

Town of Ridgefield
Board of Selectmen Meeting – April 19, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
Town Hall/Large Conference Room

Revised/Approved Minutes

These minutes are a general transcription and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

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

AGENDA

1. Public Comment
2. Youth Commission Interview: Caroline L. Whelan
3. ECDC Interview: Stephany Pound Sanderson
4. Housing Authority Interview: Janet S. Hebert
5. Commission on Aging Reappointments: Alice Kenny Lucas, Christine Robertson
6. Thrift Shop Tax Abatement Request
7. Proposed Revisions to Animal Ordinance Chapter 20
8. Norwalk River Valley Trail Update – Charlie Taney
9. Ballard Park/Parking
10. Bid Results for Two Lowboy Trucks
11. Approval of Modifications to Bond Resolutions
12. Battle of Ridgefield Proclamation
13. Selectman's Report
14. Approval of Meeting Minutes: 4/12/17 Special

R. Marconi called the BOS Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

1. Comments from the Public:

Dick Larson stood to make a comment about Item #9 Ballard Park/Parking and decided to make the comment when that agenda topic is discussed later in the meeting.

2. Youth Commission Interview: Caroline J. Whelan

Caroline J. Whelan came forward to introduce herself to the Board. R. Marconi welcomed Caroline and asked her to tell about herself. She has a strong background. M. Kozlark asked to tell of her work with youth. She has worked with youth of all ages. Her resume is most impressive. She has worked with a wide range of kids. S. Zemo asked Caroline to tell about herself and how she has worked with youth. R. Hebert commented on her impressive resume and how she has worked at many extra-curricular activities. He is willing to give her all the help he can.

B. Manners moved and M. Kozlark seconded a motion to elect Caroline J. Whelan to fill one of the youth vacancies on the Youth Commission for a two-year term. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Stephany Pound Sanderson

Ms. Sanderson is interested in joining the ECDC. Arnold Light of the ECDC is in strong support of her candidacy. Stephany understands the severity of the lack of retailers on Main Street and feels that her skillset will be beneficial to the committee and their Main Street initiatives.

R. Hebert moved and B. Manners seconded a motion to elect Stephany Pound Sanderson to fill the vacancy on the ECDC Commission for a one-year term. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Housing Authority Interview: Janet S. Hebert

Janet Hebert came forward to introduce herself to the members of the Board of Selectmen. Mrs. Hebert shared with the Board her extensive experience and involvement in various local activities. R. Marconi

read the letter of application submitted by Jan, outlining her extensive experience and background which will serve her well on the committee. The Board is most thankful for everything she has done and continues to do.

B. Manners moved and M. Kozlark seconded a motion to appoint Janet S. Hebert to fill the vacancy on the Housing Authority for a five-year term. Motion passed 4-0-1. Robert Herbert recused himself from the voting.

5. Commission on Aging Reappointments: Alice Kenny Lucas, Christine Robertson

The Board thanked both members for their service. They belong to a great organization. The commission is publishing its booklet which offers useful local information to all seniors. The informational booklet will be distributed by mail to all residents over 60.

M. Kozlark moved and B. Manners seconded the motion to reappoint Alice Kenny Lucas and Christine Robertson to the Commission on Aging for a three-year term. Motion passed 5-0.

6. Thrift Shop Tax Abatement Request

Mary Ellen Loncto and Jen Fagan came forward to discuss their request for the Thrift Shop. Also coming forward was Al Garzi, the Assessor for the Town of Ridgefield. They are asking for a tax abatement starting at the present time. The Town of Ridgefield has finished finances for the year and is dependent on the tax for the current year. The Board of Selectmen decided to examine the request prior to the next budget cycle.

7. Proposed Revisions to Animal Ordinance – Chapter 20

This would be a revision to an existing Town of Ridgefield ordinance. A committee of interested citizens will be assembled in an effort to mutually agree upon the regulations pertaining to this matter. It will detail removal of animal waste and the keeping of livestock on residential property. The ordinance will further regulate the upkeep of equestrians on residential/non-residential property.

8. Norwalk River Valley Trail Update – Charlie Taney

Charlie Taney and Pat Sesto came forward to update information on the Norwalk River Valley Trail which runs through Ridgefield. Mr. Taney reviewed where they are in their planning stages, the cost, and fund raising efforts in progress. Mr. Taney also invited the Board to walk a portion of the trail. Mr. Taney is hopeful that he will find increased support within the Town for this initiative.

9. Ballard Park/Parking

Members of the Parking Authority Jessica Wilmot and Dick Moccia came forward to discuss, as well as Parks & Recreation Director Paul Roche. We would like to address the issues before the CHIRP concerts begin. There is an additional \$5,000 in the budget to cover enforcement officers in the CVS parking lot. CHIRP can contribute \$100 per concert. M. Kozlark stated perhaps we should be looking at other venues in which to hold the concerts. It was decided to hold an additional meeting to further discuss the matter and identify possible solutions.

10. Bid Results for Two Low-Boy Trucks

R. Marconi explained the closeness of bids for two low-boy trucks. The Board decided to move forward with the purchase from a local dealer, Pamby's, consistent with the Town's "buy local, stay local" stance.

M. Kozlark moved and B Manners seconded a motion to purchase the two low-boy trucks from Pamby Motors. Motion passed 5-0.

