

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, June 18, 2019 – 7 pm
Adella G. Urban Administrative Offices Conference Room
323 Route 87, Columbia, CT**

Members Present: First Selectman, Steven M. Everett; Deputy Selectman, Robert Hellstrom; Selectman, Lisa Napolitano; Selectman, William O'Brien; Selectman, Jeff Viens.

Also Present: Town Administrator, Mark Walter.

CALL TO ORDER: S. Everett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** S. Everett added to the Agenda under New Business 5.1- Waive Permit Fees for Crumbling Foundations. S. Everett MOVED to Approve the Agenda as revised for June 18, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 **Approval of BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for June 4, 2019.** S. Everett MOVED to Approve the BOS Regular Meeting Minutes for June 4, 2019. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - 4.1 **Town Administrator's authorization to sign all proposals and agreements for Town's retirement plan services.** S. Everett MOVED to approve Steven Everett, First Selectman or Mark Walter, Town Administrator in Steven Everett's absence be able to sign all proposals and agreements with MML Investor Services, LLC and Great-West Financial and Empower Retirement regarding the transfer of the town's retirement plan services to Empower Retirement. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
 - 4.2 **Security Project at Horace W. Porter School.** S. Everett explained that part of the school's 19/20 budget included an anticipated Security Grant for \$57,000. The school did not receive the grant. Maria Geryk, Superintendent and BOE Chair, Christopher Lent are seeking guidance from the BOS regarding how best to proceed with these necessary safety upgrades. S. Everett stated that he did a walk through to look at the security cameras and noted that the cameras are old or broken and will need to be replaced. L. Napolitano asked if there was anything that will not be funded in this round. S. Everett explained that two items from the security upgrade had already been purchased, which included the Repeater for the radio communication and the visitor management system. S. Everett explained that the \$16,000 for the upgrade to the classroom phone systems will not be spent this year. He explained that the RFP for the security cameras will have a no guarantee work bid to see how much it will actually cost before any work is done and will include a request from the bidding firms for alternative options which may change the overall cost of the project. J. Viens stated he would like to see the purchase

agreements. W. O'Brien asked why this is being brought to the BOS if it has already approved in the budget from the BOE and FiPAC. S. Everett explained that M. Geryk wanted to be transparent about the grant and was looking for guidance on how best to proceed. The consensus was that the BOE is in charge of their budget and that they should proceed as they see best.

4.3 Update on Road at Rec Park. S. Everett stated that Eversource has asked us to keep a certain distance from the powerline which will result in having to cut off part of the proposed road in Rec Park. This will mean that we will have to move the basketball court.

4.4 Review and act upon the agreement for sale and purchase of real estate regarding the strip of land owned by the Town that extends from the present cul de sac at the end of Tunxis Dr. W. O'Brien MOVED to authorize the First Selectman to sign the sale and purchase agreement in 4.4 and set a Town Meeting for July 16, 2019 at 7:00 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

RESOLVED: That the Town enter into the Agreement for Sale and Purchase of Real Estate reviewed by the Selectman at this meeting whereby the Town will sell the strip of land it owns at the cul-de-sac end of Tunxis Drive to Alison and Glen Nicholes, which Agreement was prepared by Town Council and previously reviewed and signed by the Nicholes; and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized to date such Agreement today, sign it on behalf of the Town and deliver a copy to the Nicholes.

RESOLVED: That the Town Administrator is requested and authorized to present the proposed sale of the Town's land at the end of Tunxis Drive in accordance with the Agreement referenced in the prior resolution to the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission for review and appropriate action with a request that the Planning and Zoning Commission do so at its meeting on June 24, 2019.

RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectman call for a Special Town Meeting for 7:00 pm on July 16, 2019 for the purposes of taking action under Town Charter Section 2.4(e) upon the proposed sale of land to the Nicholes referenced in the previous resolutions in accordance with the Legal Notice that has been presented to this meeting for this purpose.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 Waive Permit Fees for Crumbling Foundations. M. Walter explained that most of the surrounding towns have made these waivers for residents who have had issues with crumbling foundations. S. Everett MOVED to Approve waiving the permit fees that fall within the guidelines within this paragraph. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

Notwithstanding, the Town Administrator is authorized to waive all town fees related to building permits for work on crumbling foundations which, based upon the judgment of the Town Administrator, are casually related to a reaction to Pyrrhotite or related reasons rather than improper workmanship. Said waiver may include fees for electrical, plumbing or similar fees at the discretion of the building official.

Any such waiver shall only apply to work related to the direct replacement of the existing foundation. Upon waiver of any such fee, the Town Administrator shall notify the homeowner in writing that such fee has been waived, including an itemization of all fees waived.

6. COLUMBIA LAKE / DAM / BEACH:

6.1 DEEP Recommendation to Protect Eaglet. S. Everett explained that we have received a letter from DEEP recommending no fireworks to protect the young eaglet in the nest. He stated that the Town will be sending out a letter from the First Selectman and the DEEP letter to residents around the lake next week.

7. APPOINTMENTS / RESIGNATIONS:

7.1 Appointment of Joan G. Levine, Columbia Recreation Area Gate Keeper. S. Everett MOVED to appoint Joan G. Levine, as the Columbia Recreation Area Gate Keeper. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

8. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

8.1 Dam Inspection Report. M. Walter explained this is the latest Dam Inspection Report. We have tried to change the classification of the dam but have been denied, but we will try to appeal.

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

9.1 Monthly State Trooper Report.

10. BUDGET:

10.1 Transfers: S. Everett MOVED to Authorize Transfers \$7,807.00 to the departments listed contained therein.

TRANSFER #/AMOUNT	FROM A/C# DESCRIPTION	TO A/C# DESCRIPTION
2019 #045 / \$3,035.00	10-4113-515 / Contracted Services	10-4113-500 / Professional Tech (\$2,400)
		10-4113-811 / Mach/Equip < \$5,000 (\$635.00)
2019 #046 / \$750.00	10-4410-500 / Professional/Tech	10-4410-300 / Supplies
2019 #047 / \$2,500.00	10-4410-600 / Repairs & Maintenance	10-4410-610 / Bldgs/Grounds Rep/Maint
2019 #048 / \$1,500.00	10-4136-120 / Telephone	10-4610-500 / Professional/Tech
2019 #049 / \$22.00	10-4420-500 / Professional/Tech	10-4420-630 / Rental

MOTION CARRIED 5.0

10.2 Refunds: None.

11. APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS: S. Everett MOVED to Authorize the payment of bills consisting of \$169,183.64 for a total payment 18/19 Regular. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. S. Everett MOVED to Authorize the 2018-2019 Emergency, 2018-2019 Regular, Credit Card and Paychex totaling 72,735.02 on the stated attachments. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.

12. **AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** Paul Kubala of 37 Lake Rd. asked if there are any plans to do anything if fireworks are used this year. S. Everett explained that fireworks are illegal and to notify the State Trooper and if he is notified, he will notify the resident that fireworks are illegal.
13. **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None.
14. **EXECUTIVE SESSION: Real estate per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(D); Pending Litigation per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(B); Personnel per State Statutes Section 1-200(6)(A).** S. Everett MOVED to enter into Executive Session at 7:40 pm for real estate with Mark Walter present. MOTION CARRIED 5.0. S. Everett MOVED to end the Executive Session with no action taken at 7:55 pm. MOTION CARRIED 5.0.
15. **ADJOURNMENT:** S. Everett MOVED to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:56 pm. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted by Jennifer C. LaVoie