



**Town of Ridgefield
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes
UNAPPROVED**

November 9, 2022 at 4:30pm

Please note – these minutes are not verbatim.

Present: Rudy Marconi, Sean Connelly, Barbara Manners, Maureen Kozlark

Absent: Bob Hebert

1. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

2. Board of Education – Indoor Air Quality Grant Program

The Board of Education would like to apply for the Indoor Air Quality State Grant to be used toward air quality upgrades for Ridgefield Public Schools. These are projects that are in the pipeline for the next two budget cycles. If the Grant is approved, the Town would receive \$165,000 in savings toward these projects. The Board of Education is required to provide specific criteria to the State including an authorization from the Board of Selectmen to apply for the grant, an authorization from the Board of Selectmen to establish a building committee, and an authorization from the Board of Selectmen to authorize the Director of Facilities for the Board of Education to prepare the schematic drawings and outline specifications. They will also need to provide the minutes from the meeting at which the resolutions were voted on and establish a Referendum date.

There was a discussion about if a Referendum is required or if a Town Meeting will suffice. S. Da Silva will find out.

Joe Moritz, Director of Facilities for the Board of Education, gave an overview of the projects that will be proposed in the grant application. The process for selecting the projects included identifying the most critical conditions.

There was a discussion about Air Quality testing and best practices.

M. Kozlark moved to authorize the Superintendent of Ridgefield Public Schools to apply for the Indoor Quality Grant to be submitted by December 1, 2022. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

M. Kozlark moved to authorize the First Selectmen and the Superintendent to establish a Building Committee for the HVAC project. B. Manners second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

S. Connelly moved to authorize the Board of Education Director of Facilities to prepare the schematic drawings and outline specifications to be submitted for the Indoor Quality Grant. B. Manners second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

S. Connelly moved to approve a request to the Board of Finance for an appropriation of \$690,000 for the HVAC project, minus the retro amount as indicated on the breakdown submitted at the meeting. M. Kozlark second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

3. ARPA Fund Request – Squad 5 Attack Pumper Project

The cost for the Mini Pumper has increased since it was last discussed. The funding source for the balance needs to be identified before the truck is ordered. One option is to use ARPA Funding, however there is currently not enough money to cover the entire \$66,365 that is needed.

The Board talked about using the \$45,000 that the ECDC requested for the Broadband study since that money is not needed immediately and is expected to be funded by the COG. The remaining \$21,000 can be taken from the ARPA Funds that have not yet been allocated.

B. Manners stated that she did not feel comfortable using funds that were already assured for another use.

S. Connelly moved to approve the use of \$66,365 ARPA Funds (\$45,000 from the Broadband allocation and \$21,000 from the ARPA Fund balance) to fund the additional cost of the Mini Attack Pumper. M. Kozlark second the motion. B. Manners abstained. Motion carries 3-0-1.

4. Fire Fighter Interviews – 5:30pm start – possible Executive Session

B. Manners motioned to move into Executive Session for Fire Fighter Interviews at 5:36pm. Invited into the Executive Session are the Fire Chief, Director of Human Resources and the applicants. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

The Executive Session ended at 6:28pm and the Board of Selectmen returned to the public to vote on the candidates.

B. Manners moved to offer Michael Singer and Dennis Frulla the firefighter

positions with the Ridgefield Fire Department, pending their background checks and post-offer physicals and drug screenings. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

5. Executive Session – Possible Land Purchase

M. Kozlark motioned to move to an Executive Session at 6:34pm to discuss a possible land purchase. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

M. Kozlark moved to close the Executive Session and return to the public meeting at 6:55pm. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.

No vote was taken.

M. Kozlark moved to end the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 6:57pm. S. Connelly second the motion. Motion carries 4-0.