

VOLUNTOWN SELECTMEN'S MEETING

February 13, 2018

Meeting	A Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at the Voluntown Town Hall. Tracey Hanson, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Selectmen Present	Tracey Hanson, Ronald Millovitsch, Mark Oulton
Town Officials	None
Citizens Present	Jack Wesa, David Nieminen
Pledge of Allegiance	
Approval of Minutes	
Motion	A motion was made by (Ronald Millovitsch/Mark Oulton) to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 23, 2018. Motion Approved.
Citizens Comments	
Jack Wesa	Mr. Wesa asked for an update on Greg Farmer and the bid for the Methodist Meeting House. Ms. Hanson responded that she has been in contact with Mr. Farmer and is waiting for him to contact her to arrange a time to take pictures inside the Church
David Nieminen	David Nieminen stated he is not in favor of the positions being changed from an elected position to an appointed position. Ms. Hanson stated they would be moving forward with the ordinance to change the Town Clerk's position to appointed and is hoping to have it ready by the Annual Town meeting. Mr. Nieminen also stated that he is not in favor of livestreaming the Boards & Commission's meetings and feels that the Boards would lose too many volunteers if this were to happen. . Mr., Oulton stated if they move forward with it then it would be on a voluntary basis only. Mr. Oulton stated he would like to use the Board of Selectmen's meeting as a pilot program. He said that only existing equipment would be used and no money would be spent on filming the meetings.
Correspondence & Announcements	
Heather Somers	Senator Heather Somers and State Representative Kevin Skulczyck will be holding a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 6:30pm-8:00pm at the Sterling Town Hall. Senator Heather Somers and State Representative Kevin Skulczyck will be holding a Town Hall Meeting on Thursday, March 1, 2018 from 6:00pm-7:00pm at the Voluntown Town Hall.
Comcast	Comcast sent a letter with their contact information in the event there are any issues with their services or infrastructure.
Uncas Health	Uncas Health District sent in their request for FY 2018-2019 budget of \$16,954.65 for Public Health Services for the residents of Voluntown.
Last Green Valley	The Last Green Valley sent a letter looking for sponsors for their Walktober 2018.
CT Water	Connecticut Water is pleased to announce the availability of scholarships for high school students through the CT Water Works Association and the New England Chapter of National Association of Water Companies. Information regarding these scholarships can be found at cwwa.org/Portals/CWWA/PDFs/2018_waterworks_career_scholarship.pdf and www.ctwater.com/news/sholarships-opportunities .

State Traffic Admin.	The Office of the State Traffic Administration sent a form requesting the Town to update the existing local traffic authorities for the Town of Voluntown.
Volkswagen Settlement	The approval of a 14.7 billion settlement against Volkswagen was finalized and the US government has issued a report that states and local authorities can use this to expand alternative fuel projects. Local authorities can apply for grants from this money for activities that include designing, planning, constructing and installing infrastructure that pertains to green energy projects such as a Level 2 charging stations.
Leash Laws	Ms. Hanson had a meeting with a resident asking about what the Town's leash laws were and how they were enforced. The town follows the state statutes. NECCOG stated that the statutes for leash laws are loosely worded and difficult to enforce. They can ticket for certain violations. NECCOG is going to put together a newsletter about the issue for the town.
CT Water	CT Water sent an email stated that the rates will be going up as of April 1, 2018.
NECCOG	NECCOG has been receiving calls regarding feral cats and feral cat colonies. NECCOG no longer has the catch and release but if you are having problems please contact your First Selectman or NECCOG and they can help resolve the issue.
Hospice	Center for hospice is hosting a program of creative and expressive arts workshops for all ages.
NBC30	NBC30 sent in a FOIA letter requesting information from Public Works regarding any possible accidents due to plowing.
CCM	<p>Ms. Hanson attended a meeting at CCM where the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation spoke about the upcoming Town Aid Road Fund. As of right now the DOT is not releasing the second payment or any future payments due to the Towns for the Town Aid Road Fund unless the legislature passes the proposed gas tax increase. He urges the townspeople to contact their legislatures to pass the gas tax. The DOT will also be holding back LoTCIP, Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program, money to the towns.</p> <p>The General Assembly is also discussing replacing PILOT with SILOT which is Services in Lieu of Taxes. This mostly helps towns who have Universities or Hospitals. There are very few services the State could offer the Town of Voluntown.</p>

Old Business – Action Items - None

Old Business – Discussion

2018-2019 Budget	Ms. Hanson will change the Budget Workshop date to March 6, 2018. Any Boards and Commissions can contact Julie Zelinsky in the Selectman's office to make an appointment to discuss their budgets if they have any special requests or changes. Appointments will be held between 6pm and 7pm before the Selectman's meeting.
Meeting Room	Ms. Hanson is still working on a use policy for the Town Hall Meeting Room.
Community Roundtable	There will be a Community Networking Roundtable on Monday March 5, 2018 at the Voluntown Elementary Library at 7:00pm. The Topic Is "Coordinating Our Efforts in Voluntown to Share Our Vision for Voluntown". Anyone interested in attending please fill out the form and return to the school by Monday February 26, 2018. You can contact the school for the form or go to the town website.

New Business – Action Items

Girl Scout Proclamation	Ms. Hanson read the Proclamation to designate March 12, 2018 as "Girl Scout Day". See attached.
-------------------------	---

Oil Tank Replacement
Building Committee
Appointees

A motion was made (R. Millovitsch/ M. Oulton) to appoint Barbara Gileau to the Oil Tank Replacement Committee. Motion Approved.

Special Town Meeting

Ms. Hanson read the call for the Special Town Meeting to be held on February 21, 2018 at the Voluntown Fire House at 7:00pm. Item 2 will be adjourned to a referendum on March 6, 2018 at the Town Hall from 12pm -8pm. See attached.

New Business – Discussion

Public Works Equipment

Ms. Hanson received a quote from Monroe Tractor for sweep attachments for the Skid Steer so the Public Works can clean the roads this summer. The current sweeper is down and cannot be fixed.

Motion

A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/Mark Oulton to buy the sweeper attachments to the skid steer. Motion Approved.

The Public Works received quotes for a new over the rail mower and loader. The Selectmen are looking into lease options. The lease options include a clause that states the equipment can be turned back in and the lease payment canceled at any time during the contract. Also the buyout at the end of the lease would be \$1.00. The selectmen will go over the information and discuss it at the next selectmen's meeting.

Suggestions for Next Meeting – None

Executive Session -

The Selectmen moved into executive session at 7:58 pm. Ms. Hanson noted that any discussion that takes place during this meeting is confidential and cannot be repeated outside of the meeting.

The Selectmen reviewed the candidates and the contract for the Tax Assessor position.

The Selectmen moved out of executive session at 8:22pm

Adjournment

Motion

A motion was made by (Ronald Millovitsch/Mark Oulton) to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:23p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

Julie L. Zelinsky, Admin. Asst. to the BOS

Tracey L. Hanson, First Selectman