

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

AUGUST 18, 2020

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MINUTES – APPROVED 9-1-2020

Via Zoom

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

Also in attendance: Town Attorney Vincent Marino, Finance Director Sheila Lane, Emergency Management Director Rod White, and Tax Collector Fran Doba.

Visitors: Board of Finance Member Sharon Huxley, Frederick Nevin, Carol Goldberg, and Clark Hurlburt.

1. BOARD OF SELECTMEN – CALL TO ORDER

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

First Selectman Cofrancesco called for a motion to suspend the Board of Selectmen meeting and start the Board of Finance special meeting. Selectman Shea moved to suspend and start the Board of Finance special meeting and Selectman Gorski seconded. Voting: Shea, Gorski, Cofrancesco. **Unanimous Approval.**

2. BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING

At 8:16 p.m. First Selectman Cofrancesco asked for a motion to reconvene into the Board of Selectmen's Regular meeting. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Gorski seconded. Voting: Shea, Gorski, Cofrancesco. **Unanimous Approval.**

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tax Collector Doba had an amendment/correction to the minutes of the regular meeting of July 21, 2020. Mrs. Doba mentioned that what she had stated that under section 12-144c on the July 21, 2020, meeting was incorrect and the max amount to be raised is actually \$25, not \$5, according to statute. Mrs. Doba is requesting this correction to the July 21 minutes.

First Selectman Cofrancesco called for a motion to amend the July 21, 2020, minutes and to approve the minutes as amended. Selectman Shea moved and Selectman Gorski seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous approval.**

First Selectman Cofrancesco moved to approve the August 10th Special meeting, Selectman Shea seconded. Hearing no corrections or comments, vote called. Voting: Approved - Cofrancesco, Shea. Abstained: Gorski.

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4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – TAX REFUNDS

Discussion to waive and not issue a bill to residents on anything under \$5.00. Selectman Gorski moved to approve to waive and not issue as stated. Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous approval.**

5. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – ROAD WORK – MOVING FORWARD – UPDATE

Continuing to move forward.

- First Selectman Cofrancesco noted that aprons and curbing are being done and some cleaning from the storm is still going.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – STATUS OF AIRPORT HANGAR UPDATE - TABLED

Mr. White notes that a contractor will be looking into the project to evaluate what needs to be done.

7. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – SIMPSON PROPERTY – ON HOLD (IN PROBATE)

First Selectman Cofrancesco stated this is on hold and in probate court. **Tabled.**

8. DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE ACTION – SIMPLE RECYCLING (SOFT RECYCLABLES) – ON HOLD

First Selectman Cofrancesco noted that this item will stay on hold until the businesses working with Simple Recycling re-open. **Tabled.**

9. OTHER BUSINESS

First Selectman Cofrancesco followed up on the discussion from the Board of Finance on the new Vendor recommendation for the Town's propane. The recommendation addressed at the Board of Finance meeting was to go with Dependable Energy, who offered the most reasonable prices.

Selectman Gorski moved to approve and Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Shea, Gorski. **Unanimous approval.**

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION – FIREHOUSE HEADQUARTERS FLOOR PROJECT

The Board of Selectmen moves to approve and adopt the Resolution prepared by Town Attorney Marino and as adapted by the Board of Finance during its Special Meeting. Selectman Gorski moved and Selectman Shea seconded. Voting: Cofrancesco, Gorski, Shea. **Unanimous Approval.**

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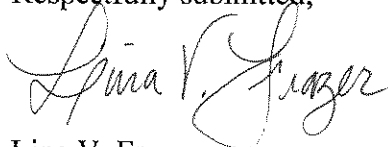
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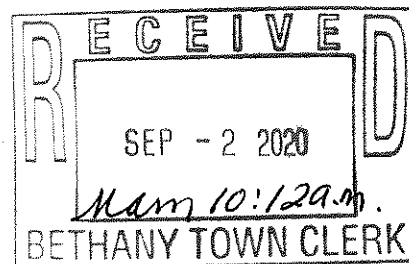
11. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:29 p.m., it was moved by Selectman Gorski and seconded by Selectman Shea to adjourn the regular meeting. **Unanimous approval.**

Respectfully submitted,



Lina V. Frazer
Meeting Clerk



TOWN OF BETHANY
RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE BOARD OF FINANCE
IN ACCORDANCE WITH
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7S, SECTION 7,
AS MODIFIED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 7CC, SECTION 1

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Lamont issued a declaration of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to such declaration, Governor Lamont has issued sixty-five (65) executive orders to suspend or modify statutes and to take other actions necessary to protect public health and safety and to mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, in the Town of Bethany, the legislative body of the town is the Town Meeting.

