

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2018  
8:30 A.M. – GUILFORD TOWN HALL**

First Selectman Matthew Hoey called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

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

Town Officials: In-House Counsel Pam Millman, Parks and  
Recreation Director Rick Maynard, Human  
Resources Director Mitch Goldblatt, Finance  
Director Maryjane Malavasi, Seniors Program  
Coordinator Terry Holland Buckley, Facilities  
Engineer Steve Neydorff and Health Director  
Dennis Johnson

Others: Dr. Holly Starkman and about five others in the  
audience

Media: Guilford Courier Reporter Zoe Roos, Channel 3  
News and Mike Graziano, taping for GCTV

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Havrda led the pledge.

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

None

**3. Approve minutes of:**

**3.1 May 21, 2018 – Regular Meeting**

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Mr. Federici, the board  
voted unanimously to approve the May 21, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as  
presented.*

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

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board*

*voted unanimously to move item 8 up on the agenda.*

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

**8. Receive presentation and discuss the Labyrinth Project.**

Dr. Holly Starkman of 110 Farmview Drive said she initially met with Rick Misenti at the high school about the idea of a Labyrinth at Guilford High School. She is a psychotherapist that has been in practice for 28 years and after the death of Ethan Song the trauma in people's lives was exponential. A Labyrinth is a circular pathway that you enter and exit from the same place so it is not a maze. It promotes relaxation, clarity, peace and reduces anxiety, stress and agitation. Dr. Starkman said since Dr. Freeman recently initiated a policy of no memorials on school grounds, she then met with Mr. Hoey about a Labyrinth somewhere else in the community.

Mr. Havrda asked how much area is required.

Dr. Starkman said they have a small one in the Pinchbeck Farm sensory garden. Her vision is 45 feet by 45 feet. She added that Mr. Hoey had a thought about using stones as part of a community project. Intergenerational stones could be placed to form a design over time. It would be a place for people to gather, a place for high school and parks and recreation programs. There are multiple ways for it to be utilized.

Mr. Hoey said he conceptually supports the program. He suggested putting together a task force to come up with a plan.

Ms. Renner said it is a fascinating idea and she sees a value. She questioned why this was considered a memorial.

Dr. Starkman said she did meet with the Songs to see if they were comfortable with their son's name being used, because he is what sparked the idea.

The board noted that the task force would have to research locations as well as work out the cost to build and to maintain this.

Mr. Hoey said he reached out to George Kral and Kevin Magee as well as Rick Maynard, because this could fall under their purview.

Dr. Starkman said she found during her research that these types of projects helped to bring economic development to the town.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to establish a task force to work on the viability and mechanics surrounding a Labyrinth project.*

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

**4.        Facilities Engineer (Steve Neydorff):**

**4.1       Consider and take possible action to purchase a man lift.**

Mr. Neydorff said their current aerial platform lift is 20 years old and they can no longer get parts for it. He has four quotes from local companies and Herc Rentals is the lowest at \$9,061. He added that they use this equipment to access ceiling tiles at the Community Center and parking lot lights. Mr. Neydorff said it is transported on the pickup truck.

*Motion:*            *Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the purchase of a Genie Lift from Herc Rentals in the amount of \$9,061.*

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

**5.        Health Director (Dennis Johnson):**

**5.1       Consider and take possible action on approval of amendment to the Wright-Pierce Contract for Design of watermain project in the amount of \$49,200 and authorize the first selectman to execute the amendment.**

Mr. Johnson explained that there is additional design work needed for the watermain crossing. The stream crossing on Daniel Avenue was going to be done next to an existing bulkhead, but that bulkhead is not stable enough so they had to move the crossing further out into a DEEP jurisdictional zone area, which requires additional DEEP permits. The second area, the Fisher Property Stream Crossing, has been identified as a vernal pool. An analysis has been required to see if it is more effective to bore underneath or go across when the area is dry. The cheapest and most cost effective is to wait until it is dry rather than boring underneath. The additional permits are essential to have the project move forward. The additional cost is \$49,200, which will be added to the project cost and eventually the assessment to all the project beneficiaries. The Army Corps has also determined that the stream in back of the Fisher property is their jurisdiction as well. Mr. Johnson noted that the project has a 15% or \$300,000 contingency built into it.

