

TOWN OF WILLINGTON

Board of Selectmen
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www.willingtonct.org

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Regular Meeting Minutes
Via web interaction (via Zoom platform)

June 21, 2021
6:30 PM

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

First Selectwoman Wiecenski called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM with the following in attendance; Selectman Blessington and residents. Absent Selectman Boritz

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to approve the BOS Regular minutes of June 7, 2021 as written.

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 2 Yes (Wiecenski & Blessington) 0 No.

Motion Carried.

Present To Speak

Jim Bulick Laurel Drive commented on the agenda item related to the Treasurer's position. It is important that money collection, money deposit, and journal enter "record keeping" be performed by (3) people as recommended by our auditors to limit risk of theft. You will also want someone with accounting or business administration background.

Correspondence

None to report

First Selectman's Status Report

First Selectwoman Wiecenski provided a few updates.

There are no new updates related to our STEAP Grant for the Old Town Hall septic. We are still waiting for the contract from DEEP.

The School Building Committee- At the last meeting June 16, 2021 Kosta Diamantis, Deputy Secretary of Department of Administrative Services (DAS) attended to answer questions from his tour of our school facilities on Monday May 17, 2021.

The LOTCIP Grant for the Route 32 project- There is no new update, Our Zoning Agent Mr. D'Amato is continuing to work with the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation. We have been able to extend the project from Hall school to the Mills.

COVID update- The Town Office Building is open to the public and we are following the CDC and CT Public Health guidelines. If you are vaccinated you are not required to wear a mask unless you choose to and if you are unvaccinated you will need to wear a mask while indoors. The Town of Willington residents over 65 have been 100% vaccinated, 45-64 58.4% are fully vaccinated and ages 15-44 38.8% have been fully vaccinated. Willington has had 2 positive cases since our last meeting on June 7, 2021 with a .4% positivity rate in the State.

Legislation related to Hybrid meetings- the language in the implementer bill states that's effective 7-1-21 we will be allowed to hold in person or hybrid meetings. Each Board and Commission will be able to decide for themselves. It is recommended that we remain remote until September 2021 so we have time to outfit both meeting rooms.

ARP funding- We have not received the ARP funds as of yet, the State has until June 30, 2021 to transfer funds. It is the assumption that we will follow the current mechanism that the Town utilizes in spending any state or federal funds. The decisions are made out of our legislative body, in Willington it would be by way of Town Meeting that would be the deciding factor in utilizing those funds. It would be in our best interest to formulate a plan and a timeline on how we see spending these funds to organize and schedule Town Meetings for the approval process of spending \$1.7 million in COVID relief funds.

Public Works

Mr. Sposato reported the following that has been done by Public Works

- Roadside mowing is continuing
- Installed new stop sign on Battye Rd.
- Trash at the Park on Mondays and Thursdays
- Loamed some areas that were damaged by plow
- Moved docks to Halls Pond
- Cleaned out parts room and organized new inventory
- Winter sand hauled in
- Milled and paving on Hancock Rd.
- Picked up 2 more radar signs from the State
- Mowed around Public Works/Transfer Station
- Mowed around Halls Pond, Senior Center
- Cleaned up garage
- Fixed washouts around Town from heavy rain
- The M&B mower has a blown hydraulic pump that will take about 3 weeks to come in. This mower mows the roadsides along with the other roadside mower.

New Business

A. Tax Refund

First Selectwoman Wiecenski Moved to refund \$42.98 to Nissan Infiniti LT on a Certificate of Correction.

Selectman Blessington Seconded the motion.

Vote: 2 Yes (Blessington & Wiecenski)

Motion Carried.

B. PZC Clerk of the Works

First Selectwoman Wiecenski motioned to delegate contracting authority to the Willington Planning & Zoning Commission and its staff for the purposes of engaging Engineering and Construction Oversight services as outlined in the Town's RFQ 21-1 and as required by PZ-19-12 for work associated with the construction of a Loves Travel Stop & Country Store at 3 Polster Rd, Willington CT.

Selectman Blessington Seconded the motion.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski noted for discussion purposes that she did speak with our land use attorney of who the Board would need to appoint and or hire the Clerk of the Works. There is no out of pocket cost to the Town. All of the costs would be born of the developer.

Vote: 2 Yes (Blessington & Wiecenski)

C. Approve Specifications & Vendors for Public Works

First Selectwoman Wiecenski started the discussion. Public Works had three vehicles replacements in their budget coming into the new fiscal year. The Public Works Director obtained bids for the three vehicles, all of the vendors are from the State bid list. The Board of Selectmen would approve the specifications and the vendor and the next step would be for us to begin the process of leasing the vehicles. That will be a multistep process with a public hearing and Board of Selectmen's votes to accept the lease agreement. The Business Manager and the Selectmen's office will put together an RFP to solicit leasing companies.

a. Public Works F-350 Replacement

First Selectwoman motioned to award the vendor and specifications for a 2021 Ford F350 to Putnam Ford in the amount of \$49,942.19.