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order No. 7S, section 7, which authorized the Board of Selectmen to, under certain conditions and circumstances, act in place of the Town Meeting during the public health and civil preparedness emergency; and,

WHEREAS, in the Town of Bethany, the Board of Finance is the budget-making authority of the Town; and,

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2020, Governor Lamont issued Executive Order No. 7CC, which modified Executive Order No. 7S, section 7, wherein he authorized the Board of Selectmen, as the legislative body, and the Board of Finance, as the budget-making authority, to authorize certain actions enumerated therein, by a majority vote of each body, to include any financial actions required by, *inter alia*, a contract or agreement, providing that there is a specific finding that such action is necessary to permit the orderly operation of the municipality and that there is a need to act immediately during the public health and civil preparedness emergency in order to prevent significant financial loss; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7S, section 7 requires that in so acting, Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance comply with public meeting requirements consistent with requirements set forth in Executive Order 7B; and,

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 7S, provides in section 7 that "[n]othing in this order shall be construed to prohibit a municipality from conducting any in-person meeting, approval process, or referendum, provided such municipality first consults with local or state public health officials and conducts such meeting, approval process, or referendum in a way that significantly reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19;" and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance find that under the current public health emergency caused by COVID-19 and how that virus is spread, there is no reasonable way to conduct an in-person town meeting or referendum that significantly reduces the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among those who would be assembled.

ACTION OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the majority vote of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Bethany, at a duly noticed meeting via Zoom held on August 18, 2020, in accordance with Executive Order No. 7S, section 7, as modified by Executive Order No. 7CC, section 1, it is hereby found that action is necessary on the Firehouse Headquarters Floor Project (the "Project") to permit the orderly operation of the Town and there is a need to act immediately on the Project during the public health and civil preparedness emergency in order to prevent significant financial loss; and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT an additional \$10,000.00 is appropriated for the Project in addition to the original appropriation for the Project which was in the amount of \$120,000.00;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Project is awarded to Mick Jensen Masonry of Bristol Connecticut;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Town shall seek reimbursement for the cost of the Project from the Local Capital Improvement Program;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the First Selectwoman is authorized to execute all documents on behalf of the Town related to the Project.

DATED at Bethany, Connecticut, this 18th day of August, 2020.


Paula Cofrancesco
Its First Selectwomen

ACTION OF BOARD OF FINANCE

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the majority vote of the Board of Finance of the Town of Bethany, at a duly noticed special meeting via Zoom held on August 18, 2020, in accordance with Executive Order No. 7S, section 7, as modified by Executive Order No. 7CC, section 1, it is hereby found that action is necessary on the Firehouse Headquarters Floor Project (the "Project") to permit the orderly operation of the Town and there is a need to act immediately on the Project during the public health and civil preparedness emergency in order to prevent significant financial loss; and,

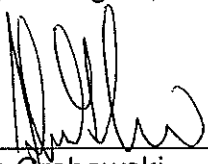
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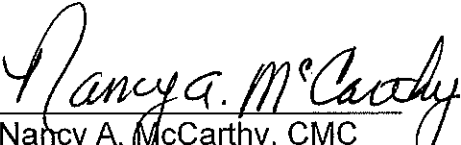
IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the chairman is authorized to execute this resolution on behalf of the board and the First Selectwoman is authorized to execute all documents on behalf of the Town related to the Project.

DATED at Bethany, Connecticut, this 18th day of August, 2020.



John Grabowski
Its Chairman, duly authorized

ATTEST



Nancy A. McCarthy, CMC
Town Clerk

