

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING REMOTE/TOWN HALL
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, May 6, 2021
MINUTES - **AMENDED****

Members Present: William H. Rose IV, First Selectman; Anthony Pinto, Selectman; Kenneth Fortier, Selectman

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Dick Weingart, Chairman/Board of Finance; Suzanne Krodel, Administrative Assistant

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:04pm

2. **First Audience of Citizens:** Mike O'Neil, Resident, asked the board for permission to plant trees in the town right of way in front of his house between the wall and Davis Road, about 25 feet from the road. Mr. Rose stated that he will need to talk to the tree warden and the zoning officer. The town may have to give him an easement. Mr. Rose will contact Dave Stone, Tree Warden.

3. **Additions to the Agenda:** None

4. **Approve minutes of the Board of Selectmen regular meeting on April 1, 2021 and special meeting minutes on April 20, 2021 and April 27, 2021.**
Mr. Fortier made a **MOTION** to approve the 4/1/21 regular meeting minutes. Mr. Rose seconded the **MOTION**. Discussion: On page 2 add "American" in front of rescue fund. Mr. Fortier amended the **MOTION** with corrections. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

Mr. Pinto made a **MOTION** to approve the 4/20/21 special meeting minutes. Mr. Fortier seconded the **MOTION**. Discussion: Mr. Rose will get clarification regarding one of the ordinances allowing the First Selectman to appoint members instead of it being the Board of Selectmen. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

Mr. Rose made a **MOTION** to approve the 4/27/21 special meeting minutes. Mr. Fortier seconded the **MOTION**. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

5. **Communications and Reports**
 - A. **Trooper Report:** Mr. Rose reviewed the report. 89 calls total, 47 handled by the resident trooper. Trooper Tucker came back officially to Chaplin on 4/23. Mr. Rose did a meet and greet today and about 25-30 people showed up. Trooper Tucker introduced his family to the residents. He loves Chaplin and hears from everyone he meets how much people like living here.

 - B. **Board Members Reports:** None

 - C. **Board of Finance Discussion:** Mr. Weingart reported that the budget public hearing is Monday evening and had been noticed legally last Saturday. He attended the RD11 Annual meeting to encourage the board to apply some of the fund balance to offset assessments to the towns. They had about \$350,000 surplus last year and they have about \$550,000 in reserves. The offset of

assessments were done about 4 years ago, and this could save us approximately \$130,000. The RD11 budget did fail.

He also reviewed the deductions to the town budget that was discussed at the last meeting and he will present this to the Board of Finance for consideration to cut them in half. We need to finalize the budget Monday night to set the call for town meeting the next day. He also reminded the Board that the CIP transfer from the General Fund of \$400,000 should be a separate item on the legal notice for the town meeting. The tax collector will need to have the mill rate for the tax bills and a memo to QDS. At the June Board of Finance meeting, they will need to appoint an auditor.

The Eastern Highlands bill for FY2021-2022 just came in and it went up. Mr. Weingart asked when the trooper contract will be in for the next fiscal year. Mr. Rose was told he should receive it in May or June.

D. Correspondence: The town of Killingly passed a resolution in support of “Home Rule” in Municipal Zoning Decision Making which Mr. Rose read (see attached). The State is looking at changing regulations regarding housing and this resolution is in opposition to these regulations for local zoning. The Board likes the resolution and would like to draft a similar one for the Town of Chaplin. Mr. Rose made a **MOTION** to draft a resolution in support of “Home Rule” in Municipal Zoning Decision Making for next meeting. Mr. Pinto seconded the **MOTION**. Discussion: Mr. Fortier stated that he thought the town of Scotland or Lebanon did one too. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

E. Building/Infrastructure: No update

F. Chaplin Elementary School and Regional District #11 Quarterly Budget Report: No report due.

6. New Business

A. Tax Collector Refunds: None

B. Resignations/Appointments:

Doreen Bolduc, Member/Senior Center Board of Directors resigned effective 4/28/21.

Ann Lewis, Alternate Member/Senior Center Board of Directors resigned effective 5/4/21.

Mr. Pinto made a **MOTION** to appoint Ann Lewis as a regular member on the Senior Center Board of Directors effective 5/6/21 with a term of 7/1/2018 through 6/30/2021. Mr. Fortier seconded the **MOTION**. All in favor. **MOTION** passed. Bruce Raymond, Democratic Registrar, resigned effective 4/29/2021.

C. Discuss and possible action regarding USDA Grant Resolution: Mr. Fortier made a **MOTION** to approve a resolution to apply for financial assistance with USDA to purchase a firetruck (see attached). Mr. Pinto seconded the **MOTION**. Discussion: Mr. Pinto stated it is a grant, not a loan. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

- D. ****Receive the draft of the 2021 Chaplin Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD).** The Board ~~reviewed~~ received the DRAFT POCD and needs to review. ~~stated it will go to public hearing and vote to be passed.~~
- E. **Declare Surplus Equipment for the Volunteer Fire Department.** Mr. Pinto made a **MOTION** to declare 18 old Scott packs/racks and 15 Scott masks as surplus equipment that are no good to anyone, only for scrap. Mr. Fortier seconded the **MOTION**. Discussion: Mr. Rose asked if there were any safety issues when disposing of them and Mr. Pinto said no. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.

