, 25 and 30 years of service to the Town of Ellington:

### TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

Bruce Warkentin, Ad Hoc Patriotic Committee  
Christopher Weitz, Parks and Recreation Commission

### TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Mary Bartley, Ad Hoc Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture  
Diane Lasher-Penti, Ad Hoc Council for Developing Positive Youth Culture  
Donald Gobeille, Jr., Building Code Board of Appeals  
Kevin Hayes, Parks and Recreation Commission

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

Peter Welti, Permanent Building Committee  
Daniel Parisi, Water Pollution Control Authority

### THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

Yale Cantor, Human Services Commission

The First Selectman sent a card of thanks to each member who has served for 5 and 15 years, as well, and expressed thanks to all who volunteer to serve the Town of Ellington.

## MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, David Stavens, James Prichard, John Turner, Melinda Ferry, Charlotte Ward, Ronald Stomberg

OTHERS PRESENT: Timothy Webb, Ken Radziwon, Directors of Public Works/WPCA Administrators; Walter Lee, Emergency & Risk Management Director; Jack Rich II, Chief, Karl Neubecker, Assistant Chief, Ellington Volunteer Fire Department (EVFD); State Representative Jaime Foster; Peter Hany, Sr., President, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps (EVAC); Sgt. Brian Santa, Resident State Troopers' Supervisor; \*Mary Blanchette, Chairman, Library Board of Trustees; \*Tiffany Pignataro, Finance Officer/Treasurer; Tom Palshaw

\*Attended via ZOOM

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. CITIZENS' FORUM [non-agenda items]: No citizens came forward.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. May 9, 2022 Regular Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 9, 2022.

B. May 10, 2022 Annual Town Budget Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2022.

C. May 17, 2022 Special Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2022.

D. May 25, 2022 Special Town Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF MAY 25, 2022.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no unfinished business to discuss.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tax Refunds/Abatements

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,926.78 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ABATEMENTS STATEMENT DATED JUNE 2022 [ATTACHED].

B. Legislative Update – State Representative Jaime Foster

State Representative Foster provided the BOS with an update on recent legislative action. Financial highlights included the following: \$50,000 for Crystal Lake and Robert Tedford Memorial Park improvements; \$25,000 for a Hall Memorial Library Reading Garden; \$25,000 for the Nellie McKnight Museum; \$57,000 for a Senior Center Fitness Area; \$9 million for the Windermere Building Project; \$224,000 for Main Street Improvements; \$24,000 for Police Dash/Body Cameras. Representative Foster also provided information on multiple bills that will positively impact certain special interest groups. There has been an increase in the standards and oversight of nursing homes, increased penalties for adult sexual misconduct and improved intervention protocols, increased mental health offerings for children, improved child care, stronger customer data privacy and protection laws, and increased coverage for breast and ovarian cancer. A Juvenile Justice Bill will allow accelerated timeframes for arraignment and provide for electronic monitoring, among other provisions. For law enforcement, firefighters and military personnel, there are bills to decrease paperwork for certain traffic incidents, a bill to protect individuals who seek mental health care, a program to lessen taxes for veterans, an expanded firefighter cancer relief program, and increased funding for rural speeding protection measures. Other items of interest included protection for survivors of domestic violence, improved air quality in schools, energy and the environment, tax changes, well water contamination prevention, a catalytic converter bill, and the "Bowsza Bill" which allows towns with a Town Meeting form of government to deputize their Boards of Selectmen to enter into fixed tax assessments to recruit business to their tax base.

### C. Resident State Trooper Contract Amendment

Mr. Stavens commented that the contract amendment only references the Animal Control Officer, and asked if the supervision will extend to all Animal Control staff. Sgt. Santa offered to check with the attorney who prepared the amendment, but noted that the intention of the amendment was to cover all staff.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2021-2023 CONTRACT BETWEEN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF STATE POLICE, AND THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT THE SUPERVISION OF THE TOWN'S ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICE WILL TRANSFER TO THE OFFICE OF THE RESIDENT STATE TROOPERS' SUPERVISOR, EFFECTIVE JUNE 14, 2022.

