VOLUNTOWN SELECTMEN’S MEETING
January 14, 2020

Meeting
The Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at the Voluntown Town Hall. Ms. Hanson, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present
Tracey Hanson, Ronald Millovitsch, Mark Oulton

Town Officials
None

Citizens Present
Jim McBride

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on December 23, 2019. Motion Approved.

A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on December 26, 2019. Motion Approved.

A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on January 7, 2020. Motion Approved.

Citizens Comments
Jim McBride
Mr. McBride asked the Selectmen about what could be done about the sign on private property and if it was violating the sign ordinance. The Selectmen stated it was a zoning issue and referred him to the Zoning Officer.

Boards & Committee

Financial Report
The Selectmen reviewed the 19/20 budget to date. The timeline for the 2020/2021 budget has been updated and will go out this week to all departments and Commissions. Some of the new things the Selectmen are looking into is adding Automated Calls to residents to inform them of upcoming meetings and events. The 2nd service the Selectmen are looking into is ePermitting which would allow residents to go online to apply for a permit, ask questions or to see the status of existing permits. This would interact with all the departments in the Town and create a better flow of communication.

Correspondence & Announcements

Last Green Valley
The Last Green Valley sent a letter asking for support from the Town in their Last Green Valley Walktober.

Safe Futures
Safe Futures sent a request for the Town to support their services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and trafficking.

NL Homeless
The New London Homeless Hospitality Center sent a request to the town asking for the town to consider supporting their regional services for the homeless.

SACCEC
The SACCEC sent a request to the town asking the town to consider supporting their services.

COST
COST sent a letter stating their membership dues will be going up from $725.00 to $975.00.

Uncas Health
Uncas Health districts annual rates have increased by 3%.
TVCCA | TVCCA sent a request asking for a contribution of $500.00 from the Town to help support their services.

Secretary of State | The Secretary of State sent a letter to Ms. Hanson to let the town know to expect funding requests for election related expenses.

Troop E Montville | Troop E in Montville sent a report listing the State Police calls for Voluntown for the Month of December. There were 2 accidents, 1 fatal accident, 3 criminal investigations, 35 non-reportable matters, 1 burglary, 6 traffic citations and 4 written warnings.

OPM | There is a new reporting requirement for municipalities with law enforcement agencies that have provided ICE access to an individual during the prior six months.

Water Authority | The Southeastern CT Water Authority sent their agenda for their meeting on January 16, 2020 at 7 pm at the Groton Public Library.

Conservation district | The Eastern CT Conservation district sent their annual report for fiscal year 2018-2019.

Tracey Hanson | Ms. Hanson sent a letter to show support for the CT Department of Energy and Management Protection division of Forestry’s WSFS Wildlife Risk Reduction Grant application.

STEAP | MS. Hanson received a letter stating that the State Bond Commission approved $15 million in Small Town Economic Assistance Program funds on December 18, 2019. OPM plans to have an application process in place by January.

OPM | Ms. Hanson received a letter from OPM stating that they will waive the discretionary state funding prohibition in order to allow the Department of Agriculture to consider the Town’s application.

Auditor | Ms. Hanson received a letter from Sandra Wellwood stating that an error was corrected in the Town’s State Single Audit report as requested by OPM.

DEEP | Ms. Hanson received a letter from DEEP pertaining to the Town garage’s general permit for the discharge of vehicle maintenance wastewater. Ms. Hanson sent the letter on to CLA.

SNET | SNET sent a letter listing the assets they have in the Town of Voluntown.

NS PZC | The North Stonington Planning and Zoning Commission is making notification of an application filed by the planning and zoning commission for proposed text amendments.

AFSCME | Ms. Hanson received a formal demand to negotiate a successor collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the DPW employees, Local 1303-258 Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO which expires on June 30, 2020.

FEMA | FEMA stated the Town should use an enclosed preliminary copy of the FIRM as the basis for adopting the required floodplain management measures.

ePermiting | Ms. Hanson reviewed the brochure for the epermiting.

Motion | A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to add Road Worker II job description to the agenda. Motion Approved.

New Business – Discussion
The Selectmen review three new ordinance changes. At the request of a resident the Town is looking at a new ordinance to allow non profits to hold Bingo Games in the Town. The 2nd ordinance is an ordinance to the floodplain measures required by FEMA. The 3rd ordinance is to official establish an Elderly Commission. The current Elderly Commission was created under a resolution. This commission would help with adopting policies regarding the elderly in town and to help oversee the management of the new van recently acquired by the Town. The Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Tuesday February 11th at 6pm. The Selectmen then reviewed dates for a Special Town Meeting possibly at the end of February depending on the school’s availability.

Ms. Hanson was asked to set up a Census Committee to help with the dissemination of information about the upcoming 2020 Census. She is looking for people possibly from the local churches, the library, the school, fire department and the Town.

Mr. Millovitsch was a approached by a resident asking if the Selectmen could request a drawdown of Beachdale Pond for next year. Ms. Hanson will look into what is required to do that.

Suggestions for Next Meeting –

Adjournment

A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

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

Tracey Hanson, First Selectman