

In attendance: C. Iino, F. Dudek, L. Annino Jr,

Visitors: Michael Milano, MJM; Eric Couture, BOE; Mike Bekech, Assessor; Nancy Gorski, BOF

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. Public comment:
MJM Builders's Mike Milano came to discuss building department operations, and expressed his continued frustration about the limited office hours and the availability of staff during posted office hours. He submitted a document citing recent incidents. There was extensive discussion. The selectmen considered whether the Building Inspector's recommendation of 16 hours per week was adequate coverage for the town, and Dudek noted that the previous building inspector provided hourly accounting for his time. Iino reported that she has spoken to the Building Inspector about the importance of not scheduling inspections during office hours and agreed with Mr. Milano that communication is key. Milano left at 7:24

3. Board of Education report
Eric Couture reported on RSD 17's efforts to address the proposed cuts in state funding to the schools, noting that the district has imposed a hiring freeze and is keeping a close eye on discretionary spending. There was discussion. Annino asked Couture to return to the board with specific information about how the district is going to help the towns face this crisis. Iino, along with Haddam First Selectwoman Lizz Milardo, will draft a letter requesting a meeting with Superintendent Thierry and will include the BOS and the BOF in enlisting the district's assistance in addressing this matter. Couture gave a brief update on capital projects and left the meeting at 7:44.

3. Approval of minutes
A motion by Dudek, seconded by Annino, to approve the minutes of August 28, 2017 meeting as amended passed unanimously.
Item 12C should reflect the following changes and corrections:

Dudek noted that in *February* the Board *had voted* to bring the Venuti property *to the Board of Finance* and to town meeting and brought the topic up for further discussion. Annino said while he was personally in favor of the town purchase of open space, the current economic/budget climate *may create challenges for approval*. Iino will convey this sentiment to the Venutis *to see if they still wanted to go forward with the timetable discussed in February*.

4. Refunds and abatements
Motion by Dudek, seconded by Annino, to approve the following 10 refunds, all for overpayment. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Honda Lease Trust	600 Kelly Way	\$303.13	COC#07940M
2. David R. Dawson	180 Route 80	\$8.13	COC#07932M
3. Anthony Constantinou	7913 Waterton Lane	\$21.01	COC#07927M
4. Robert or Emaline Pavelka	187 N Chestnut Hill Rd	\$13.71	COC#07885M
5. Ronald P. Wing	34 Chestnut Hill Road	\$47.44	COC#07913M
6. Deborah S. Vincent	2550 Oak Run Drive	\$44.81	COC#07964M
7. Lisa H. Uihlein	14 Beech Tree Ridge	\$8.00	COC#07862M
8. Robin S. Chasse	3 Saddlebrook Drive	\$60.66	COC#07918M
9. Jeremy Adametz	185 Schnoor Rd	\$42.17	COC#07942M
10. Marcus A. Mccorison 2 nd	522 Route 81	\$36.04	COC#07944M

5. Appointments none

6. Old Business
lino produced a Proclamation of the Board of Selectmen recognizing the work of the Evergreen Garden Club and referred it to the board for signatures.

7. New Business
A. Affordable Housing
Assessor Mike Bekech asked the board to advise whether to use the Southern Middlesex County median income (which includes shoreline towns) or Northern Middlesex County (which includes Middletown) when determining the maximum sale price for the houses that were constructed under Affordable Housing statutes. The regulations are ambiguous. There was general agreement that town properties are more closely aligned with those of southern Middlesex County. Annino suggested that this program would more accurately be described as "median income housing."

A motion by lino, seconded by Annino, that the BOS, acting as Housing Authority, instruct the Assessor to use the southern Middlesex County median income when calculating resale price ceilings for the Affordable Housing properties in town passed unanimously.

B. Supplemental Tax recommendation
lino noted that while there is still great uncertainty at the state level, the town needs to lay the groundwork for addressing the likely loss in state funding. She recommends that the BOS ask the Board of Finance to recommend to the town that we allow the town to draw from the fund balance to soften the blow to taxpayers. Using up to \$1 million of the fund balance would leave the recommended 2 months' operating expenses intact.

lino moved that the BOS ask the BOF to recommend that the Town approve the expenditure of an amount not to exceed \$1 million to mitigate any supplemental tax levy the selectmen may be forced to enact if the state funding to the town is drastically reduced from previous levels, either by executive action of the governor or by action of the state legislature.

The Board of Finance meets at 7 on the 12th.

C. Traffic Authority Issues
lino addressed the BOS in its capacity as Local Traffic Authority to address the following:

1. change speed limits on Route 81 below Stevens Road
2. No thru trucks on Roast Meat Hill Road
3. Lovers Lane weight limit

There was brief discussion of each item. lino will proceed to request state action on these first two issues, and will research the third.

8. First Selectwoman's comments:

A. The Eric Auer Killingworth Recreational Park dedication will be held on Saturday, September 9 at 1030 am.

B. lino noted several recent complaints about houses and requests for blight ordinance. Specific houses were briefly discussed. No action was taken.

C. The town has hired a new tax clerk.

D The building official has been counseled about maintaining strict adherence to posted office hours. Dudek would like to see accountability and suggests a monthly report of specific building department activity.

E. Alders Bridge project: Machnik started almost a month late and will not meet next week's deadline. Iino noted that NLJA should have been on top of this. The project should be substantially complete by the end of September, including the top course of paving, but the Town will hold retainage until the project's final completion next June.

F. CCM press conference on the state budget will be held this coming Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.

G. Iino reviewed correspondence with Michael Venuti over a planned referendum.

H. Cathy has meeting with Charles Morgan, his attorney and the town engineer on Wednesday. Iino intends to emphasize that the town is not attempting to ask the homeowner to solve a town road drainage problem

9. Selectmen's comments

A . Annino expressed his admiration for the display of flags along the parade route.

B. The selectmen noted that the new federally funded safety program has produced an abundance of signs. Upon completion of the project, the town may remove some of them.

10. Adjournment

A motion by Dudek seconded by Annino to adjourn at 8:53 p.m passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth Doyle Disbrow on 8/31/17.