11. Approval of Modifications to Bond Resolutions

It is necessary to modify the bond resolutions that were passed at the April 12 Special Board of Selectmen meeting. The incentive savings that will be realized from the School Energy Conservation Measures (Ballot question #7) should identify the comprehensive incentive bonus from Eversource that kicks in if the BOE completes the third year (FYE 18 capital) of the project. The amount should be changed from

\$78,857 to \$250,386 throughout the bonding resolutions documents. The language, which appears on Pages 3, 4, 6, and 7, will be changed as follows:

Page 3: RESOLVED: That the resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$378,770 For Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Energy Conservation Measures (Which Is Expected To Result In ~~\$78,857~~ 250,386 Of Incentive Savings), \$550,000 For The Planning, Design And Acquisition Of A School Phone System Upgrade And \$106,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Sidewalk And Curbing Repairs, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,034,770 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose", a copy of which is attached hereto, be approved and recommended for adoption by the legal voters of the Town.

Page 4: A motion was made by _____, and seconded by _____, that the First Selectman be authorized and directed to call an Annual Town Meeting to be held at the Ridgefield Playhouse, 80 East Ridge, Ridgefield, Connecticut, on _____, _____, 2017 at 7:30 P.M. (E.D.T.), for the following purposes: (A) To consider (1) the resolution approving Town expenditures of \$47,074,886 (consisting of Town operating expenditures of \$35,552,295 and debt service of \$11,522,591 on both Town and Education capital projects) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018; (2) the resolution approving Board of Education expenditures of \$92,633,544 for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018; (3) the resolution approving \$1,840,000 for the planning, design, acquisition and construction of various Town road and infrastructure improvements (including \$75,000 for ADA) for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018; (4) the resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$900,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of Branchville Transit Infrastructure Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$900,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose (Provided That The Bonds Shall Be Reduced By The Amount Of Any State Grants Received For Such Purpose And It Is Anticipated That Grants Will Cover All Expenditures Under The Appropriation)"; (5) the resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$182,882 For The Design And Acquisition Of A Highway Mack Truck, \$170,805 For The Design And Acquisition Of A John Deere Loader, \$235,000 For The Design And Acquisition Of Ambulance #3 And \$400,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of Replacement Fuel Tanks And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$988,687 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose"; (6) the resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$950,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction To Repair Water And Structural Damage To The Recreation Center And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$950,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose"; (7) the resolution entitled "Resolution Appropriating \$378,770 For Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Energy Conservation Measures (Which Is Expected To Result In ~~\$78,857~~ 250,386 Of Incentive Savings), \$550,000 For The Planning, Design And Acquisition Of A School Phone System Upgrade And \$106,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Sidewalk And Curbing Repairs, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,034,770 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose", (B) to consider and vote upon the resolution entitled "Resolution Making Appropriations Aggregating \$1,322,108 For The Planning, Design And Acquisition Of Various Public Improvements And Equipment And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,322,108 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose"; and (C) to submit the aforesaid resolutions in (A) above to a referendum vote to be held on _____, _____, 2017 from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and pursuant to Section 10-3 of the Town Charter, and that the questions to be voted upon and the ballot labels at said referendum shall read as follows:

Page 6: 7. "Shall the Resolution Appropriating \$378,770 For Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Energy Conservation Measures (Which Is Expected To Result In ~~\$78,857~~ 250,386 Of Incentive Savings), \$550,000 For The Planning, Design And Acquisition Of A School Phone System Upgrade And \$106,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Sidewalk And Curbing Repairs, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,034,770 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose, be approved?"

The form of the ballot label on the voting machine shall read as follows:

"Shall the resolution appropriating \$378,770 for planning, design, acquisition and construction of school energy conservation measures (which is expected to result in ~~\$78,857~~ 250,386 of incentive savings), \$550,000 for the planning, design and acquisition of a school phone system upgrade and \$106,000 for the planning, design, acquisition and construction of school sidewalk and curbing repairs, and authorizing the issuance of \$1,034,770 bonds of the Town to meet said appropriations and pending the issuance thereof the making of temporary borrowings for such purpose", be approved? YES/NO"

Page 7: 7. To consider a Resolution Appropriating \$378,770 For Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Energy Conservation Measures (Which Is Expected To Result In ~~\$78,857~~ 250,386 Of Incentive Savings), \$550,000 For The Planning, Design And Acquisition Of A School Phone System Upgrade And \$106,000 For The Planning, Design, Acquisition And Construction Of School Sidewalk And Curbing Repairs And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,034,770 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose.

B. Manners moved and R. Hebert seconded the modifications to the Bond Resolutions. Motion passed 5-0.

12. Battle of Ridgefield Proclamation

B. Manners moved and R. Hebert seconded a motion to approve the Proclamation of the Town of Ridgefield to approve April 2017 as "American Revolution Month". Motion passed 4-0. S. Zemo had left.

The date is April 22 and at the Town of Ridgefield in recognition of the 240th anniversary of the brave actions of American Patriots, some 50 of whom gave their lives for our independence.

13. Selectman's Report

- The celebration of American Revolution Month starts at 8:30 in the morning on the 22nd. A young girl starts off the festivities with placement of the State flowers.
- The HRRR poster contest is held April 26 and honors recycling.
- The annual Town and Budget Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 1st at East Ridge, at the Richard E. Venus Municipal Complex

14. Approval of Meeting Minutes: 4/12/17 Special

B. Manners moved and R. Hebert seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the April 12TH meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Motion passed 4-0. S. Zemo departed earlier in the meeting.

R. Marconi moved and R. Hebert seconded a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 10:06 p.m. Motion passed 4-0. S. Zemo departed earlier in the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet L. Johnson/Shannon Freda