

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES
October 5, 2021 REGULAR MEETING**

Minutes – APPROVED AS CORRECTED 11-16-2021

In Person

Board of Selectmen Attendance: First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, Selectman Donald Shea, and Selectman Elizabeth Appel.

Also, in attendance: Finance Director Tom Ellis, Town Counsel Barbara Schellenberg, and Lina V. Frazer

Visitors: James Stirling

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:01p.m. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

First Selectman Cofrancesco called for a motion to approve the September 21, 2021, meeting minutes. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Appel seconded. Voting in favor: Cofrancesco, Shea, Appel. **Unanimous Approval.**

ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGEDNDA FOR DISCUSSION & POSSILBE ACTION

Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to add to agenda: Update on the Quinipiack Valley Health District request for a donation under the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) to the end of agenda. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Appel seconded. Voting in favor: Cofrancesco, Shea, Appel. **Unanimous Approval.**

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION - TAX REFUNDS.

First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to approve the Tax Refunds for a total of \$2,964.68: Acar Leasing LTD - \$490.84, Davis, Seth H - \$120.75, Jarvis, Sandra C & Michael K. – \$32.53, Toyota Lease Trust – \$2,032.13, Vecchio, John A - \$49.48, and VT INC Tstee Wolt - \$238.95. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Appel seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Appel. **Unanimous Approval.**

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MEMEBERS

First Selectman Cofrancesco noted a correction to the agenda from Sharon Brighenti to Shannon Brighenti. First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to approve Scotty Kealey and Shannon Brighenti as regular members (not alternates) to the Conservation Commission. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Appel seconded. Voting in favor: Cofrancesco, Shea, Appel. **Unanimous Approval.**

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**DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – HOPP BROOK/BEACON FALLS
DEVELOPMENT - UPDATE**

First Selectman Cofrancesco provided an update to the Board regarding her attendance at a hearing in Beacon Falls on September 29, 2021. Attorney Patricia Sullivan also attended the public hearing, and they will continue to monitor for any updates or developments. No action taken at this meeting.

**DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE -
UPDATE**

First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated to the Board there was no update at this time on the Final Draft of the Affordable Housing Plan. The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet next week to approve the POCD and that should help facilitate next steps. No action taken at this meeting

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – STATUS OF AIRPORT HANGER - UPDATE

First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated to the Board that Eversource connected the transformer on the main pole but there is still electrical work to be completed. They inadvertently also disconnected the power going to the stand up at the horse rings. The goal is to have that corrected by this Saturday for the Lions Club Drive-In Movie Night. No action taken at this meeting.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – SIMPSON PROPERTY - ON HOLD

First Selectman Cofrancesco updated the Board that John Paul Garcia has completed the outside boundaries of the A2 survey and hopes to have it finalized in the coming weeks. Attorney Barbara Schellenberg communicated that the probate court proceedings are finished, and completion of the survey is next step. No action taken at this meeting.

**DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – TEXTILE RECYCLABLES COLLECTION
- ON HOLD**

First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated to the Board that there is no update to the textile recyclables but will keep it on the agenda as a point to follow up on. No action taken at this meeting

**DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – REVITALIZATION OF BETHANY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**

First Selectman Cofrancesco brought forth the idea of revitalizing the Bethany Economic Development Commission. First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated to the Board the result of some information gathering to determine the current status of the commission. Presently, there are only two active members with no regular minutes or appointments since 2013. Commission bylaw state that there can be 5 members with 5-year term limits. Board members discussed the idea of identifying individuals that may be interested in serving on the

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commission, particularly members of the business community. Possible next steps may include a write up in the November Bethany Bulletin. **NO ACTION TAKEN, ITEM WILL BE ONGOING.**

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – QUINNIPIACK VALLEY HEALTH DISTRICT - UPDATE

First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated to the Board that she and Finance Director, Tom Ellis met with QVHD Director, Karen Wolujewicz to gather more information regarding a request for a donation of ARPA funds. QVHD expressed that their proposal is to approach the four towns they service and request 1% of each town's total ARPA funds which will be fit into a templet budget to be used for medical supplies, additional staffing, etc. QVHD will speak with all four towns and draft a budget for the Board to discuss and/or approve. **NO ACTION TAKEN**

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:33 p.m. First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to adjourn. Selectman Cofrancesco moved, and it was seconded by Selectman Shea to adjourn the regular meeting. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Appel. **Unanimous Approval.**

Respectfully submitted,



*Laura Callery
Board of Selectmen Minutes Clerk*