#### 1. Animal Control Officer Job Description Revisions

First Selectmen Spielman shared that a main concern with the current system was the lack of oversight; when Animal Control calls came in, no one else knew where the staff member was. Connecting to the Tolland County Mutual Aid service will create a safer environment for the staff. Chief Rich asked if the calls would be on the same frequency as fire calls; Mr. Turner stated that they would be on a different line.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS TO THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTION.

### D. Town Administrator Position

Mr. Turner asked if the job description had been finalized; First Selectmen Spielman stated that it had, and she will ensure that all members have a copy prior to the Public Hearing.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING FOR AUGUST 8, 2022 AT 6:00 PM.

### E. Exempt Salary Ranges 2022-2023

Discussion was held on the number of employees this effects and where they fall within the current ranges.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCREASE THE EXEMPT SALARY CLASSIFICATION MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM RANGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023 BY THREE PERCENT (3%).

### F. Closeout of Capital Projects – FY 2021-22

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (WARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE OUT THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS TO THE GENERAL FUND UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE FOR FY 2021-22, LOCIP \$99.91, DPW-SNOW PLOW/DUMP TRUCK \$3.11, LAND PURCHASE 72 MAPLE STREET \$15,323.27, EVFD-SECURITY SYSTEM UPGRADE \$639.26, ACCOUNTING SYSTEM CONVERSION \$49,263, FIRE MARSHAL VEHICLE \$(663.21), DPW BRUSH CHIPPER \$185.64, EMERGENCY SERVICES PORTABLE RADIO REPLACEMENT \$7,225.03, CLFD DIESEL EXHAUST REMOVAL SYSTEM \$19,674, CLFD SERVICE VEHICLE REPLACEMENT \$110.21 AND PHONE SYSTEM-MERKARI ETHERNET SWITCHES \$490.12.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (WARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE OUT THE FOLLOWING CAPITAL PROJECTS TO THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND FOR FY 2021-22, PURCHASE OF 80 MAPLE STREET \$705.80 AND EVAC AMBULANCE ROOF REPLACEMENT \$3,216.

### G. Budget Execution

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (WARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER TO EXPEND BOARDS', AGENCIES' AND DEPARTMENTS' BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY 2022 AND AUGUST 2022.

### H. Tree Services Contract – Recommendation from Public Works

Mr. Stavens asked if the extension would have the same pricing levels. Mr. Webb stated that the vendor was maintaining current pricing levels, and that this item will need to go out to bid next year. For reimbursements for FEMA events, the Town must have a valid tree services contract in place.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER TO RENEW THE CONTRACT WITH MOUNTAIN TREE SERVICE OF SOMERS, CT TO PROVIDE TREE TRIMMING, REMOVAL AND MAINTENANCE SERVICES AS OUTLINED IN ARTICLE 3: "DATES OF COMMENCEMENT, TERM

& OPTION TO RENEW" IN THE CURRENT CONTRACT, FOR A ONE-YEAR EXTENSION TO AUGUST 31, 2023, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS. FURTHER TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT EXTENSION.

I. Ice Cream Vendor for Sandy Beach

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO AWARD THE CONTRACT TO NANA'S ICE CREAM, STAFFORD SPRINGS, CT FOR ICE CREAM VENDOR SERVICES AT SANDY BEACH FOR THE 2022 BEACH SEASON, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE RECREATION DIRECTOR.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Building Department

