

Town of Willington

Board of Selectmen
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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Meeting Minutes

In person; TOB, Common Room & Virtual Meeting via Zoom

April 18, 2022

6:30 PM

**Minutes are not official until approved at the next regular meeting*

First Selectwoman Wiczenski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance: Selectman Bulick in person and Selectwoman Boritz and residents via Zoom.

Pledge of Allegiance

First Selectwoman Wiczenski congratulated Dr. Selectwoman Boritz on the completion of her PhD from the University of Connecticut.

Approval of Minutes

None.

Present To Speak

None.

Correspondence

Correspondence list presented to the BOS; all correspondence is on file in the First Selectwoman's Office. First Selectwoman Wiczenski stated that one of the correspondence letters was a letter of thanks from the Town of Hebron Town Manager in regard to our Animal Control Officer Tina Binheimer and her staff on their efforts and work for their assistance given during an animal recovery incident in the Town of Hebron.

First Selectwoman's Status Report

- A. **STEAP Grant:** Signed the STEAP grant for the Old Town Hall septic with the State and hope to start moving the project forward in the Spring.
- B. **School Building Committee:** The next meeting for the SBC is this Wednesday, April 20th at 6:30pm. At the last meeting, there was an executive session to discuss potential land acquisition as well as assessing potential options and the potential of renovating Hall School.
- C. **LOTICIP:** This LOTICIP project is the sidewalk project on Route 32 that will run between Hall Middle School and the Mills. The RFP is out to bid currently; questions are due this week and then the RFP will be due in a few weeks.
- D. **Truck Lease:** Still awaiting the F-350. No new information available.
- E. **ARPA:** This will be discussed later in tonight's meeting.
- F. **Union Negotiations:** This will be discussed later in tonight's meeting.

G. Staffing Update: There are currently three openings in town positions that are in progress. The Assistant Transfer Station Operator position closes next week; that is three days a week at the Transfer Station (Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday). Currently, candidates are being interviewed for the Payroll Coordinator position, as Amanda's last day is next Wednesday 04/27. The Public Works' Director hiring committee has decided to extend the posting to allow for more applicants.

H. COVID-19 Update: As of 04/14/2022, the Town has a 69.0% fully vaccinated rate; that is an additional 5% increase in fully vaccinated residents than reported on 04/04/2022. Since the last meeting, there have been 7 new positive COVID cases; cumulatively that is 640 cases and 73 probable cases total. Willington is now back in the Yellow Category as the case rates have increased slightly. Willington is currently at a case rate of 7.3 cases per 100,000 as of last Thursday; at the last BOS meeting this number was 6.1. At this time, the mask mandate will be evaluated as needed.

Selectman Bulick inquired about the Old Town Hall STEAP project and the use of the Green.

Public Works

Lucien Bessette, the crew leader, is currently assisting in the duties in the absence of a Director. First Selectwoman Wiczenski reported a list of the items performed by Public Works recently:

- Street sweeping continues to occur, dependent on the weather;
- Road grading continues, depending on the weather as well.

Old Business

A. ARPA Commission Update

The ARPA Commission met today and discussed new projects. A public hearing date was not set today, but may occur at the end of May as there is still information the Commission is awaiting. There were a few new requests today: the Senior Center is requesting funding for technology upgrades/computer upgrades at the Senior Center for approximately \$3,000.00, as well as a request from the Willington Housing Authority for approximately \$200,000.00 for an emergency generator for Button Hill, as well as an emergency call button system. The Commission has requested additional information on these projects.

Two projects were closed out today by the Commission as completed projects (the Senior Center air conditioning work and the air purifiers for the Town Office Building) and returned an estimated \$5,000.00. The TOB basement project should be closed out by the middle of May and will return an estimated \$14,000.00. The radios that Public Works ordered should be an estimated \$10,000.00 under budget. The close out process is to close out the project and then return any unspent funds to Fund 19 (ARPA funding) when the project is completed and all invoices/bills have been received.

The first round of reporting is April 30th so the Town Business Manager is preparing that work.

New Business

A. Refunds

First Selectwoman Wiczenski moved to refund ACAR Leasing LTD a Certificate of Correction in the amount of \$301.79.

Selectman Bulick seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiczenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to refund ACAR Leasing LTD a Certificate of Correction in the amount of \$88.83.

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to refund Nissan Infiniti LT LLC a Certificate of Correction in the amount of \$221.03.

Selectman Bulick seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to refund Nissan Infiniti LT LLC a Certificate of Correction in the amount of \$306.65.

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to refund Nissan Infiniti LT LLC a Certificate of Correction in the amount of \$159.93.

Selectman Bulick seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

Present to Speak

None.

Good & Welfare

Troop C March Report: 382 calls for service; 11 accidents, 8 criminal investigations, 0 burglaries, 2 larcenies, 231 non-reportable matters and 7 arrests. For motor vehicle enforcement: 123 total traffic stops, 3 onsite dui's, 4 arrests, 1 misdemeanor summons, 43 infractions, 19 written warnings, 51 verbal warnings.

Mobile FoodShare will be at the TOB next Wednesday, April 27th from 11:00am to 11:30am as a drive through model.

As always, please continue to support our small businesses and restaurants in town.

May 16th is the second monthly meeting in May and First Selectwoman Wiecenski will not be available; Selectman Bulick may also have a potential conflict that night as well and Selectman Boritz agreed in canceling or rescheduling the meeting. If there is a need for a meeting after the May 2nd meeting but prior to the June 6th meeting, then a Special meeting will be held at a different date in place of the regular May 16th meeting.

As a reminder, tomorrow (Tuesday, April 19th) is the annual town budget meeting that will adjourn to referendum on May 3rd. The town meeting is ONLY in person tomorrow at the Old Town Hall at 7:00pm and is not via Zoom.

Executive Session – Discussion Regarding Proposed Town Hall & DPW Employees Union Contract

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to enter into Executive Session regarding the proposed DPW Employees Union Contract and invited Attorney Ryan O'Donnell.

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

Executive Session began at 6:49 PM.

Executive Session ended at 7:17 PM.

Vote – Town Hall & DPW Employees Union Contract

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the previously, tentatively approved working agreement between the Town of Willington and the Town Hall and DPW Employees Local #1303-121 of Council #4, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024.

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

Discussion: First Selectwoman Wiecenski publicly thanked Attorney Ryan O'Donnell for his diligent work in this manner on behalf of the Town over the last year.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

Selectman Bulick moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

3 Yes (Boritz, Bulick & Wiecenski) 0 No. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelsey Allard
Recording Secretary
Town of Willington

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WILLINGTON, CT.

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TOWN CLERK