

Town of Ridgefield
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2019 - 6:30pm
Town Hall, (Large Conference Room)
400 Main Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut
APPROVED Minutes

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

In attendance: R. Marconi, B. Hebert, B. Manners, M. Kozlark, S. Connelly

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Proclamation - Honoring Helen Dimos (Ridgefield Garden Club)
3. 2020 Calendar Meeting Dates
4. Town Ash Tree Update
5. Tax Collector Refunds
6. Approval of Meeting Minutes - October 23, 2019
7. Selectman's Report

R. Marconi called the Board of Selectmen's Meeting to order at 6:30pm.

1. Public Comment

B. Manners commented about how happy she was to be back with R. Marconi, B. Hebert, M. Kozlark, and also happy to have new member S. Connelly joining them on the BOS. She is very much looking forward to the next four years.

2. Proclamation - Honoring Helen Dimos (Ridgefield Garden Club)

R. Marconi on behalf of the BOS presented Helen Dimos of the Ridgefield Garden Club with a Proclamation. Ms. Dimos's documentation of her garden has been added to The Garden Club of America Collection at the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens. There were 31 images included in the submission, all 31 images are now part of the Smithsonian Archives of American Gardens. Ms. Dimos's garden submission is the first that the Ridgefield Garden Club has made of a Ridgefield Garden Club Member's Garden.

3. 2020 Calendar Meeting Dates

The BOS looked over and discussed the 2020 BOS & Fire Commission Calendar Meeting Dates, there were a few modifications made and the BOS voted to approve the calendar as modified for the upcoming year.

B. Hebert moved and M. Kozlark seconded the motion to approve the 2020 BOS & Fire Commission Calendar Meeting Dates as modified. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Town Ash Tree Update

R. Marconi presented the BOS with the status of the blighted Ash Trees in Town and updates on their removal. The Town budget currently has \$127,000 available to deal with the dead trees, R. Marconi stated that this amount could be expended in a couple of months. The Town is working with four tree companies to remove as many of the trees that are the greatest safety concern. It costs roughly \$2,500 per tree. There are a significant number of Ash Trees to be removed at the Town golf course.

A detailed discussion regarding the removal of the Ash Trees will be held during the budget cycle. R. Marconi is planning on doing a damage assessment in the spring to give the Town the approximate number of Ash Trees needed to be addressed.

5. Tax Collector Refunds

The Tax Collector Refunds as submitted were \$17,196.01. The refunds are for cars that were traded in and/or sold while the taxpayer had paid for the full year of taxes. Residents get a refund of what they overpaid.

B. Manners moved and B. Hebert seconded the motion to approve the Tax Collector Refunds in the amount of \$17,196.01. Motion carried 5-0.

6. Approval of Meeting Minutes - November 6, 2019

The BOS discussed the minutes from the November 6th meeting and made a few modifications.

B. Hebert moved and M. Kozlark seconded the motion to approve the November 6, 2019 Minutes from the Board of Selectmen Meeting as modified. Motion carried 4-0-1 (S. Connelly abstained).

7. Selectman's Report

Paving of Town Roads

R. Marconi has been reviewing the Town roads with Peter Hill, Director of Public Works. The Town has had a number of complaints about road paving. It is an area the BOS wants to address. Mr. Hill informed R. Marconi that he believes the quality of the materials used for paving is getting better

R. Marconi discussed with the BOS the possibility of adding additional money to the budget for paving during the BOS next budget cycle.

To ensure the quality control of the paving materials and application, R. Marconi suggested we could hire a testing company to test the temperature of the asphalt when it is loaded, then again when it arrives, then when it is on the ground, as well as performing a compaction test in order to determine the optimal compaction percentage. This will be a budget discussion.

Governor Street Parking Lot

M. Kozlark asked about the status of the Town parking lot. R. Marconi said since the new Inland/Wetlands Board had just been seated on November 19th there was nothing new to report yet. The Town has yet to schedule a date with the new Inlands/Wetlands Board to review the project.

Streaming BOS Meetings

R. Marconi brought up what he believes is the future, streaming the BOS meetings online. The meetings would then be archived. The BOS believed that the BOE pays roughly \$30,000-\$40,000 to stream their meetings and believes that this is a large amount. It might be a more realistic possibility if the BOS is able to piggy back with the BOE for a better rate. This is another item for the next budget cycle.

M. Kozlark moved and B. Hebert seconded the motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 7:32pm. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Hollie M. Rapp