



THE OLD STONE HOUSE

TOWN OF GUILFORD

31 Park Street
GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT 06437

SETTLED IN 1639

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**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2020
8:30 A.M. – ELECTRONIC MEETING
In accordance with Governor’s Executive Order 7B**

First Selectman Matthew Hoey called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Present: Board Members: Matthew Hoey, Charles Havrda, Susan Renner,
Louis Federici and Sandra Ruoff

Town Officials: Finance Director Maryjane Malavasi, Human
Resources Director Mitch Goldblatt, In-House
Counsel Pam Millman, Deputy Police Chief Butch
Hayatt, Registrar of Voters Gloria Nemczuk, GHS
Assistant Principal Joel Rebhun, Environmental
Planner Kevin Magee and Clerk Traci Brinkman

Others: Jeffrey Hocking

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Havrda led the pledge.

2. Public Forum (limited to 3 minutes on agenda items)

Pensioner Jeff Hocking spoke regarding item six on the agenda. He added that Town Attorney Peter Barrett offered an opinion that the selectmen had to take a vote on a potential COLA increase within a 90-day timeline. The board received a letter from the pensioners waiving that 90 day timeline. He read the letter into the record requesting postponement of a decision due to COVID-19. A copy is attached at the end of these minutes.

3. Approve minutes of:

3.1 May 15, 2020 – Special Meeting

Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2020 Special Meeting as presented.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None*

Abstaining: None

3.2 May 18, 2020 – Regular Meeting

Mr. Hoey noted a misspelling under item 6.1, it should be Advanced Office Systems.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2020 Regular Meeting as amended.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

4. Deputy Police Chief (Butch Hyatt):

4.1 Consider and take possible action on purchase of a police vehicle from Gengras Ford off of State Contract #019-0161.

Mr. Hyatt explained that this is part of their regular vehicle replacement schedule. This is an unmarked vehicle that will replace Chief Hutchinson's vehicle, which is four years old and has over 100,000 miles. They will keep that in their fleet and push out an older vehicle, which will become available to the town. The problem is that with COVID, the availability of vehicles is low so it may take a while to get it.

Mr. Havrda asked what car would be eliminated from the town fleet if a police vehicle is turned over.

Mr. Hoey said they have not identified what vehicle this would replace on the town side yet. There are a number of older vehicles.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a vehicle from Gengras Ford off of State Contract #019-0161 in the amount of \$35,169.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Hoey and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to add to the agenda the installation of permanent redundancy wiring and switching components for the Police Department Generator.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Mr. Hyatt explained that they had an issue with the generator a number of months ago where a component failed during a test. It took a period of time to get it fixed and they had to hire an electrician to wire in a temporary plug. If the building went down they have battery backups to cover a period of time, but without a generator that could be catastrophic. They

don't want this to happen again so the best practice is a permanent redundancy switch wired into the generator.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to contract with C&A Generator Service for the installation of permanent redundancy wiring and switching components for the Police Department's Generator.

Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None

5. Environmental Planner (Kevin Magee):

5.1 In accordance with Section 272-41B(1)(f) of the Planning and Zoning subdivision the Board of Selectman review request of approximately 53 acres of Open Space to be dedicated to the Town of Guilford as part of the Long Hill Estates East Subdivision as shown on the Property Survey and Record Subdivision Map Residential Open Space Subdivision Long Hill Estates East prepared for Vigliotti Construction Co. prepared by Thomas A. Stevens & Associates, Inc. dated April 30, 2019 and last revised March 24, 2020 and the Board of Selectman recommend to the Planning and Zoning Commission that the Town accept the Open Space contingent on the approval of a Town Meeting.

Mr. Magee explained that this 53 acres would remain as Class A Open Space, which would remain undeveloped and used for passive recreation in order to protect the natural resources. He added that the Conservation Commission, Land Acquisition Commission and Inland Wetlands Commission all acted favorably on this. He recommended the Board of Selectmen recommend the acceptance of the open space to the Planning and Zoning Commission contingent upon a Town Meeting.

