

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, June 1, 2023**

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Richard Weingart, Chairman/Board of Finance, Jim Randall, Robert Dubos, Chris Bray

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm
- 2. First Audience of Citizens:** Bob Dubos of Bedlam Road expressed concern over how early voting will affect the use of the Fire House and hopes that changing the polling location will be considered as early voting would tie up the firehouse for two weeks. J Roman stated that it is already under discussion.
- 3. Additions to the Agenda:** J Roman requested the following item be added to the agenda under New Business: B) appointment of members to the Bicentennial Arboretum Committee.
- 4. Approve minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular meeting on May 4, 2023.** *J. Roman made a MOTION to approve the May 4, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. J. Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*
- 5. Communications and Reports**
 - A. Trooper Report – As of 6/1/2023, Trooper Tucker had not submitted his statistics for the month of May 2023.
 - B. Board Members Reports:
None
 - C. Board of Finance Discussion: Chair of the Board of Finance, Dick Weingart, reported that the FY 2023-2024 Budget Proposal passed at referendum and has been adopted with the mil rate set at 35.5 which is a 1 mil increase. The new mil rate has been sent to the assessor and tax bills should be going out 6/20/2023. A new tax collector, Lisa Madden, has been hired and will maintain the tax collector's office at Windham Town Hall. She will attend the 6/12/2023 BOF meeting for a meet and greet. D Weingart also reported that a new auditor has been chosen and that this year's audit will be performed by Hoyt, Fillipetti and Malaghan, LLC out of Groton, CT.
 - D. Correspondence: J Roman stated that the Chaplin Public Library Board of Directors sent the BOS a letter expressing their hope that the BOS will write a letter of recognition to Sandra Horning, Library Director. They have requested that such letter be placed in Sandra's personnel file.

- E. Building/Infrastructure: None
- F. Treasurer Report: None
- G. Department of Public Works Report: None
- H. Chaplin Volunteer Fire Department Report: None

6. New Business

- A. Tax Collector Refunds: None
- B. Appointments and Resignations: *J Roman made the MOTION to appoint David Stone, Helen Weingart and Leslie Ricklin to the Bicentennial Arboretum Committee for terms beginning 6/1/2023 and ending 5/31/2026. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- C. Discussion and possible action on the BOS Letter of Recognition for the Library Director. Ken Fortier read the letter written to Ms. Horning out to the members and audience (see attached). Juan Roman, Joe Pinto and Kenneth Fortier signed the letter.
- D. Discussion and possible action on bids received for the replacement of the HVAC system at the fire house. *J Roman made a MOTION to accept the bid of \$28,606.55 made by Corbett HVAC Services, LLC. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- E. Discussion and possible action on bids received for the paving of Nyberg Road. *J Roman made a MOTION to accept the bid of \$38,850.00 made by Pinecroft Paving & Landscaping LLC. J Pinto seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- F. Discussion and possible action on bids received for the construction of a fire pond and dry hydrant. *J Roman made a MOTION to accept the bid of \$ 75,258.00 made by Heritage Building & Design of Mansfield, LLC with a clause in the contract for the removal of boulders. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- G. Discussion and possible action on the tire fees at the Transfer Station. J Roman reported that the fees for tire collection were not in line with what the company charges to remove the tires. The Town was charging too little. Fees charged at the Transfer Station for tires up to 19.5" to be raised from \$2.50 to \$3.00; tires 19.5" to 24.5" to be raised from \$9.00 to \$12.00; tires larger than 24.5" to remain the same at \$100.00. *J Roman made a MOTION to raise the fees for taking in tires at the Transfer Station as discussed effective 7/1/2023. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- H. Discussion and possible action on relocating the door in the fire house hallway giving access to the restroom. J Pinto reported that accessing the restroom from where the door is now interrupts functions. He would like to see the door located on the other side of the room to minimize disruption. No cost has been determined. J Pinto to look into pricing. Tabled until next month's meeting.

7. Old Business

- A. American Rescue Plan Funds: No expenses to report.
- B. All Pending and New FOI Requests: None.
- C. Amendment of the May 4, 2023 Resolution to pursue CIF funding for the sidewalk connectivity and accessibility project. J Roman explained to the Board that the Resolution to pursue CIF funding for this project, which was signed on May 4, 2023, needs to be amended due to the recent discovery that the new minimum dollar amount to be applied for is \$1.5 million dollars. As a result, Juan has chosen to include the moving of the museum, further paving and accessibility upgrades to Garrison Park and accessibility upgrades to Town Hall in the funding application. *J Roman made a MOTION to amend the amount of money to be pursued through the CIF Grant to \$1.5 million from \$850,000. K Fortier seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION CARRIED.*
- D. Update on the Purchase of Hurst Battery Powered Rescue Tools for the New Firetruck: J Pinto reported that all new hydraulic tools have been received and are in service.
- E. Discuss Updates on Bedlam Bridge and England Road Bridge J Roman reported that a Utility Meeting occurred for the England Road Bridge project on May 16, 2023 and a start date of April 2024 is anticipated for the project. A Request for Quotes was published in the Hartford Courant on 6/1/2023 for engineering services (clerk of the works) on the England Road Bridge project. For the Bedlam Bridge project, J Roman reported receiving an agreement contract for engineering services with WMC Consulting Engineers. Juan to sign the agreement and return it to WMC.
- F. Discussion of Town Manager: Tabled for next month's meeting.

8. Second Audience of Citizens - Note: Comments are limited to agenda items and subject to Chair discretion: Jim Randall asked about a sidewalk being added to the Bedlam Road Bridge project. The Selectmen answered that the design of the bridge was complete, and no changes can be made.

9. Agenda Suggestions for next meeting: Current agenda was reviewed. Items D, E and F under New Business to remain as updates. G to be removed and H moved to Old Business. Items E and F under Old Business to remain. Item D may be removed. Item B can be moved to New Business.

10. Date, time, and place of next meeting (July 6, 2023, at 7:00pm, Chaplin Town Hall).

11. Adjourn: *J. Pinto made a MOTION to adjourn at 8:01pm. J Roman seconded the MOTION. All in favor, MOTION passed.*

*Respectfully Submitted by,
Susan Welshman
Administrative Assistant*