

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, December 7, 2023**

Members Present: Juan Roman III, First Selectman; Anthony Pinto, Selectman

Members Absent: Kenneth Fortier, Selectman

Others Present: Susan Welshman, Recording Secretary; Dick Weingart, Board of Finance Chair; Dave Stone, DPW Supervisor

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm
2. **First Audience of Citizens:** Dick Weingart asked if the Town of Chaplin could possibly be facing the same hacking issue that recently effected the Town of Scotland resulting in stolen funds from bank accounts. J Roman stated that while we do have some safeguards currently in place, there is much more the Town can do and are currently working with Windham IT to address security concerns.
3. **Additions to the Agenda:** J Roman requested that 3 items be added under New Business: H) Polling locations; I) School Security Plan J) Access to the rear lot of the Russ Cemetery. J Roman also requested the addition of Discussion in Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B) regarding an agreement between the Town of Chaplin and Teamsters Local 493 dated July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026. ***J Pinto made a MOTION to add items H, I, J to New Business and an Executive Session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B) regarding an agreement between the Town of Chaplin and Teamsters Local 493 dated July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.***
4. **Approve minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on November 02, 2023. J. Pinto made a MOTION to approve the November 02 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes with correction. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.**
5. **Communications and Reports**
 - A. Trooper Report – J Roman read out the report for November 2023 submitted by Trooper Shaun Tucker. See attached.
 - B. Board Members Reports:
None
 - C. Board of Finance Discussion: D Weingart reported that the town audit report is currently being prepared. The BOF is planning for a briefing and approval of the audit report at their January meeting. 2024-2025 Budget Requests are being drawn up by Val Garrison and will go out to departments soon. The requests will be due back on 2/8/2024. Capital Improvement Plan requests are also currently being drafted and will be

distributed soon. Annual reports from various departments continue to come in. D Weingart briefly discussed the current enrollment data from Parish Hill High School and reports that Chaplin enrollment is close to the same as last year whereas enrollment for Hampton and Scotland has decreased.

- D. Correspondence: None
- E. Building/Infrastructure: None
- F. Treasurer Report: None
- G. Department of Public Works Report: None
- H. Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Report: Fire Chief, Joe Pinto, reported that in the month of November, the CVFD responded to 15 medical calls, and two fire calls as mutual aid.

New Business

- A. Tax Collector Refunds: ***J Roman made a MOTION to approve the following tax refunds: Kathleen Jenkins=\$16.23; Raymond Lewis= \$24.02; Diana Alvarez=\$34.73; James Mazrolle=\$50.; Caroline Kolb=\$74.01; Nicole Nollet=\$88.94; Nissan Infiniti LLC=\$434.64; Nissan Infiniti LLC= \$443.73; Nissan Infiniti LLC=\$556.69. Joe Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.***
- B. All Pending and New FOI requests: None
- C. Appointments and Resignations: J Roman accepted the resignation of Irene Schein from the Economic and Community Development Commission. J Roman accepted the resignation of Jean Givens from the Historic District Commission.
- D. Declaration of Surplus Equipment: ***J Pinto made a Motion to declare one Kohler 20kw 3-phase propane generator and one 12' trenching bucket as surplus and to allow them to be auctioned off on the Govs.Deal Auction site. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, the MOTION passed.***
- E. Discussion and possible action on a Resolution for the CIF grant application Round 4: J roman reported that it has been decided that the Town will wait and submit the CIF Application during Round 5 at th end of June.
- F. Discussion and possible action for the 2024 Community Connectivity Grant: J Roman explained the Town has been given the option of having the submitted 2023 CCG application put under consideration should funding become available in 2024.
- G. Discussion and possible action on the 2024 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting dates: ***J Roman made a MOTION to accept the following 2024 BOS Regular Meeting dates: 1/4/2024; 2/1/2024; 3/7/2024; 4/4/2024; 5/2/2024; 6/6/2024; 7/11/2024;***

8/1/2024; 9/5/2024; 10/3/2024; 11/7/2024; 12/5/2024. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.

