

**VOLUNTOWN SELECTMANS REGULAR MEETING
February 23, 2021**

Meeting	The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held via Zoom on Tuesday, February 23, 2021. Ms. Hanson, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
Selectmen Present	Tracey Hanson, Ronald Millovitsch, Mark Oulton
Town Officials	Joseph Grenier
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 9, 2021. Motion Approved.
Citizens Comments	None
Correspondence & Announcements	
Troop E Montville	The CT State Police Troop E in Montville sent their report for calls made for the month of January.
LBOT	Gloria Matthews, a longtime member of the Library Board of Trustees, passed away. The Board of Selectmen send their condolences to the family.
Boards & Committee	
B&C Openings	Currently there are openings on the following Boards and Commissions. If you would like to volunteer please call the Town Hall or send an email to jzelinsky@voluntown.gov : Planning and Zoning has one vacancy, Economic Development Commission has three alternate positions, The Voluntown Sterling Transfer Station has one alternate position and the Library Board of Trustees has one opening.
Old Business	
COVID – 19	Starting on March 1,2021 individuals 55-64 are eligible for the vaccine and k-12 educators and childcare workers are eligible. It will require some sort of proof of age or a badge from your work.
PS Reim. Ordinance	Ms., Hanson spoke to the attorney about this ordinance and the attorney recommended repealing this ordinance. It is time sensitive so the Fire Department can move forward with increasing pay rates. Per executive orders the Board of Selectmen can vote on this rather than going to a Town Meeting. Ms. Hanson will move this for a vote at the next meeting. There was a question on the Town paid staff pay rate. It was discussed and decided that the new pay rate for this FY would be \$20.00 and next budget year would be \$21.00.
Public Hearing	Ms. Hanson recommends only sending the Town Clerk Ordinance to a Town Meeting. Ms. Hanson has not heard of anyone in favor of the Beach Pond No Wake Zone ordinance, so the ordinance will be tabled. A motion was made by M.Oulton/R. Millovitsch to not move forward with this ordinance. Motion Approved. Ms. Hanson spoke to the Town Attorney about the final closeout payment. There is an executive order during covid for things that are timely for the Board of Selectmen to vote on this. This is a liability that the Town must pay anyway so they agreed to add this as an action item to the next agenda. Ms. Hanson had a meeting with other First Selectmen on how to run Town Meetings. There are two options to move forward with the Town Clerk Ordinance. The First option would be the Selectmen would do the vote following a drive through to gauge how the residents would like this to go. The Second option would be that after March 16 th , it would be possible to hold an in-person hybrid Town Meeting. People

could vote on zoom via a pole plus and at the same time have an in-person vote. It was decided that the second option would be the best. Ms. Hanson will reach out to the school to see if this would be okay.

New Business

Legislative Update

Ms., Hanson testified twice so far along in favor of SB873. This bill would revise the Pilot funding into three Tiers. Ms. Hanson is in favor with one revision which would allow Towns with more than 50% of their property owned by the state be included in Tier 1 and that land should be assessed at market value rather than at the PA490 rate. Currently the land in Voluntown assessed at PA490 is approximately \$3,000,000.00 and actual value is \$33,000,000.00. The 2nd testimony was at the appropriation committee. Ms. Hanson stated basically the same thing along with the fact that Voluntown has no social services and this could go a long way with adding services to residents.

Suggestions for Next Meeting –Public Safety Reimbursement Ordinance, PW Garage Closeout.

Adjournment

Motion

A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

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

Tracey Hanson, First Selectman