

TOWN OF WILLINGTON

Board of Selectmen
40 Old Farms Road
Willington, CT 06279
(860) 487-3100
(860) 487-3103 Fax
www.willingtonct.org

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Meeting Minutes
Via web interaction (via Zoom platform)

January 19, 2021
6:30 PM

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

First Selectwoman Wiecenski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with the following in attendance; Selectmen Boritz & Blessington and residents.

Approval of Minutes

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the BOS Budget workshop minutes of January 4, 2021 as written.

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Wiecenski, Boritz & Blessington) 0 No.

Motion Carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the BOS Regular minutes of January 4, 2021 with the following edits.

Page 4 under refunds the 2 refunds should reflect a vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski)

Page 4 correction to the last name spelling, it should be Alford.

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Wiecenski, Boritz & Blessington) 0 No.

Motion Carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the BOS Budget workshop minutes of January 11, 2021 minutes with the following edits.

Page 1 states page 1 of 1 and should reflect 1 of 2

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Wiecenski, Boritz & Blessington) 0 No.

Motion Carried.

Present To Speak

Correspondence

A list of Correspondence was available for the Selectmen to view.

First Selectman's Status Report

First Selectwoman Wiecenski provided an update on the Parks & Recreation Director's position. The hiring committee conducted 1st and 2nd interviews and have offered the Parks & Recreation Director's position to Bethany Cologna she will be starting on February 3rd 2021.

The Emergency Task Force Committee has not reconvened since the holiday therefore there is no update to provide.

Mold in the basement at the TOB, we are still awaiting the official notice but we have been told that the initial indications are that the claim for document preservation will be denied. They have passed our claim from CIRMA on to CHUBB which is CIRMA's pollution carrier. We are waiting to see if the remediation is covered under the pollution binder.

Pistol Permits, there has been a large uptick in pistol permit application. Many surrounding towns have communicated the increase. For FY 18/19 there were 21 pistol permits issued. From March 2020 to now we have 62 pistol permit applications with 5 additional appointments this week. Many of them reject fingerprints as unreadable to no fault of ours. This rework is extensive at times, there is several applications that have rejected up to 8 times. Although this analysis extends through 2 fiscal years we wanted to get a sense of applications processed from the onset of COVID to present which has tripled from past fiscal years. .

Public Works

- Continuation of Trash pickup at park.
- Roadside mowing is still continuing
- Worked on truck repairs.
- Patched holes around town.
- Moved blocks at Center School
- Chipped Brush
- Installation of concrete bases for lighting at the RRAC

New Business

A. Appointments

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to re-appoint Ed Taiman as a regular member of the Willington Parks and Recreation Commission; effective 1-19-21; expiring 12-13-23

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to re-appoint Michael Iacampo as a regular member of the Willington Parks and Recreation Commission; effective 1-19-21; expiring 12-13-23

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to re-appoint William Bilyak as a regular member of the Willington Parks and Recreation Commission; effective 1-19-21; expiring 12-13-23

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to re-appoint Mary Beth Caron as a regular member of the Historic District Commission; effective 1-19-21; expiring 1-1-26

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to re-appoint Rosa Chinchilla as a regular member of the Historic District Commission; effective 1-19-21; expiring 1-1-25

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

B. Tax Refund

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to refund \$6.24 to Daniel Donaghy on a Certificate of Correction.

Selectwoman Boritz Seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

Old Business

A. Cadlerock Remediation Application

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the submission of a 2021 Brownfield grant in the amount of \$250,000 to remediate existing contamination on the Cadlerock property located in the towns of Ashford and Willington.

Selectwoman Boritz Seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Blessington, Boritz & Wiecenski) 0 No.

Motion carried.

B. COVID-19 Update

First Selectwoman Wiecenski provided an update Willington has had cumulative 162 COVID cases, with 1 additional death, 8 probable cases which is an increase of 36 cases since our last meeting on January 4, 2021. We have seen a large increase in positive cases due to testing at High Chase. Vaccines are in phase 1B, anyone 75 years of age and older are now eligible to receive a vaccine. In collaboration with Jennie Arpin the Human Services Director we have been discussing how we can help our seniors who might need assistance navigating the appointment process. We will be meeting with EHHD to discuss this issue as a region. The State has received approximately 44,000 vaccines weekly and the entirety of phase 3 is 1.3 million residents. This process will take time and we ask residents to be patient. Governor Lamont announced a tiered approach to phase 1B which will begin late February which include individuals with underlying medical issues and front line workers. There are currently over 85 sites administering vaccinations. We have been fortunate in the Town of Willington to not have COVID cases effect our Town Hall. Recently Andover and Scotland Town Halls have had to close and go full remote due to COVID exposure.

Present to Speak

No one was present to speak

Good & Welfare

First Selectwoman Wiecenski provided some updates and reminders. Our December 2020 police report indicated there were 7 accidents, 9 criminal investigations, 2 larcenies, 4 arrests and 305 non reportable matters. Motor vehicle enforcement, there were 23 total traffic stops, 1 DUI, 4 misdemeanor summons, 9 infractions & 10 verbal warnings. To wrap up 2020 we had 353 calls for service and 5,036 total calls for the year of 2020.

You can find COVID testing information from 2-1-1 or <https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus>

Mobile Food Share will be here at the TOB this Wednesday January 20th 2021 from 11AM to 11:30 AM from 11AM to 11:30 AM. Contact Human Services with any questions.

The drive through distribution will Friday January 22, 2021 from 10AM to 12PM again here at the TOB.

Please if you can support our small businesses and restaurants.

Lastly, First Selectwoman Wiecenski wanted to take a moment to recognize the over 400,000 Americans that have lost their lives due to COVID-19 this year, 3 of those were here in our community. There was a memorial service earlier this evening in Washington DC. A moment of silence followed to honor those Americans.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 PM

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 3 Yes (Wiecenski, Boritz & Blessington) 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Sharpley
Administrative Assistant
Town of Willington