

VOLUNTOWN SELECTMANS REGULAR MEETING
March 23, 2021

Meeting	The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was a hybrid meeting held in person and via Zoom on Tuesday, March 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	None
Approval of Minutes	A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 9, 2021. Motion Approved.
Citizens Comments	None
Correspondence & Announcements	
Colten Jones	Ms. Hanson received a letter from Colten Jones asking if there could be recycle barrels placed at constitution field. Ms. Hanson stated she would talk to the Public Works department and the Recreation Commission.
Motion	A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to pass the request on to the Recreation Commission and the Public Works department. Motion Approved.
Boards & Committee	
Tax Assessor	The Tax Assessor discussed changing to a new GIS System. The current system the Town uses is through NECCOG. The Tax Assessor stated that there are countless issues with resident's property cards and field maps due to the system not being updated on a timely basis. There is a different system that he has experience with that he believes will correct this problem. The cost for this system will be \$4900.00 for the first year which will be offset somewhat with the cost of the current system.
Planning and Zoning	There were no representatives from planning and zoning.
Old Business	
COVID – 19	Currently those 45 and older, health care workers, educators and childcare workers are eligible to receive the vaccine. On April 5 th , 2021 this is expected to open up to all CT residents 16 and older. There are less than 5 cases in Voluntown which puts Voluntown in grey status. Capacity limits are now at 100% for all businesses and organizations as long as you can continue with 6-foot distancing. Bars are closed. Restaurants and indoor recreation have a 11:00pm closing time. Private gatherings are capped at 25 people indoors and 100 people outdoors. The Travel advisory is now recommended rather than required. These guidelines will be reassessed in April.
Review Meeting Guidelines	The Selectmen discussed changes to the meeting policy based on the changes made to the advisory from the Governors office. Right now the executive orders are set to expire on April 19 th , 2021 but the Governor said he may extend them for another 30 days. The Selectmen will continue to review the policy changes and vote on any changes at the next meeting.

New Business -Action

- Appointment of Auditor A motion was made by R. Millovitsch/M. Oulton to appoint Sandra E. Wellwood as the Town Auditor for fiscal year 2021-2022. Motion Approved.
- Appt to LBOT A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to appoint Stacey Curry to the Library Board of Trustees for the term ending November 2, 2021. Motion Approved.

New Business - Discussion

- Budget 2021-2022 Some of the changes to the Budget for FY 2021-2022 will an increase to Workers Compensation due to a couple of cases in the last year and the increase in salary to the Paid Staff for Fire calls. The Selectmen need to decide what the cost of living increase will be for Town Hall employees. Last year the Town Hall employees received a zero increase. There was discussion on what to do with the money the Town will receive from the American Relief Plan. One idea was a Community and Economic Development contract position in order to develop the Affordable Housing Plan for the Town, work with the Planning and Zoning department for regulation updates and work with the EDC. They could also help with grant writing for the Town. Ms. Hanson also discussed possibly having a State Trooper come to a Public Meeting to discuss having a resident Trooper due to the increase in truck traffic on 138 and the issues on Beach Pond. Some other ideas were an ePermitting system for the Building Department, IT and computer updates and a sound system and lighting for the Town Pavilion.
- CIP 2021-2022 The Selectmen reviewed the current CIP plan. It will be updated for the next meeting.
- Affordable Housing Plan An Affordable Housing Plan needs to be completed by the Town by the Spring of 2022. The Selectmen have one year to complete this. It must be prepared and amended every 5 years after its completed. A public Hearing must be held at least 35 days before it is passed. Ms. Hanson presented an outline to the Selectmen on what needs to be done.

Suggestions for Next Meeting –

Adjournment

- Motion** A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Millovitsch to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

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

Tracey Hanson, First Selectman