Mr. Havrda asked if he foresees any other permitting issues.

Mr. Johnson said he doesn't think there will be any others.

*Motion:* Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to approve the amendment to the Wright-Pierce Contract for Design of watermain project in the amount of \$49,200 and authorize the first selectman to execute the amendment.

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

**6. Parks and Recreation (Rick Maynard / Terry Holland Buckley):**

**6.1 Receive update on purchase of new bus.**

Ms. Buckley said this is the next step in purchasing the bus. The total cost is \$69,248 and this includes a \$54,400 Federal grant so the balance being paid for by the town is \$14,848. She explained that the bus drivers and Ralph at public works met to decide on what features they wanted on the bus. Some things that were added was an upgraded AC and heating, extra grab bars, upgraded suspension, a composite skin to protect the exterior, LED lighting, a fabric ceiling to absorb noise and auto mirrors, an adjustable seat and a better wheelchair system.

She explained that \$16,000 has been budgeted in this year's budget. They had to do a purchase order now to encumber the funds, but they won't get the bus until later fall. This was purchased through a state bid.

**6.2 Discuss and take possible action to approve contract for the Annual Fireworks Display.**

Mr. Maynard said this is the 19<sup>th</sup> year for the fireworks display. He requested quotes from four companies, but only two provided quotes. Zambelli Fireworks quoted \$15,000 and Atlas Pyrovision quoted \$12,250. Mr. Maynard said the Fire Marshal is happy with Atlas. They are professional, always meet the specifications and have a great safety record. He added that they would use money from the program account to pay for it. The cost is the same as last year.

*Motion:* Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to approve a contract for the Annual Fireworks Display with Atlas Pyrovision in the amount of \$12,250.

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

**7. Town Engineer (Jim Portley):**

**7.1 Discuss and take possible action to contract with Take 2 for Electronics Recycling at the Guilford Transfer Station.**

Mr. Portley said in May ECovanta informed the town it was no longer providing electronics recycling in the state. Mr. Portley said he got a hold of other companies in the state and found Take 2, which is a successor of the original recycling company We Recycle. Take 2 is the only company located in Connecticut that is certified and licensed by DEEP as a Covered Electronics Recycler.

Mr. Portley said they are a reputable company. They run a program in the Madison schools to encourage electronics recycling. They have agreed to provide a lot more services than allowed under ECovanta.

Mr. Hoey said he had an opportunity to meet with Take 2 and he was impressed. They are on the short list of approved vendors by DEEP. They are a minority owned business with a strong social conscience and hire disabled workers. Mr. Hoey said he asked for a price comparison on what was collected from our facility and under Take 2 the town would have received \$3,500 versus \$1,500 from Covanta.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to contract with Take 2 for Electronics Recycling at the Guilford Transfer Station and authorize the first selectman to sign the contract once reviewed and acceptable to in-house counsel.*

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

**9. Discuss and take possible action on noise control ordinance variance application.**

The clerk explained that this item was not received, so it will have to be placed on a later agenda.

**10. Consider and take possible action on Resolution for Sustainable CT Initiative.**

Mr. Hoey said he has four, possibly, five people interested in serving on the Energy Task Force, which would work on getting the town certified as a sustainable community. He added that they need to name a contact person for the program and he could serve as that person until the task force and a chairperson is appointed.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board*

*voted unanimously to approve the Resolution for Sustainable CT Initiative.*

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

**11.1 Appointments and Resignations:**

**11.1 Act on recommendation to appoint Joseph Nugent as an alternate to the Conservation Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire February 28, 2022.**

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to appoint Joseph Nugent as an alternate to the Conservation Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire February 28, 2022.*

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

**11.2 Act on recommendation to appoint Wendy Furniss as an alternate to the Inland Wetlands Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire February 28, 2020.**

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to appoint Wendy Furniss as an alternate to the Inland Wetlands Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire February 28, 2020.*