B. Emergency Services

1. Resident State Troopers' Office: Mr. Turner commented on the new statistical information that was included and asked if it was all inclusive for the Town; Sgt. Santa said that it was, and added that this information was the most accurate reporting data. Mr. Turner stated that it better illustrates the full picture of police activity in Town. Sgt. Santa shared that they have been very busy so far in June. Mr. Stavens noted that Tpr. Hill was transferring back to Troop C. Sgt. Santa also commented on the benefits of the Animal Control Office being under their supervision moving forward.
2. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps: Mr. Stavens noted that there were a lot of mutual aid calls to Vernon during the month of May. President Hany stated that there was a large increase in overall calls compared to the historical data and that it was their busiest month to date.
3. Ellington Volunteer Fire Department: Chief Rich shared that Brendan Burke stepped down as Assistant Chief and introduced Karl Neubecker, who would be taking on the role. He noted that they have also seen an increase in calls.
4. Crystal Lake Fire Department
5. Emergency & Risk Management Director

C. Fire Marshal

D. Hall Memorial Library

E. Tax & Revenue Collector

F. Town Planner

G. Finance Department

H. Human Services Department

I. Recreation Department

- Parks and Recreation Summer Staff Roster

VII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel Committee:

1. Resignations:

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATIONS OF AMY MONDSCHEN AND SUZANNE MOREAU FROM THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION.

2. Appointments:

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT JONATHAN KACZMAREK AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY TO COMPLETE AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2024.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPOINT ELIZABETH NORD TO THE INSURANCE ADVISORY BOARD TO COMPLETE AN UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING APRIL 30, 2025.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MARC DIWINSKY TO THE COMMUNITY VOICE CHANNEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE A TWO-YEAR TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2024.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT DIANNE TRUEB AND FRED JOURNALIST TO THE NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO SERVE THREE-YEAR TERMS ENDING JUNE 30, 2025.

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT MICHAEL SWANSON TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY TO SERVE A FIVE-YEAR TERM ENDING JUNE 30, 2027.

B. Town Policies Committee

1. Update: Mr. Turner stated that they were still working through the required language for the police dash/body cameras and that this is currently with the Town Attorney for review. Sgt. Santa and Walter Lee have provided input. Mr. Turner commented that while this is supposed to be in place for July 1, most communities are not on schedule to meet that deadline.

VIII. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS

**E-911:** Mr. Turner mentioned that new officers were in place at EVFD, and that they will be having a meeting with EVAC and CLFD so that the agencies can continue to foster good working relationships and coordinate training schedules. The Chiefs of the emergency agencies met with the Board of Finance; funding was secured for remediation regarding PFAS foam issues. This is a significant step forward to eliminate litigation down the road. Mr. Turner also reported on a few recent incidents in Town, and shared that EVAC would be holding a 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event on July 9 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

IX. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

A. Staffing:

1. New Hires
  - Ken Radziwon, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator
  - Jesse Lee, Department of Public Works Seasonal Worker
  - John Streiber, Marine Patrol Vessel Operator
2. Resignation/Retirement/Termination
  - Michael Bigda, EMT
3. Promotion/Transfers/Probation Completion
  - James Lockhart, Assistant Animal Control Officer (per diem) - successfully passed probation

B. Other – Ms. Spielman reported the following:

- She is working on staff evaluations, and shared that the monthly staff meetings, which rotate to different departments and locations, are going well and have been very productive.

X. CORRESPONDENCE: None.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Julia Connor, Recording Secretary

  
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Lori Spielman, First Selectman

TOWN OF HALLINGTON  
TAX AND REVENUE COLLECTOR'S REFUND REPORT  
JUNE 2022

Amount	Name	Tax	GL Year	Requesting Dept.	Reason
\$593.29	Barber Utilities, LLC	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold March 2021
\$81.25	Boucher, Jason A	MV	2020	Assessor	Junked February 2021
\$2,182.42	Lyons, William J & Beverly A	RE	2020	Tax	Overpayment
\$599.83	VW Credit Leasing LTD	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold October 2020
\$992.56	VW Credit Leasing LTD	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold September 2020
\$353.29	VW Credit Leasing LTD	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold September 2020
\$765.98	VW Credit Leasing LTD	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold September 2020
\$358.16	VW Credit Leasing LTD	MV	2020	Assessor	Sold October 2020
<b>\$5,926.78</b>	<b>REFUND TOTAL FOR JUNE 2022</b>				