BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES

JUNE 15, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

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MINUTES APPROVED 8-3-2021

In Person

Board of Selectmen Attendance: First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco, Selectman Donald Shea, and Selectman Derrylyn Gorski.

Also, in attendance: Finance Director Tom Ellis, Town Counsel Courtney George, and Emergency Management Director Rod White.

Visitors: Elizabeth Appel, Sharon Huxley, Fran Doba, Carol Goldberg, Ruth Beardsley, Will Brinton, and Irma Nesson.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN - CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Paula Cofrancesco called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

First Selectman Cofrancesco called for a motion to approve the June 1, 2021. Selectman Gorski moved and Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea. Abstained: Gorski.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – TAX REFUNDS.

First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to approve the Tax Refunds for a total of \$25.14: Doris A. Beswick - \$20.76; and Jennifer A. Green - \$4.38. Selectman Gorski moved and Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous Approval.**

<u>DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – RETIREMENT LETTER – NANCY MCCARTHY-EFFECTIVE 7/1/2021.</u>

First Selectman Cofrancesco announced that the Town of Bethany's Town Clerk, Nancy McCarthy, is retiring. Mrs. McCarthy has been serving the Town for the past thirty (35) years. The Board of Selectmen expressed their gratitude for her service and dedication to the Town. Mrs. McCarthy served the town under the tenure of five (5) Selectmen. Selectman Gorski added that Mrs. McCarthy's service has been of great value to the Town.

<u>DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – TOWN CLERK APPOINTMENT;</u> <u>COMMISSION/BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS</u>

First Selectman Cofrancesco motioned to appoint and reappoint the following members starting as of July 1, 2021. Selectman Gorski moved and Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous Approval.**

- Town Clerk Appointment:
 - Will Brinton (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2023) to replace Nancy McCarthy retiring as of (7/1/2021)
- <u>Tree Warden Re-Appointment:</u> Ray Pantalone (7/1/2021 to 6/30/2023)
- Conservation Commission:

Correction and cancellation of Reappointment – Mathew Popp (7/1/2021)

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<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – GREEN LIGHT AUTO SALES – TAX INCENTIVE</u> PROGRAMS APPLICATION – RECOMMENDATION FROM TIP (Tax Incentive Program

Review Committee) First Selectman Cofrancesco shared a letter to the Board of Selectmen, that has also been shared with the applicant Mr. David Logue from Green Light Auto Sales, LLC, about the Incentive Programs Application recommendation and approval reviewed by both the Board of Finance and the Assessor's office (Tax Incentive Program Review Committee (TIP)) at its June 8th meeting. The Board of Finance approved a thirty percent (30%) abatement for a three-year period for both real estate and personal property at 9 Russell Road.

The letter addressed to Green Light Auto Sales, LLC dated June 11, 2021, is now presented to the Board of Selectmen for final approval as recommended or for modifications as Per § 184 – 15.C – Application procedure.

First Selectman Cofrancesco motioned to approve the abatement recommendation by both the Board of Finance and the Assessor's office (Tax Incentive Program Review Committee (TIP)). Selectman Gorski moved to approve the 30% abatement as recommended. Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. <u>Unanimous Approval.</u> The abatement is to become effective with the October 1, 2021, Grand List and would appear on the July 2022, tax bill.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE UPDATE

First Selectman Cofrancesco provided an update and noted that due to mailing issues with the Post Office missing delivery of mail to residents to a route in Town, the survey due date was extended to June 8th as the final deadline. The plan is expected to be completed for June 30th and will be incorporated in the POCD plan. About 238 responses were received from Town Residents and currently results were being tabulated, and the results would be discussed at the next scheduled Affordance Housing Committee meeting.

<u>DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – STATUS OF AIRPORT HANGAR UPDATE</u> (TABLED).

First Selectman Cofrancesco communicated that the repair work to correct the tornado damage is finalized. Currently focus is on the electrical work for exit signs and lighting and provide permanent electrical features in the building and also analyzing leakages repairs in the building.

<u>DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – SIMPSON PROPERTY – ON HOLD (IN PROBATE)</u>

First Selectman Cofrancesco noted that John Paul Garcia provided an estimate on a A-2 Survey that is needed for the grant money approval for Land Acquisition by the Town. Closing costs related to the purchase, including the survey were approved at the Town Meeting and would be covered by the grant monies. The purchase of the property remains subject to probate court approval and will take a couple months, but it is on its finalizing stages.

<u>DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – SIMPLE RECYCLING (SOFT RECYCLABLES) - ON HOLD</u>

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OTHER MATTERS PROPER TO COME BEFORE THE MEETING

First Selectman Cofrancesco presented Former First Selectman Derrylyn Gorski with a proclamation for her Former First Selectman Gorski: Whereas Derrylyn Gorski has been a longtime resident of Bethany; appointed as the Democratic Registrar of Voters May 4, 1989; elected First Selectman May of 2003 and took office July 1, 2003; the first female First Selectman to serve as the chief elected official; the first Democrat to serve as Bethany's chief elected official since Tyler D. Davidson left office in 1924; served as First Selectman for sixteen (16) years; strongly advocated in Hartford on many issues for the benefit of the Town and Bethany Board of Education; has served as a member of the Board of Selectmen July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021; and In her eighteen years of service to the Town of Bethany, Derrylyn Gorski has worked tirelessly and dutifully to address the needs of the Town and its residents. **NOW THEREFORE**, I, Paula Cofrancesco, First Selectman of the Town of Bethany do hereby proclaim the 15th of June 2021 to be "Derrylyn Gorski Day" in the Town of Bethany.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:25 p.m. First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to adjourn. Selectman Gorski moved and it was seconded by Selectman Shea to adjourn the regular meeting. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous Approval.**

Respectfully submitted,

Lina V. Frazev

Board of Selectmen Meeting Clerk

AUG - 4 2021
10348am WB
BETHANY TOWN CLERK