Mr. Magee noted the total subdivision is 70 acres and that the actual developed portion of the subdivision totals about 20 acres. He noted that within the open space there are informal trails connecting to the Baldwin Trails System.

Mr. Federici asked if there was any indication that this would not happen.

Mr. Magee explained that there are still some planning, engineering and designs that needs to be cleared up, but there have been positive reviews and no neighborhood objections.

There was discussion regarding the difference between Class A, B and C Open Space. Mr. Magee noted that the open space remaining Class A is a condition placed on the special permit. There was also discussion regarding the difference between an Open Space Subdivision and Conservation Easement.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Mr. Federici, the board voted unanimously to recommend to the Planning and Zoning Commission that the Town accept 53 acres of Open Space to be dedicated to the Town of Guilford as part of the Long Hill Estates East Subdivision shown on the Property survey and Record Subdivision Map Residential Open Space Subdivision Long Hill Estates East prepared for Vigliotti Construction Co. prepared by Thomas A. Stevens & Associations, Inc. dated April 30. 201 and last revised March 24, 2020, contingent on the approval of a Town Meeting.

Vote: *In Favor:* *Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff*
 Opposed: *None*
 Abstaining: *None*

5.2 Discuss and take possible action on award of Bid #9-1920 – Haying and Harvesting Crops on Portion of Northern Heights Town Property.

Mr. Magee said they received one bid from 3B Ranch, LLC for a three year license. The Hammarlunds had the previous license, but couldn't maintain the property. Under the bid with 3B Ranch there is no fee the first and second years since it will take them some work to get the property back in working order. The third year they will pay \$50 an acre for the 35 acre property. Mr. Magee said an average fee is usually \$50-\$75. This was reviewed by the Agricultural Commission and 3B was the operator prior to the Hammarlunds and there was no issue with them at that time.

Mr. Havrda asked if there were any restrictions or environmental issues regarding pesticides, etc.

Mr. Magee said they are allowed to use herbicides, but they need to provide documentation. It has more to do with the dead grass choking out areas.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to award Bid #9-1920 – Haying and Harvesting Crops on Portion of Northern Heights Property to 3B Ranch for \$0 in years one and two and \$50 per acre in year three for a total of \$1,750.*

Vote: *In Favor:* *Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff*
 Opposed: *None*
 Abstaining: *None*

6. Director of Human Resources (Mitch Goldblatt):

6.1 Remove from table and take possible action on recommendation from the Pension Committee regarding a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for current Pensioners.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to remove from the table for possible action the recommendation from the Pension Committee regarding a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for current Pensioners.*

Vote: *In Favor:* *Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff*
 Opposed: *None*
 Abstaining: *None*

Mr. Hoey explained that town counsel advised that the selectmen need to vote in favor or against a COLA increase to satisfy the terms of the agreement. The union has offered to waive the time limit. He added that even if they vote against this now they have the option of revisiting it even before the two year time period.

Mr. Federici said given that town counsel has advised them to vote. He has no problem with a no vote now, given the current economic circumstances, and they can always revisit it down the line.

Ms. Renner said she cannot imagine approving this now under these circumstances, but during the past 10 years there were times when the board was not in these circumstances and it was not given.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to accept the Pension Committee recommendation and not approve a Cost of Living increase for current Pensioners.

Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None

7. Consider and take possible action on resolution calling on the state to expand voting options.

Mr. Hoey noted that this resolution calls on the General Assembly to amend the General Statutes to adopt the changes to absentee voting procedures made by Governor Lamont for all future elections and appropriate sufficient funds to municipalities to defray the significant increased cost of holding elections during the pandemic and to call on the General Assembly to adopt a joint resolution amending the state Constitution to permanently allow any elector to vote by absentee ballot for any reason.

Mr. Federici said as this process has moved forward it has come to light that Connecticut has very restricting voting options relative to the rest of the country. He would support this.

