

VOLUNTOWN SELECTMANS REGULAR MEETING
October 11, 2022

Meeting The Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held in person and livestreamed via YouTube on Tuesday, October 11, 2022. Ms. Hanson, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present Tracey Hanson, Robert Jim Thevenet, Mark ‘Skipp’ Oulton

Town Officials None

Citizens Present None

Citizens Comments None

Approval of Minutes A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Thevenet to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 27, 2022. Motion Approved.

A motion was made by M. Oulton/T. Hanson to approve the minutes of the special meeting held on October 5, 2022. Motion Approved with Robert Jim Thevenet abstaining.

Correspondence

DECD The Department of Economic and Community Development sent a letter stating that Voluntown is no longer designated a “distressed municipality”. However, Voluntown will remain eligible for the “distressed” benefits until October 2027.

DOT The Department of Transportation sent a letter stating Route 49 from 165/138 to Sterling will be undergoing pavement rehabilitation with a completion date of spring 2023.

DECD The Town of Voluntown has received a STEAP grant in the amount of \$300,000.00 for the Voluntown Municipal Complex Improvement project.

Lakeside Terrace Ms. Hanson met with a prospective property owner who submitted a proposal suggesting improvements to the drainage on the Lakeside Terrace/Tanglewood property.

Board and Committee Reports

Public works Public works submitted their report. Some of the projects being worked on include Bennet Circle curbing, turf maintenance through the soccer season and mowing on Sand Hill Road with the Village district next. Basset Mill Drainage and paving should be completed by the end of the month. The Public works attended a snow management road master class at the UCONN T2 Center.

Financial Report Ms. Zelinsky and Mr. Madeira submitted their financial reports. Ms. Hanson and Ms. Zelinsky attended a meeting regarding the Forge Hill Bridge. The State suggested that they could advertise the project on behalf of the Town. This way the project and the funding would be managed by the State and will not impose funding restrictions for the Town. Ms. Zelinsky and Mr. Madeira attended a quarterly meeting with the BOE regarding improvements between the Town and BOE.

Old Business Updates

ARPA The bid for the Voluntown Fire Department Improvement Design has been posted and is due November 3, 2022, at 1pm. Ms. Hanson is waiting for an addendum from the State in order to move forward with the purchase of communication radios for the fire department, public works, and buses.

Ordinances	No update.
Drawdowns	Ms. Hanson received an email stating that the drawdown letters have been sent out. The repairs to the Beachdale dam are scheduled to be completed before the draw down. They recommend a 12 to 18 inches drawdown for Beachdale Pond. They are recommending not doing a draw down of Beach Pond this season.
Forge Hill Bridge	Ms. Hanson met with the DOT and CHA regarding the Forge Hill Bridge Project on October 5, 2022 at 1:00 pm. Preliminary designs were discussed as well as funding for the project.
Progress with Grants	No Updates
Formation of Municipal ISP Commission	Mr. Oulton is working on the Formation of the Commission. No changes at this time.
Meeting House	The bids have been received for the demolition of the meeting house.
Procurement Policy	The Procurement Policy has been completed.

New Business

Schedule of Meetings	A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Thevenet to approve the schedule of meetings as submitted. Motion Approved.
Methodist Meeting House	The Selectmen reviewed the bids received from the RFP. Ms. Hanson has recommended the Board approve the bid from Wiese Construction. A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Thevenet to accept the bid from Wiese Construction pending the appropriation of money. Motion Approved.
Town Meeting	The Selectmen discussed sending the appropriation of money in the amount of \$55,000.00 for the demolition of the Methodist Meeting house to a Special Town Meeting. The town meeting will also include an appropriation of \$112,742.49 for the Asbestos Abatement Project and an appropriation of \$170,000 for an HVAC Indoor Air Quality Project for the School. A motion was made by M. Oulton/R. Thevenet to move the appropriation of money for these three projects to a town meeting on October 20, 2022 at the Voluntown Elementary School at 7pm. Motion Approved.
Call for Town Meeting	Ms. Hanson read the call for the Special Town Meeting. A motion was made by R. Thevenet/M. Oulton to approve the call for the Special Town Meeting. Motion Approve.

Other Business **None**

Suggestions for Next Meeting –

Adjournment

Motion A motion was made by R. Thevenet/T. Hanson to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m. Motion Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved for distribution by:

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

Tracey Hanson, First Selectman