

TOWN OF WILLINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN Special Meeting Minutes

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

**Town Office Building
Via Zoom Meeting**

**July 15, 2020
6:30 PM**

First Selectwoman Wiecenski called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with Selectmen Boritz & Blessington.

A. CIP Plan Discussion – Approve Emergency Spending (Leases & Bonds)

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve spending of items on lines 3 through 15 of year 1 CIP Plan dated 5-21-20 representing lease and bond payments
Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski noted that she forwarded the plan to the Selectmen earlier for reference. She recapped what is on the plan as it stands:

- Bond payment for the Library
- Lease payment on the 2014 PW Dump Truck
- Lease payment 2014 Ambulance and pick-up for WFD#1
- Lease payment 2015 Spartan Apparatus for WFD#1
- Lease payment 2015 backhoe and mower
- Lease payment 2017 ACO truck
- Lease payment 2018 Public Works dump truck & chipper
- Lease payment 2018 SCBA at WFD#1
- Lease payment 2020 roadside mower

First Selectwoman Wiecenski clarified that these items are approved every year in the CIP – they are not new items. She stated that she followed up with the Town Attorney to be sure we are following the Executive Order properly. Attorney O'Donnell clarified that Executive Order 7S; section 7 references the allowance for suspension of in-person voting requirements for critical and time-sensitive municipal fiscal deadlines. Attorney O'Donnell's interpretation of the Order is that the Board of Selectmen have the authority to approve the spending of funds that were in year one of the CIP plan. She added that the Town properly appropriated the funds through the budget (as outlined in the Executive Order) but now that we are looking at spending; either the Board of Selectmen or Board of Finance must approve the spending; it is not necessary for both boards to act. She further clarified unless it was something that would need Town Meeting approval; only one board needs to approve.

The Executive Order spells out emergency spending:

such body(ies) shall make specific findings that such actions are necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and that there is a need to act immediately and during the duration of the public health and civil preparedness emergency in order to avoid endangering public health and welfare, prevent significant financial loss, or that action is otherwise necessary for the protection of persons and property within the municipality.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski clarified because this would be defaulting on bonds or leases/loans; (if not paid); would fall under this category. She then warned that any other item from the CIP would need to come before the board for approval before spending. For example, the BOF appropriated funds for 3 other projects that were not initially on the CIP; however they do not fall under the emergency spending category, therefore we will have to address them as we go along. Those items were:

- *Exterior painting of trim, doors and pillars at HMS
- * Senior Center Handicapped bus replacement
- * Painting of the interior of the Senior Center

First Selectwoman Wiecenski noted that one of the lease payments (that falls under the emergency spending) falls on August 1st that is why she wanted to move quickly on the approval. Selectwoman Boritz noted that this process seems strange to her; but then again; we are in strange times.

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

B. Appointment

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to re-appoint David T. Schreiber as a s regular member of the Inlands Wetlands & Watercourse Commission; retro-active May 16, 2020; expiring May 15, 2023

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski noted that Mr. Schreiber had original wanted to step away from IWWC when his term ended; however he has offered to stay on because the Commission is currently down 2 members of the 5 member total. Mr. Schreiber will continue for a little while as we look for new members to serve on this Commission. There are currently 2 regular full time seats and 2 alternate seat vacancies. If anyone is interested in joining the IWWC please reach out to a member of the Commission or the Selectmen's office.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski thanked Dave for his willingness to serve on this commission once again and we will continue to search for new members.

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

Selectman Blessington moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM

Selectwoman Boritz seconded the motion.

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

First Selectwoman Wiecenski noted that the July 20th meeting will be canceled.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robin Campbell
Office Manager

TOWN OF WILLINGTON, CT
Received for record 7/16/2020
At 12:30pm Druffaut