Meeting
The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held via Zoom on Tuesday, October 27, 2020. 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

Approval of Minutes
A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on October 13, 2020. Motion Approved.

Citizens Comments
None

Correspondence & Announcements

DOT
The Department of Transportation announced that applications for the new State Funded Local Bridge Program is being accepted for projects until November 30, 2020.

Tricentennial Committee
The Tricentennial Committee would like to attend the next Selectmen’s meeting to discuss their plans for the upcoming Tricentennial Celebration on May 21-23, 2020. Some ideas include fireworks, a band and entertainment, a barbeque, fishing tournament, fiddlers, re-enactments and antique cars. Some concerns are costs for security, porta potties, fireworks, traffic control, re-enactors and wood exhibitors.

OPM
OPM sent a letter listing the 2020 CT Distressed Municipalities. Voluntown is listed as number 16 on the list and this could mean more opportunities for grants.

Cultural Coalition
The Southeastern Cultural Coalition sent a letter to Voluntown requesting a donation of $350 from the town to help support the services they have available for Voluntown.

Boards & Committee

Finance Report
The Voluntown Library received a COVID grant in the amount of $21,264.00. This money must be used towards anything that would help with expenses related to the coronavirus such as PPE, technology, cleaning supplies, equipment to improve services or the layout of the library. The library director must submit reports to the state weekly on what she intends to spend the money on. The money must be spent by December 31, 2020. The Town could potentially receive $14,394 from the CRF Fund. The report is due to the state by October 31, 2020. OPM will review all expenses submitted. This funding is for expenses incurred up to June 30, 2020. There is potentially another round of funding for expenses incurred for the quarter ending September 30, 2020.

Old Business

COVID-19 Update
The Governor passed two new executive orders 9G and 9H. 9G gives the Towns the power to revert back to phase 2 operations if the Towns enter the red zone for COVID cases. 9H recognizes hybrid meetings and gives Towns the option to hold hybrid meetings.

Ms. Hanson had to designate the Covid Enforcer for the Town of Voluntown. Ms. Hanson appointed Joseph Grenier and herself to be the COVID enforcers. They attended a meeting on how to write tickets to residents or businesses who are not complying with the executive orders. Ms. Hanson has not received the tickets yet.
There are new community testing sites available because of the elevated number of cases in the surrounding areas. If you are looking for testing sites call 211 or go to the 211 website. Ms. Hanson has put all this information on the Town website.

The Town has access to the CT Alert E911 which gives the Town the ability to send out E-Alerts to everyone in town if the Town falls into the red zone.

The Department of Housing has a survey for landlords to see how they have been affected by COVID.

Drought
Ms. Hanson stated there are grants available for farmers from the USDA to help if they have been affected by the recent drought. There will be a section on the Town website with information for anyone who may need assistance.

New Business
Technology upgrades
Ms. Hanson received a quote to upgrade the technology in the Town Hall in order to hold hybrid meetings in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Tax Refunds
A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve tax refunds to the following people: Deborah Armstrong, Honda Lease Trust, Rebecca and William Wrobel, James Stowe and Toyota Lease Trust. Motion Approved.

Driveway Permit
A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the driveway and release the bond for 257 Brown Rd. Motion Approved.

Suggestions for Next Meeting –Tricentennial Committee

Adjournment

Motion
A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by: Julie L. Zelinsky, Admin. Asst. to the BOS

Approved for distribution by: Tracey Hanson, First Selectman