Mr. Havrda said in these times they need the legislature to provide more specific organization and voting procedures going forward, which will benefit everyone in the long run. They don't want to be going into an election with any ambiguity so he would support this as well.

Ms. Renner said she is supportive of this as well. She added that she hates for this to be seen as a Republican and Democratic issue, but she is favor of the expansion of voting options.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Hoey and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to approve the full resolution (both sections) calling on the state to expand voting options.

Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None

8. Discuss and take possible action on Fair Housing Policy Statement and Resolution.

Mr. Hoey said these are obligatory documents the board needs to approve in order to participate in the Community Development Block Grant Program.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the Fair Housing Resolution and Policy Statement.

Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

9. Consider and take possible action on Noise Control Variance Application from the Board of Education for Graduation Event at the Fairgrounds.

Assistant Guilford High School Principal Joel Rebhun said they are asking for noise ordinance variance for their graduation ceremony. They expect people to remain in cars, but cars have horns and there is always some hoopla around graduation.

It was explained that after significant input from the community and in consultation with health officials, the BOE has decided to hold a graduation ceremony at the Fairgrounds. Students and their families each be in a vehicle and will be parked. There will be a large movie screen that will play the speeches and then the names of those graduating.

Mr. Havrda questioned why it is 8-11 in the evening.

Mr. Rebhun said it is so people can be better able to see the 40 foot screen, which will have FM controlled sound. He added that people will not be able to leave cars. They will watch on the screen as a class, then a swag bag with donations from local businesses and a diploma cover will be placed in their trunks before they drive away.

Mr. Havrda said he likes the idea because it is still an event for them to remember instead of just watching it virtually at home.

Mr. Federici said it is a great example of the flexibility of the Agricultural Society with the Fairgrounds. He asked about some complaints he has heard regarding only one car per family since there are some families that might be social distancing from one another or families that won't fit in one car.

Mr. Rebhun said they did receive feedback from those families and accommodations are being made on an individual basis. He added that they will post the video from the ceremony so others in the community may also view it.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Hoey and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to approve the Noise Control Variance Application from the Board of education for its Graduation Event at the Fairgrounds.

Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10. Appointments and Resignations:

10.1 Act on recommendation to reappoint Tim Sullivan to the Public Works Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2024.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Tim Sullivan to the Public Works Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2023.

Vote: *In Favor:* Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10.2 Act on recommendation to reappoint Anthony DeLuca to the Public Works Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2024.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Anthony DeLuca to the Public Works Commission for a term to expire May 31, 2024.*

Vote: *In Favor:* Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10.3 Act on recommendation to reappoint Aaron Hershman to the Board of Ethics for a new term to begin August 1, 2020 and expire July 31, 2024.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Aaron Hershman to the Board of Ethics for a new term to begin August 1, 2020 and expire July 31, 2024.*

Vote: *In Favor:* Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10.4 Act on recommendation to reappoint Dennis Dostert to the Land Acquisition Commission for a new term to begin June 19, 2020 and expire June 18, 2024.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Dennis Dostert to the Land Acquisition Commission for a new term to begin June 19, 2020 and expire June 18, 2024.*

Vote: *In Favor:* Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10.5 Act on recommendation to reappoint Al DiMarzio to the Marina Commission for a term to expire November 30, 2023.

Motion: *Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Al DiMarzio to the Marina Commission for a term to expire November 30, 2023.*

Vote: *In Favor:* Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
 Opposed: None
 Abstaining: None

10.6 Act on recommendation to reappoint David Davison to the Marina Commission for a term to expire May 30, 2024.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to reappoint David Davison to the Marina Commission for a term to expire May 30, 2024.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

10.7 Act on recommendation to reappoint Tracy Brent to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire April 30, 2024.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Mr. Federici, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Tracy Brent to the Economic Development Commission for a term to expire April 30, 2024.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

10.8 Act on recommendation to appoint Michael Tyre to the Standing Building Committee for a term to expire June 17, 2024.

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Ms. Renner, the board voted unanimously to appoint Michael Tyre to the Standing Building Committee for a term to expire June 17, 2024.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

11. Committee Reports

Ms. Ruoff noted that there is a meeting today of the Economic Development Plan Committee so she may have more information to share in two weeks.

Mr. Federici said it has been difficult for the fees committee to meeting, so they are waiting until everyone can be together.

12. Correspondence

None

13. Old Business

None

14. New Business

Mr. Hoey noted that they received an application for Use of the Green from LisALis Salon to give haircuts for men and little people with some of the proceeds being donated to local businesses.

Ms. Ruoff said the use of the Green is for not for profits and approving this would set a precedent.

Ms. Renner agreed and said possibly a non-profit could sponsor the event and they could submit the application.

Mr. Federici said there are other areas that this could take place as well.

15. Public Forum (limited to 3 minutes on any issue)

Jeff Hocking said he was confused by the board's discussion and felt that with the pensioners waiving the time limit for a decision the board could have waited, because there would not have been an urgency to act. He hoped the board would be open to looking at this in 2021. He added that 12 years is a long time and a lot of people could really use a cost of living increase.

16. To consider and act on a successor Agreement between the Town of Guilford and the Guilford Employees Association for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021. (Executive session will be required)

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to enter into executive session at 9:42 a.m. to consider a successor Agreement between the Town of Guilford and the Guilford Employees Association for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 and invited Mitch Goldblatt and Chris Hodgson.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the successor Agreement between the Town of Guilford and the Guilford Employees Association for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

*Vote: In Favor: Hoey, Havrda, Renner, Federici and Ruoff
Opposed: None
Abstaining: None*

Respectfully submitted,

Traci K. Brinkman
Clerk
Board of Selectmen



Jody Barr
Executive Director
Local 2836
State University Administrators

Bernie Bombardier
President
Local 1933
Town of East Hartford

Stacie Byrdsong
Secretary
Local 3194
CREC

Vice-Presidents

Dana Beecham-Brown
Local 749
State - Judicial

Ruby Blackmon
Local 196
State - Administrative Clerical

Harold Brooks
Local 3144
City of New Haven

Patrick Carambia
Local 391
State - Corrections

Joseph Cirigliano
Local 2930
Town of Newington

Sandy DeCampos
Local 991
Town of Manchester

Jon Derman
Local 2836
State University Administrators

Anthony Gochee
Local 3713
MDC

Dean Gozzo
Local 184
MDC

Marybeth Kaczynski-Hill
Local 2663
State - Social Services

Thomas Ledoux
AFSCME Retiree Chapter 4

Derek Puorro
Local 1361
Municipal Law Enforcement Officers

Marsha Tulloch
Local 269
State - Department of Labor

Leighton Vanderburgh
Local 1565
State - Corrections

Timothy Walker
Local 610
State - Administrative Clerical

Claudine Wilkins-Chambers
Local 3429
New Haven Paraprofessionals

Wayne Wysocki
Local 1303-278
CT Municipals

May 29, 2020
VIA EMAIL ONLY

Matthew T. Hoey III
First Selectman
Selectman's Office
31 Park Street
Guilford, CT 06437
Town of Guilford

RE: 2020 Proposed Adjustment for Police Retirement Plan

Dear First Selectman Hoey:

The Guilford Police Union Local #442 has become aware that police retirees are requesting postponement of the consideration of this year's proposed adjustment due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. As you are aware, the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the parties specifies that "[t]he Board of Selectman shall vote on any such proposed adjustment within ninety (90) days from the date of its receipt of the report from the actuary." Please consider this correspondence notice that the police union is willing to waive this time requirement consistent with the request from the retirees.

Sincerely,

Kelly A. Rommel
Staff Attorney Representative

cc: Christopher Hodgson, Esq.
Joseph Duro, Local 442