

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
Chaplin, Connecticut  
Thursday, January 2, 2025**

Members Present: Juan Roman, First Selectman; Anthony Pinto, Selectman; Kenneth Fortier, Selectman

Members Absent: None

Others Present:

**Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm

1. **First Audience of Citizens:** None
2. **Additions to the Agenda:** None.
3. **Approve the Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on December 5, 2024.** *J Pinto made a MOTION to approve the Minutes of the December 5, 2024 Regular Meeting. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION Carried.*
4. **Communications and Reports**
  - A. Trooper Report – Troop D November 2024 report read out. Please see attached.
  - B. Board Members Reports: None
  - C. Board of Finance Discussion: None
  - D. Correspondence: None
  - E. Building/Infrastructure: J Roman reported that the Town of Chaplin received 5 bids for the Davis Road Extension Drainage and Asphalt Installation Project. Pinecroft Paving and Landscape LLC submitted the winning bid at \$86,270.
  - F. Treasurer Report: None
  - G. Department of Public Works Report: None
  - H. Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Report: J Pinto, CVFD Chief, reported on a safely resolved firearms incident on Palmer Road before Christmas.
  - I. Senior Center Report: Please see attached.

**New Business**

- A. Tax Collector Refunds: None
- B. All Pending and New FOI requests: None.
- C. Appointments and Resignations: Appointment: Nicole Mott, Justin Brodeur and Freyja Brodeur to the Recreation Commission as Regular Members for a term beginning 7/1/2024 and ending 6/30/2026 effective 1/2/2025. *J Roman made a MOTION to approve the appointments of Nicole Mott, Justin Brodeur and Freyja Brodeur to the Recreation Commission for terms beginning 7/1/2024 and ending 6/30/2026 effective 1/2/2025. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.* Appointment: Chris Bray as the Deputy Emergency Management Director for a term beginning 1/2/2025 and

ending in June 2026. *J Roman made a MOTION to approve the appointment of Chris Bray as the Deputy Emergency Management Director for a term beginning 1/2/2025 and ending June 2026. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION carried.*

Discussion of upcoming CIP requests: Nothing to discuss at this time.

- D. Discussion of CVFD pickup truck: J Roman explained that a 2023 Ford F-350 was purchased this past year for the Department of Public Works. Discussion has since occurred about moving the 2023 F-350 pickup over to the Fire Department to replace a 2004 CVFD pickup truck. This 2004 pickup will be moved over to the DPW for their use. The Board concurred that this will be a cost-effective use of the vehicles.
- E. Discussion of Health Insurance costs: J Roman stated that there is the real possibility that the cost of employee's health insurance may go up as high as 28% therefore the BOS decision at their last meeting to require employees to make a 10% contribution towards the insurance was timely.

## **5. Old Business**

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: Remaining ARPA funds were to be obligated before December 31, 2024. The remaining funds have been obligated to the finishing of the fire pond, the new washer/dryer system for CVFD and the Town Land Records online recording project by the Town Clerk.
- B. Update for the construction of fire pond and dry hydrant: Second hydrant not yet in but the first has been successfully tested. Signs have been placed around the pond warning residents to keep off any ice that forms. Some landscaping has been completed, and the pond overall is looking good.
- C. Discuss/updates on Bedlam and England Road Bridges: The England Road Bridge structure to be launched the first full week of January (1/9 or 1/10/25) with work continuing until the stage where concrete will need to be poured. Contractors will then break during winter season.
- D. Town Administrator Update: Juan Roman reported the deadline for accepting applications for this position is January 15, 2025 with a possible hire occurring in February or March.
- E. Update on IT Services: CVFD will now receive Frontier fiber optic internet free of cost allowing them to drop their current cable service. This price savings will allow the Town Hall to upgrade to the fiber optic internet service.
- F. Update on the Community Connectivity Grant Fund/Sidewalk Project: The surveyors have been out working on site. The survey will be submitted to NECCOG, and the engineering of the project can begin from there. The project will still need to go through the process of presenting plans to a Town Meeting and Historic District approval.

6. **Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion:** Resident Ryan Perry asked for further details about how a Town Administrator will work with specific concerns about an administrator's decision-making powers. J Roman explained that this pilot program of sharing an administrator between 3 towns (Chaplin, Pomfret & Canterbury) will allow for administrative continuity especially during possible 2-year First Selectman cycles. The Town Administrator will not have the power to make decisions that effect the Town but rather will bring a skill set to the Town consisting of municipal financial experience, human resource credentials and grant writing skills among other things. No contract for a Town Administrator will be signed until the BOS sees that Chaplin has the option to opt out of the pilot program if not proving to be beneficial to Chaplin. Joe Pinto asked questions regarding an animal complaint that he and neighbors have been making to NECCOG Animal Control for about a year concerning a barking dog. J Roman to draft a formal letter of complaint to NECCOG Animal Services on behalf of the Town.
7. **Agenda Suggestions for next meeting:** None
8. Date, time, and place of next meeting (February 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM, Chaplin Town Hall).
9. **Adjourn:** Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.

*Respectfully Submitted by,  
Susan Welshman  
Administrative Assistant*