



Board of Selectmen

Minutes – Regular Meeting

5 June 2023, 5:30 p.m.

Meeting Hall of the Memorial Town Hall

Call-In Phone: 1-605-472-5727 Access Code 3819718

- 1. Call to Order** - First Selectman Griswold called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.
- 2. Attendance**

Present Board Members: First Selectman Timothy Griswold and Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker via phone. Selectman Matthew Ward arrived late.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** 1 May 2023 (Reg.), 3 May 2023 (Spec.), 10 May 2023 (Spec.), 11 May 2023 (Spec.) and 19 May 2023 (Spec.)

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the 1 May 2023 regular meeting minutes and First Selectman Griswold seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The MOTION PASSED. Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the 3 May 2023 special meeting minutes and First Selectman Griswold seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The MOTION PASSED. Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to table the approval of the 10 May 2023 (Spec.), 11 May 2023 (Spec.) meeting minutes as she and Selectman Ward did not receive a copy and they were not posted on the website. First Selectman Griswold seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The MOTION PASSED. Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the 19 May 2023 (Spec.) meeting minutes and First Selectman Griswold seconded the motion. Discussion: Selectwoman Shoemaker said First Selectman Griswold made a motion to hold a special Town Meeting prior to the Senior Center referendum vote and it was not recorded in the minutes. Selectwoman Shoemaker rescinded her motion and moved to table the approval of the 19 May 2023 (Spec.) meeting. First Selectman Griswold seconded and The MOTION PASSED.
- 4. Public Comment**

Nancy O'Brian, 11 Center Beach Ave. has sent emails about her concerns with the trench near the garden in Hawks Nest Beach. People weed and plant near the trench and someone could trip. First Selectman Griswold said he would speak with Ed Adanti (Public Works) to see what can be done.

Carolynn Miranda, Biscayne Blvd. believes the police should be patrolling speeders in the 30 MPH area on Shore Rd. between Columbus Ave. & Edge Lea and not as you get off the highway at exit 70. She brought the speeding issue to the Board of Selectmen's attention on July 7, 2021 and nothing has been done. Selectman Ward said they could contact DOT and ask for a survey to assess the speed limit. He will look into it. The 3 handicapped parking spaces in the Town's Sound View parking lot are not the correct width and this needs to be fixed. She heard a rumor that Kokomos is looking for parking. Selectwoman Shoemaker said they are asking the church if their employees can park there. There may be liability issues. Carolynn asked what the profit was from the 2022 town parking lot. Why is it a secret?

Sheila Riffle, 57 Coult Lane is beyond disappointed with the Tantummaheag Landing access issue. This has been going on since the fall of 2020 without a resolution. She sent a photo to the Board of Selectmen showing no clearing has been done by public works on the path to the river.

Rebecca Griffin is also frustrated by the Tantummaheag Landing access issue. She is suspect that the Town submitted a settlement proposal. The proposed parking area is very far from the water access. First Selectman Griswold said the Town is not giving in by any means.
- 5. Communications:** CT DOT – has asked the Town if it wants to exercise its 5-year option to extend Scenic Overlook lease (1 Jul 23 to 30 Jun 28). The Scenic Overlook is on the right side of the exit 70 on ramp of I-95 southbound and surrounds the electrical tower. It has excellent views of the CT River. Selectman Ward made a motion that the Town exercise its option to extend the lease for five years (from 1 Jul 23 to 30 Jun 28) and to



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authorize First Selectman Griswold to execute the required paperwork. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion and the MOTION PASSED.

6. Draft Letter Concerning Affordable Housing Legislation

First Selectman Griswold has been working with Michael Fogliano, Chair of the Affordable Housing Commission, to draft an opposition letter to House Bill 6633. Michael said the draft needs to be amended as legislation has changed.

7. Old Business:

Project Updates:

- i. Halls Rd. Improvements – Engineers are working on the Lt. River bridge plans and there is no update on the overlay district approval.
- ii. Sound View Sidewalks – The Committee declared the Project complete and the Town must calculate the closeout figures.
- iii. Sound View Sewers – First Selectman Griswold is waiting for a letter from the DEEP confirming the approval of the forgivable DEEP loan in the \$14 to \$17 million range.
- iv. Senior Ctr. Expansion – First Selectman Griswold read the Special Town Meeting Warning for the 12 June 2023 meeting and he also read the Resolution document describing the project. The Special Town Meeting will be adjourned to a vote by paper ballots in the LOL Middle School Gym on 20 June 2023 from noon until 8:00 PM.

Selectman Ward made a motion to approve the Warning and the Resolution as read and to approve the appropriation of \$5,263,541 funds for the Senior Center Expansion project. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The MOTION PASSED.

- v. Ferry Road Sidewalk – Awaiting confirmation of the Town’s STEAP Grant I Year Extension.
- vi. Swan Brook Outlet – There was a lengthy discussion on how to protect the pipes and prevent sand accumulating in them. The crib bolt ends have been cut back and we await the support timbers for the crib.

Tantumhaeag Landing – Town Submitted Settlement Proposal to Framptons but we cannot disclose the details. First Selectman Griswold said the proposal is not an acquiescence. The road is a Town road and may be used as a Town road.

36-1 Buttonball Rd. – Preparing to perform minor trail work following Zoning Commission approval.

Shoreline Gateway Committee – Selectwoman Shoemaker was disconnected from the call so this item was not discussed.

8. New Business:

- a. McCulloch Affordable Housing – Selection of the Development Partner
The Board of Selectmen had a presentation from Habitat for Humanity (HFH) and the Board voted to engage HFH as the developer. A steering committee will be formed.
- b. Town Budget Meeting – Recap of Votes:
 - FY 2024 Town Budget was approved.
 - Motion to delete purchasing the Patrol Rifles failed.
 - Approved acceptance of the 1.88 acre of open space parcel from the Buttonball Rd. 8 lot subdivision.
 - Approved taxes to be paid in 2 installments.
 - Tax Collector and the Town Clerk to be appointed positions vs elected was not approved.



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c. Staff Changes:

Amy Jensen, Asst. to the Finance Director, resigned and Tracy Beatty was hired to replace her.
Suzanne Thompson promoted to Assistant to the Tax Collector
Nicole Leger resigned as Finance Director effective 2 June 2023. The Town will advertise for her replacement.

9. Other Business:

Selectman Ward would like to draft a letter to solicit assistance from the Coast Guard, DEEP and State Police to patrol the waters in front of Sound View Beach.

Selectman Ward congratulated the LOLHS Girls Tennis Team which won the State Championship for the third year in a row.

The Senior “Car Parade” will be on Lyme Street at 6:00 p.m. on June 7th

LOLHS Graduation will be on June 8th.

10 Adjournment

Selectman Ward made a motion to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. and First Selectman Griswold seconded the motion.

Discussion: None. The MOTION passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne McAuliffe, Clerk