7. Old Business

- A. **Discuss and possible action regarding the Mowing Bid Contract for FY2021-2022:** Bids were opened at the last BOS meeting; equipment lists were received, and references checked. Mr. Rose made a **MOTION** to award the Town Hall/Garrison Park mowing bid to George Brown/Sharper Edge LLC for \$9000 and an additional \$2000 for the baseball diamonds. Mr. Pinto seconded the **MOTION**. All in favor. **MOTION** passed. Mr. Rose made a **MOTION** to award the cemetery mowing bid to Dylan Strong, D&D Property Maintenance for \$9600. Mr. Pinto seconded the **MOTION**. All in favor. **MOTION** passed.
- B. **Discussion regarding the Annual Town meeting:** The budget hearing is 5/10, remote only. Annual town meeting 5/24 and referendum 6/1. On 5/11 the Board of Selectmen will approve the calling and the legal ad will be published on 5/15. Mr. Rose reported that two ordinances will be discussed at the town meeting. The Board discussed voting and how this would work remotely. The Town Attorney, Dennis O'Brien, said if they vote they have to show up or take info of person online to verify vote. Mr. Pinto recommends Parish Hill auditorium in case we get a lot of people. Board agrees remote as a courtesy but only voting in person.
- C. **Discussion regarding the sale of Tutko Road:** Mr. Rose reported there was a dispute on the size of the road. The Assessor said it was 4.89 acres, but the resident interested in purchasing it, Rory Smith, said it was 3.1 acres. An A-2 survey was submitted by Mr. Smith to the Assessor, and they agreed to the 3.1 acres. This will not be discussed at the Annual town meeting, table to the fall town meeting.
- D. **Discussion regarding the Chaplin museum:** Mr. Rose will present a plan to the Historic District Commission regarding the move of the museum once he finds out when the next meeting is.
- E. **Discussion regarding COVID-19:** The Board agreed to open the Town hall and Swap Shop at the Transfer station to the public using social distancing rules on 5/24. Groups can start using the community center with social distancing rules. The Board determined that the rental of the firehouse will be on hold still – there is no way to regulate the size of the groups renting the hall and social distancing. Mr. Rose read correspondence from Eastern Highlands Health department regarding quarantining for employees and its recommendations. Currently they don't recommend opening the Senior Center, so the staff are scheduling outdoor events. They would like to purchase a tent for these activities. The State was contacted to see if the CRF Covid funds would cover this, and we didn't get a

definitive answer. Worst case scenario is the Senior Center would have to take the funds out of special revenue to reimburse the State if it is not covered.

- F. **Discussion regarding undeclaring the State of Emergency for the Town of Chaplin:** Tabled
 - G. **Discussion regarding England Road Bridge Project:** Currently in the design phase. Jim Randall, EMD, brought to Mr. Rose's attention that hazardous mitigation funds maybe be available for this bridge and he will contact DEHMS to find out the details.
 - H. **Discussion regarding Bedlam Road Bridge Project:** On hold, waiting for local bridge money to become available.
 - I. **Discuss tentative plans to celebrate Chaplin Bicentennial in 2022:** Meeting is scheduled for next week.
 - J. **Discuss the status of the drone purchased by the Emergency Management Director:** Jim Randall, EMD, talked to Colchester to find out what is needed for permitting. Mr. Rose will reach out to Will Hooper, Deputy EMD, to assist.
 - K. **Discuss All Pending and New FOI Requests:** None
 - L. **Discussion regarding the Department of Public Works:** Dave Stone, DPW Supervisor, found a sweeper in Rhode Island but the company decided to put it out to bid.
 - M. **Discussion regarding shared and contracted services:** Our Tax Collector now has 7 employees on staff for all the towns they are contracted with.
 - N. **Human Resources:** No update
 - O. **Discuss and possible action regarding the Affordable Housing Plan Grant:** Mr. Rose assembled a Steering Committee and will notify NECCOG.
 - P. **Discuss cleaning quotes for Benjamin and Mary Chaplin's headstones.** Table until after the budget passes.
 - Q. **Discussion regarding the preparation for listing the William Ross Library for sale:** An A-2 survey was done and there is plenty of room for a driveway, and septic/leach field locations were determined. Information was sent to the Zoning Officer, Jay Gigliotti, to see if there could be any resident zoning issues. Mr. Rose also checked with the assessor on how to get appraisal for the fall town meeting.
8. **Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion.** Mr. Weingart asked about the handwritten deed for Tutko Road and if the Town will do its due diligence to be sure the property lines are correct. A-2 surveys were discussed and how the abutting neighbors' surveys would be used to

confirm property lines. Mr. Fortier stated that the purchaser, Rory Smith, will probably need to have an A-2 done if he purchases the property and combines it with his.

9. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting:

Communications and Reports

Trooper Report
Board Members Reports
Board of Finance Discussion
Correspondence
Building/Infrastructure
Chaplin Elementary School and Regional District #11 Quarterly Budget Report

New Business

Tax Collector Refunds
Resignations/Appointments

Old Business

Discussion regarding the Annual Town meeting.
Discussion regarding the sale of Tutko Road
Discussion regarding the Chaplin museum.
Discussion regarding COVID-19
Discussion regarding undeclaring the State of Emergency for the Town of Chaplin
Discussion regarding England Road Bridge Project
Discussion regarding Bedlam Road Bridge Project
Discuss tentative plans to celebrate Chaplin Bicentennial in 2022.
Discuss the status of the drone purchased by the Emergency Management Director
Discuss All Pending and New FOI Requests
Discussion regarding the Department of Public Works
Discussion regarding shared and contracted services
Human Resources
Discuss and possible action regarding the Affordable Housing Plan Grant
Discuss cleaning quotes for Benjamin and Mary Chaplin's headstones.
Discussion regarding the preparation for listing the William Ross Library for sale.

10. Date, time, and place of next meeting (June 3, 2021 at 7:00pm, Chaplin Town Hall and Remote via GoToMeeting).

11. Human Resources Matter: CONFIDENTIAL, and subject to be discussed in Executive Session per General Statutes section 1-200(6)(A), upon motion and vote of the Board of Selectmen. Tabled

12. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

*Respectfully submitted by,
Suzanne Krodel, Administrative Assistant*

RESOLUTION NO. 1822

A resolution of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Chaplin agreeing to apply for financial assistance with the United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development to finance a firetruck for the Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department. Be it further resolved that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Chaplin authorizes the First Selectman, William H. Rose IV to sign all documents relating to the USDA Rural Development loan and/or grant.

PASSED and APPROVED this 6th day of May, 2024.



William H. Rose IV, First Selectman



Kenneth Fortier, Selectman



Anthony Pinto, Selectman

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Attest:



Suzanne Krodel
Administrative Assistant

Surplus Equipment List Declaration

Board of Selectmen – Regular Meeting

May 6, 2021

LOT#	ITEM
1	18 old Scott packs/racks
2	15 old Scott masks

Agenda Item # 15(a)

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF “HOME RULE” IN MUNICIPAL ZONING DECISION MAKING

(Approved by the Town of Killingly Town Council)

Whereas, Connecticut’s town and cities successfully use local zoning and planning processes to balance private property rights, the community’s interests, demands on infrastructure, housing needs, and economic growth; and

Whereas, local control and decision making empowers the residents and taxpayers of each town and city to carefully tailor zoning policies that reflect its unique geography, economy, and housing market; and

Whereas, localized decision making ensures the greatest level of accountability while allowing affected community members the greatest level of input and the platform, through the public hearing, to provide specific, relevant information on potential impacts that only they would have knowledge of; and

Whereas, local control and local input enable neighbors and the local community to provide beneficial suggestions, identify errors, and maximize community buy-in on zoning proposals; and

Whereas, proposals have been introduced in General Assembly to strip local planning and zoning processes from towns and cities, and

Whereas, proposals have been introduced in the General Assembly to allow outside Housing Authorities within 15 miles radius to develop affordable housing projects within our town; and

Whereas, BY RIGHT multi-family development can lead to exponential market value over building and can cause adverse impacts to town infrastructures; and

Whereas, BY RIGHT development gives outsized rights to builders over all other property owners and prevents local Planning and Zoning Commissions from identifying the potential impacts of their projects and imposing conditions upon a developer to address those direct impacts; and

Whereas, eliminating public hearings and community input on zoning matters would have unintended consequences such as increased infrastructure costs, increased local property taxes, and reduced home and business values which will be borne by the town residents; and

Whereas, each town and city already have the choice to modify or abolish its zoning ordinances if the elected town or city government decides it best serves the community’s interests; and

NOW BE IT RESOLVED the Town Council of Killingly opposes any State Mandated one size fits all Zoning Legislation and the ability of any outside housing authority to have jurisdiction over our towns Affordable Housing plan and any similar legislation that would further overrule, remove or diminish local control and decision making related to planning and zoning or affordable housing from the Town of Killingly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to all State Representatives and State Senators representing this town, to the Governor, all members of the State Legislature's Planning and Development, Finance, Transportation and Housing Committees, and to all legislators sponsoring bills that remove local control of planning and zoning and affordable housing and all Connecticut municipalities.

KILLINGLY TOWN COUNCIL



Jason Anderson

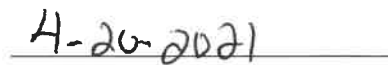
Chairman

Dated at Killingly, Connecticut,
this 13th day of April 2021

Attest: I, Elizabeth Wilson, Town Clerk of the Town of Killingly, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Killingly Town Council at its duly called and held meeting on April 13, 2021, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect. I further certify that Mary T. Calorio now holds the office of Town Manager and that she has held that office since March 11, 2019.



Elizabeth Wilson, Town Clerk



Date

(Seal)