

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, December 1, 2016
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Cunningham, First Selectman; William H. Rose IV, Selectman; Irene Schein, Selectman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jim Randall, Emergency Management Director; Chris Mckleroy, Resident; Suzanne Gluck, Administrative Assistant/Recording Clerk.

1. Call to Order

Mr. Cunningham called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

2. Additions to Agenda

Mr. Cunningham requested to add agenda item 6D "Discussion and possible action of 2017 Board of Selectmen Regular meeting dates".

Ms. Schein requested to add agenda item 7N "Discussion and possible action to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day"

3. First Audience of Citizens

Mr. Randall asked the Board to replace the wood sign on Pumpkin Hill to the same style used on other roads. Also there are no road signs for Marcy Road, Linkkila Lane and Park Drive. The Board discussed signage for non-town roads. Mr. Randall also requested the intersection sign on South Bear Hill Road be moved off the road a couple of feet. He also asked the status of the awnings at the Firehouse. Mr. Cunningham didn't get prices yet. Mr. Randall is still requesting a shelf in the firehouse bathrooms to store supplies.

4. Approve minutes of: Regular Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2016

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve the November 3, 2016 Board of Selectmen Regular meeting minutes. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor. Mr. Cunningham asked to amend the minutes to remove the non-board members from "Members Present" to "Others Present".

5. Communications and Reports

A. Trooper Report – November 2016

Mrs. Gluck reported that statistics were not received yet by Trooper Black.

B. Board Members Reports

Ms. Schein stated that the farewell party for Librarian, Jessica Jahnke was well received and a thank you to Mrs. Gluck for putting it together.

Board of Finance Discussion

Mr. Weingart, Chairman Board of Finance, was not in attendance to report for the BOF.

C. Correspondence

None

D. Building/Infrastructure

Mr. Cunningham reported that Eversource will be replacing street light bulbs with LED lights. He also approved the solar designs for the firehouse and senior center; architect needs to approve that the buildings can hold the weight of the solar panels.

E. Discussion regarding Recreation Commission

Mr. Cunningham reported that basketball season has started and that Windham is drafting an agreement for the Windham Recreation Director to work with the Town of Chaplin.

6. New Business**A. Tax Collector Refunds**

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve a tax refund to VM Credit Leasing LTD in the amount of \$726.24. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve a tax refund to Nissan Infiniti LT in the amount of \$259.02. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve a tax refund to Nissan Infiniti LT in the amount of \$556.94. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve a tax refund to Nissan Infiniti LT in the amount of \$481.24. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

Ms. Schein made a motion to approve a tax refund to William Wade in the amount of \$87.63. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

B. Resignations/Appointments: Mr. Cunningham reported on resignations received by Jessica Jahnke, Librarian, whose last day is 12/2/16 and Bruce Raymond, Vice-Chairman of the Board of Finance. Ms. Schein made a motion to approve the appointment of Bruce Raymond as Democratic Registrar as appointed by the Democratic Town Committee. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Schein made a motion to appoint Priscilla Willey Diwan as a member of the Library Board of Trustees. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

C. Discussion and possible action on an ordinance prohibiting the storage, disposal, or use of waste from oil and gas exploration or extraction activities or any derivative thereof, in the Town of Chaplin, CT. Ms. Schein asked the Board to consider an ordinance regarding waste materials being disposed of from possible future extraction activities in Town. Other towns, Ashford, Windham, Coventry, and Mansfield passed one and Chaplin should just in case there is an issue with waste. Ms. Schein read the definition of fracking. Mr. Rose stated an ordinance will need to go to a Town meeting to be passed. Mr. Cunningham will send information to the Town attorney for review.

D. Discussion and possible action of 2017 Board of Selectmen Regular meeting dates.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the following dates for 2017 Board of Selectmen regular meetings. Ms. Schein seconded the motion. All in favor.

January 5, 2017	July 6, 2017
February 2, 2017	August 3, 2017
March 2, 2017	September 7, 2017
April 6, 2017	October 5, 2017
May 4, 2017	November 2, 2017
June 1, 2017	December 7, 2017

7. Old Business**A. STEAP Grant (North Bear Hill Bridge)**

Mr. Cunningham reported that the contract was signed with WMC Engineering firm. Ground will be broken by 4/1/2017, sooner if weather allows. WMC sent contracts to the contractor Mattern Construction to be signed. During the project there will be no need to re-route any buses because they are not currently using this route.

B. Discussion regarding handicapped access at the Senior Center

Mr. Cunningham did a walk through to consider the possibility of the one chaired access and due to the layout it doesn't seem feasible. It would be difficult to close off parts of the Senior Center during non business hours when the library is open. Mr. Rose said if the front step is to be used something has to change due to the ice. Due to the expense we need to find a way to close off the Senior Center and use the one chaired access, use a privacy screen. The board agreed that closing off the Senior Center is a better option than redoing the other entrance due to the cost.