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

**11.3 Act on recommendation to appoint Jason Marchi as an alternate to the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire February 28, 2019.**

Mr. Hoey said he received correspondence from some individuals in the community who raised a concern about Mr. Marchi going on the commission with an opportunity to deliberate on U-Haul, because he had been a vocal participant in the hearings. He added that the board could table his appointment until the next meeting or approve it with his commitment to recuse himself from the vote. The board thought tabling until the next meeting was the best option.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Ms. Ruoff and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to table the appointment of Jason Marchi until the next regular meeting.*

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

**11.4 Act on reappointment of Charles Havrda to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District Representative Policy Board for another term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2021.**

*Motion:*        *Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted to reappoint Charles Havrda to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District Representative Policy Board for another term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2021.*

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

**11.5 Act on reappointment of Elise Low to the Cable Advisory Council of South Central Connecticut for a new term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2020.**

*Motion:*        *Upon a motion made by Ms. Renner and seconded by Ms. Ruoff, the board voted unanimously to reappoint Elise Low to the Cable Advisory Council of South Central Connecticut for a new term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2020.*

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

**11.6 Act on reappointment of David Weinberg to the Cable Advisory Council of South Central Connecticut for a new term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2020.**

*Motion:*        *Upon a motion made by Mr. Federici and seconded by Mr. Havrda, the board voted unanimously to reappoint David Weinberg to the Cable Advisory Council of South Central Connecticut for a new term to begin July 1, 2018 and expire June 30, 2020.*

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

**12. Correspondence:**

Mr. Federici said he received an email from the Yacht Club about an opportunity to donate docks to the town so he wanted to put that on the table as a possibility.

Mr. Hoey said he will work with the Marina Commission and Parks and Recreation to see if there is an opportunity for the town to use those.

**13. Committee Reports**

Ms. Ruoff explained the Housing for Economic Development Committee is working with Karin Patriquin to continue to find a suitable location for affordable housing in town. They are making progress and there will be opportunities to present ideas to the public coming up.

**14. Old Business**

Mr. Hoey said at the last meeting they had a discussion about unpaved roads. He added that while hiking in Westwoods there one such dirt road called Marsh Road. Mr. Hoey said they should get an inventory of dirt roads in the town and if ones such as this have not been abandoned it would make sense to do that.

**15. New Business**

None

**16. Public Forum (limited to 3 minutes regarding any issue)**

David Young of 87 Oxbow Lane spoke about his dog Simon and urged the board to do the right thing and find a reasonable solution to this issue. He understands the board inherited this issue, but his dog was on private property and in the seven years he has owned the dog there have been no prior incidences. They have a fence and will put up a higher fence if they need to. He has a letter from the attorney general that only the town and the dog owner have anything to negotiate. If the town chooses not to do anything then it goes to the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Hoey explained that as he has stated in the past, the town's attorney has advised that the current process is that it is with the Department of Agriculture and they need to follow this process as it exists.

Cindy Vaporis of 7 Alpine Drive in East Haven said she is a member of Desmond's Army, which are advocates for animals. She stated that Simon was on his own property and protecting his family from a trespasser. To say it has to go through the process is false, they can all do something. Ms. Vaporis said she has seen horrible things done to animals. Her 3-year-old daughter was attacked by her sister's dog because the dog was on medication that changed its temperament. She had the option of putting the dog down or sequestering it for a certain amount of time and she didn't put it down. There are appeals that can be made.

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Mark Goldman of 217 North Maple Street in Massapequa, NY said he saw this story on the national news and was bothered by it. If this was your family member that was taken away you would be upset as well. This will continue to be on the news all over this country. Some kind of settlement would be nice. It is horrible what the town is doing to this man and his family. He urged the board to please save Simon.

Michael Kiyak of 61 Lind Street in Fairfield, CT told his story about his dog being held in the Fairfield Shelter for over two years. He has now been barred from seeing the dog.

*Motion: Upon a motion made by Mr. Havrda and seconded by Mr. Federici, the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m.*

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Traci K. Brinkman  
Clerk  
Board of Selectmen