Selectman Blessington Seconded the motion.

Vote: 2 Yes (Blessington & Wiecenski)

b. Public Works F450 Replacement

First Selectwoman motioned to award the vendor and specifications for a 2021 Ford F450 to Putnam Ford.

Selectman Blessington Seconded the motion.

A discussion was held that the sale price for the Ford F450 base price is \$60,794.39, additionally a dump body needs to be selected #1 Duramag Heavy Duty Dump Model all aluminum for an additional \$11,295.00, Option #2 \$8,900.00 SH Truck Bodies Heavy Duty Dump Model all steal. The discussion continued on the needs of the dump body Mr. Sposato recommended the Aluminum dump body. It was determined for the cohesiveness of the fleet that we also add \$600.00 for the truck body to be painted green. It was noted that all 3 trucks will be 2022 and not 2021 as the quotes indicated.

First Selectwoman amended the motion to award the vendor and specifications for a 2021 Ford F450 to Putnam Ford to include the cost of \$72,689.39

Vote: 2 Yes (Blessington & Wiecenski)

c. Public Works 2012 International Dump Truck Replacement

First Selectwoman motioned to award the vendor and specifications for a new 2022 Freightliner 114SD to Freightliner of Hartford in the amount of \$212,538.73.

Selectman Blessington Seconded the motion.

A discussion was held that the truck will be green included in the price with a stainless-steel body. The truck will have a barn door that will be able opened wide with pole shoots in the back on both sides for the ease of paving.

Vote: 2 Yes (Blessington & Wiecenski)

Old Business

A. Treasurer Discussion Continued

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to defer the Treasurers Position agenda item to the next scheduled meeting.

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

A discussion was held, Selectman Blessington wanted to discuss the Treasurers check list as it states Visions: highlight in yellow for completed Visions entry. The discussion continued to invite Business Manager Donna Latincics and the current Treasurer Laurie Semprebon to the next meeting to answer specific duty questions.

Vote: 2 Yes (Wiecenski & Blessington) 0 No.

Present to Speak

Pete Tanaka 125 Mason Rd wanted to comment on the last topic of Treasurer Discussion. He expressed that he is a member of the Board of Finance, before the Board of Selectman set in stone the Treasurers position he is requesting that the BOS kindly forward the Board of Finance so they have an opportunity to include their input as they work directly with this position.

Good & Welfare

First Selectwoman Wiecenski provided some updates.

You can find COVID information from <https://portal.ct.gov/coronavirus>

Mobile Food Share will be here at the TOB this Wednesday June 23, 2021 from 11AM to 11:30 AM. Contact Human Services with any questions.

Please if you can support our small businesses and restaurants.

We are sad to hear that River and Rail has closed as the owners are relocating out of State. We will miss their family here in Willington and the establishment.

Boards and Commission vacancies: CIP has one vacancy, the Conservation Commission has two alternate vacancies, EDS has three alternate vacancies, Historic District has one regular and two alternate vacancies, IWWC has two regular and two alternate vacancies, Planning & Zoning has two alternate vacancies and lastly the Parks & Recreation Commission has one regular vacancy.

The Selectmen had the opportunity and pleasure in attending the eighth grade promotion ceremony on Friday night. The event was held outdoors and in person, it was wonderfully done and hats off to the staff at Hall School. They had previous class banners around the ball field along the fence going back to 1914

were all displayed. Good luck to the 8th graders moving on to High School of their choosing and good luck to our 4th graders moving up to Hall School.

Sadly, the Federated Church will not be holding their annual flea market this year. We hope they resume fully in 2022.

Willington Day is scheduled on Saturday August 28th, 2021 with a rain date of Sunday August 29th, 2021.

Concerts in the Park begin on July 7th, 2021. Bruce John is the first concert of the season.

Summer Camp is starting soon and Hall's Pond will be opening. We are starting to feel a little bit of normalcy.

Reminder that all of the Town's Meetings are still being held virtually and can be viewed live or on the Town's YouTube page. There is a link on the Town Website on the left hand that states Online Boards and Commissions Meetings. Inside that page will be a link to the Willington You Tube channel.

First Selectwoman Wiecenski moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM

Selectman Blessington seconded the motion.

Vote: 2 Yes (Wiecenski & Blessington) 0 No.

Respectfully submitted,
Heather Sharpley
Administrative Assistant
Town of Willington

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WILLINGTON, CT.

2021 JUN 24 A 10:14


TOWN CLERK