- H. Discussion of Polling Locations: J Roman stated that it will be necessary to decide on a new polling place for the Town of Chaplin since the passage of Early Voting by the State. J Roman and J Pinto state that it will be unworkable to tie the fire department building up for the number of days required for early voting in future elections. The Joseph Ferrara Community Room at the Chaplin Senior Center was discussed as being a viable option. Security changes to the room will be necessary during election times. J Roman reported that the State has yet to iron out all of the details for early voting and its logistics. The Chaplin Registrar of Voters will be responsible for selecting a polling place which the BOS will sign off on.
- I. School Security Plan: J Roman reported signing off on the All-Hazards School Security and Safety Plan dated July 29, 2023. Chief Joe Pinto and Fire Marshal Chris Bray to receive copies for review.
- J. Discussion of accessing the rear lot behind Russ Cemetery: Warren Church attended the meeting and explained to the BOS his hope to establish a Church Family Memorial Garden on a plot of land owned by the Churches which abuts the back area of the Russ Cemetery. Currently, there is a small opening in the stone wall at the back of the cemetery and W Church is informing the Board that he wishes to modify this opening to create easier access to this rear lot through the stone wall. He stated that both D Stone (DPW) and Gene Boomer (Sexton) have agreed to this plan. J Roman stated that the only concern that the Town would have would be the integrity of the cemetery wall during modifications and that the Church Family obtain all relevant Health Department approvals.

6. Old Business

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: J Roman reported that the HVAC System replacement at the Senior Center/Library is complete and D Stone is to be trained on the operation of its controls.
- B. Update for the construction of fire pond and dry hydrant: D Stone reported that progress on this project is very slow. He listed concerns with the excavation of the west embankment being below final grade and the movement of cross culvert pipes due to improper compaction. Pipes to be removed and re-installed. D Stone also reported the installation of 40' of safety fencing around the open area with more needed before construction wraps for the season. The contractor is to stake out the entire area to give a better visual of placements and progress.
- C. Discuss/updates on Bedlam and England Road Bridges: The 5 bids received for the England Road Bridge Replacement from potential contractors continues to go through the CT DOT vetting and review process with the low bidder to be awarded at the end of December. J Roman stated that he will be attending the December Board of Finance

meeting to discuss the payment schedule for the project and the need to transfer funds from the Bedlam Road Bridge CIP line.

- D. Discussion and possible action on adding a fourth maintainer to the Department of Public Works: Cost effectiveness, short term and long-term concerns & benefits were discussed. D Stone to create a mockup schedule of work with a fourth maintainer to show the difference in what can be achieved in house by the DPW.
- E. Discussion of the Park Drive Title Search: The results of the Park Drive Title Search initiated by First Selectman J Roman have shown that the Town has no ownership interest or responsibility for that property. The Fire Marshal will be given the report to review.

7. Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion: D Stone, Chair of the Recreation Commission, stated that the Rec Commission is looking at developing its own website in order to better disseminate information pertaining to schedules and events. He is hoping to receive the blessing of the Board of Selectmen. D Weingart asked how this could become an "official town website" and benefit from security and maintenance plans. D Stone to connect with Windham IT and have them look at the website and certifications.

8. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting: None

9. Date, time, and place of next meeting (January 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM, Chaplin Town Hall).

10. Discussion in executive session pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes section 1-200(6)(B) regarding an agreement between the Town of Chaplin and Teamsters Local 493 dated July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026. **J. Roman made a MOTION to adjourn the Regular Meeting and enter Executive Session at 8:46pm. J. Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor. MOTION passed.**

Roman and J. Pinto entered the executive session at 8:47 PM.
Exited Executive Session at 9:10 PM

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Susan Welshman
Administrative Assistant*

**TOWN OF CHAPLIN
RESIDENT STATE TROOPER
November 2023**

TO: Juan Roman; First Selectman
FROM: TFC Shaun Tucker #1237

Sir,

The following reflect the statistics collected between the dates of November 1, 2023 – November 30, 2023:

	Resident Trooper	CSP (all except RT)	TOTAL
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	29	40	69
Traffic Accident – No Injury	0	1	1
Traffic Accident – With Injury	0	0	0
Reportable Incidents	1	1	2
Traffic Stops	15	4	19

Notable events/incidents:

During the month of November, the Resident Trooper continued to perform regular enhanced security checks at the town's schools. I continued teaching the DARE course to the fifth graders at Chaplin Elementary School.

Five pistol permit background checks were completed.

Respectfully,

TFC Shaun Tucker #1237