

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

CHAPLIN, CT

May 1, 2014

Regular Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by First Selectman Bill Rose. Also present was Selectman Irene Schein and Board of Finance Chair Dick Weingart. Selectman John Smith arrived at 7:20 PM.

2. **Additions to Agenda:** None
3. **Audience for Citizens:** None
4. **Open Bids for Concrete Work on Tower Hill Road Bridge:** Only one bid was received. Mr. Rose sought references for the company and received a good reference from Towne Engineering. The company is Mattern Construction of Baltic, CT and bid \$44,600. Mr. Rose has received bids on the bridge construction as well last week from 2 contractors. The bids went through the engineering firm. The selectmen discussed phases of the project.
5. **Approval of Minutes: Irene Schein moved to approve the minutes of March 6, 2014—Regular Meeting. Bill Rose seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

Irene Schein moved to approve the minutes of March 6, 2014—Special Meeting. Bill Rose seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Irene Schein moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2014—Special Meeting. Bill Rose seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Irene Schein moved to approve the minutes of March 20, 2014—Special Meeting. Bill Rose seconded the motion. After further review, Irene Schein withdrew her motion and Bill Rose withdrew his second.

Irene Schein moved to table the minutes of March 20, 2014. Bill Rose seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. **Communications and Reports:**
 - A. **Trooper Report:** Mr. Rose spoke with Trooper. No update on Mountain Laurel Lane investigation.
 - B. **Board Member reports:** The selectmen discussed the Quinebaug Regional Technology Park investment opportunity. This group is working to develop a regional economic development and investment opportunity.
 - C. **Board of Finance Discussion:** Mr. Weingart informed the board that the BOF approved a total town budget proposal of \$7,745,272 which represents a 1.2% increase. The projected

deficit of \$28,000 will be covered by the fund balance. The budget, if passed, will require a mill rate of 35.05—this is a .3 mill increase from this year. The BOF also assigned \$50,000 from fund balance to purchase a backhoe loader. Assigned \$100,000 from remaining fund balance for the purpose of purchasing a plow truck when needed, but that would need to be appropriated at town meeting since it is not in the current CIP budget. The selectmen and Mr. Weingart also discussed projects and the funding process. The current fund balance is higher than needed at this time, and the BOF is identifying projects that could be funded with surplus. The BOF also appointed the auditor, and Mr. Weingart will need to contact MAWC.

D. Correspondence: None

7. Old Business:

A. STEAP Grant (Darling Pond, North Bear Hill Bridge): The necessary permitting is completed. Mr. Rose has applied for additional funding through STEAP since costs are higher than anticipated. The North Bear Hill Bridge is nearly 75% complete for permitting and is on track to break ground next year.

B. Community and Economic Development Commission: None

C. Discuss All Pending and New FOI Requests: None

D. Update on Progress Report on the Cohen Project: Mr. Cohen will be asked to submit a formal proposal. When that is received, Mr. Rose will discuss this project with Attorney O'Brien.

E. Budget/CIP Discussion: Already completed under 6.C.

F. Employee Handbook Policies: No update.

G. Building/Infrastructure/Grange Discussion: The selectmen discussed the current Grange property. Mr. Rose was not able to secure any business appraisals and private appraisers did not want to move forward with this property. This item will be on the town call for the annual town meeting. It is a non-conforming lot within the Historic District.

H. Energy Efficiency Project for the Library/Senior Center: Mr. Smith indicated a representative of Energy Saver came by and made recommendations that could result in heating and cooling savings. Mr. Weingart inquired about geothermal options or possibilities.

8. New Business:

A. Tax Collector Refunds:

Irene Schein moved to approve a tax refund to Richard D. Clark in the amount of \$72.66 and to approve a tax refund to Interstate Excavating in the amount of \$111.18. John Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Resignations/Appointments (Chad Molochnick):

Bill Rose moved to appoint Chad Molochnick for position of fire investigator. Irene Schein seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

C. Discussion regarding Recreation Commission:

Mr. Smith reported the commission voted to recommend the restructure of the commission to a sports/recreation commission and parks commission. Current sole charge of the recreation commission is the maintenance of rec. park per ordinance. The current request is to modify and amend the charge of this commission to fully support the activities currently in place. After a discussion of the request, the Board of Selectmen recommended the commission move forward with the effort to amend the charge (and ordinance) of the recreation commission to more accurately reflect the current activity.

D. Discussion regarding Annual Town Meeting: Item #9 should be amended to read “approve sale of Grange building and property.” **Irene Schein moved to approve the legal notice for the Annual Town Meeting. John Smith seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.**

9. Other Business: None

10. Second Audience for Citizens: Dick Weingart raised concerns regarding if another organization within the town that doesn't collaborate with the BOS before any budgeting increases are put in place and to consider possible changes that will address budgeting concerns.

11. Agenda Suggestions for Next Meeting: The selectmen reviewed the agenda and re-ordered items. Discussion regarding Recreation Commission will be moved to Old Business, Budget/CIP Discussion will be removed, as well as Discussion regarding Annual Town Meeting.

12. Date, Time, and Place of next meeting: June 5, 2014 @ 7:00 PM @ Town Hall.

Irene Schein moved to adjourn at 8:48 PM. Bill Rose seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Nelson, Recording Clerk