C. Discussion regarding use of Community Center

Mr. Cunningham stated that he did a walk through with Steve Laume and that the project will begin after the holidays.

D. Status of Chaplin Museum and William Ross Library re-location

Mr. Cunningham reported that he and Dave Stone, DPW Supervisor, will do a walkthrough of the buildings to make a list of repairs. The Board discussed getting quotes for the old Library to be moved and what area would be the best location, maybe between the Trooper office and the Library/Senior Center building. If moved, the land could be sold to an abutting owner.

E. Status of Dissolution Study and Add/Withdraw Grades Study

Mr. Cunningham reported that the add/withdraw grades study committee has been meeting regularly, but the dissolution study committee has not. The three selectmen sent a letter to the State requesting an update to why the committee has not been formed. The State replied that the one of the Towns did not submit their nomination from the Board of Finance – this was not the case. Due to the State delays the dissolution committee has already lost 4 months of time. Ms. Schein suggested that the Towns have a referendum to ask the people what they want. The Board discussed how this would work, would a petition for referendum be needed or can the Board of Selectmen approve the referendum. Mr. Cunningham will follow up with Attorney DeCrescenzo.

F. Discuss tentative plans to celebrate Chaplin Bicentennial in 2022.

Mr. Cunningham reported no updates at this time. The Board agreed that funds of \$5000 per year will be requested from CIP.

G. Discuss All Pending and New FOI Requests

None

H. Human Resources Updates/Changes

Mr. Cunningham informed the Board that a new assistant cook for the Senior Center has been hired, Dawn Gilbert.

I. Discussion regarding the Department of Public Works

Mr. Cunningham reported that DPW crew is working on miscellaneous projects until the snow comes and keeps them busy. Still looking into DPW taking over the transfer station, he will sit with Valerie Garrison, Finance Manager, to see about the budget and what makes sense. It

may have to wait until next budget year. Dave Stone has been overseeing it and getting it more organized.

J. Discussion regarding Public Safety and Resident Trooper Program

Mr. Cunningham reported that Trooper Black is doing a toy drive; Stuff the Cruiser is on the same day as the tree lighting ceremony at the volunteer fire department.

K. Discussion on Energize CT Grant

The Board discussed options for using the \$5000 grant – towards HVAC system at Town hall or the community room at the senior center. The community room will be about \$12,000-\$15,000 but there may be other grants that can piggy back this one.

L. Discussion regarding leasing space in the Old Post Office Building.

Mr. Cunningham reported that this will be a rainy day project for the DPW crew to fix up.

M. Conservation Commission – Review status of commission and ordinance.

Mr. Cunningham is still waiting to see if the new potential members join.

N. Discussion and possible action to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day

Ms. Schein asked the Board to again consider changing the day to Indigenous People's Day and not a combined Columbus Day/Indigenous People's Day as discussed at the last meeting. She provided more materials to the Board to review regarding why Columbus should not be celebrated due to enslavement practices he believed in. The Board discussed whether a Town meeting would need to vote on this change or not. The Board will review the materials and revisit the request.

8. Other Business

None

9. Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion. Mr. Randall inquired more about the handicapped access and mentioned Stuff a Cruiser is 9 to 3pm on Saturday.

10. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting

Communications and Reports

- Trooper Report
- Board Members Reports
- Board of Finance Discussion
- Correspondence
- Building/Infrastructure
- Discussion regarding Recreation Commission

New Business

- Tax Collector
- Resignations/Appointments

Old Business

- STEAP Grant (North Bear Hill Bridge)
- Discussion regarding handicapped access at the Senior Center
- Discussion regarding use of Community Center
- Status of Chaplin Museum and William Ross Library re-location

- Status of Dissolution Study and Add/Withdraw Grades Study
- Discuss tentative plans to celebrate Chaplin Bicentennial in 2022.
- Discuss All Pending and New FOI Requests
- Human Resources Updates/Changes
- Discussion regarding the Department of Public Works
- Discussion regarding Public Safety and Resident Trooper Program
- Discussion on Energize CT Grant
- Discussion regarding leasing space in the Old Post Office Building.
- Conservation Commission – Review status of commission and ordinance.
- Discussion and possible action on an ordinance prohibiting the storage, disposal, or use of waste from oil and gas exploration or extraction activities or any derivative thereof, in the Town of Chaplin, CT.
- Discussion and possible action to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day

11. Date, time, and place of next meeting (January 5, 2017 @ 7:00pm @ the Town Hall)

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm