MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll – Meeting was called to order at 6 PM by Todd Babbitt, First Selectman

   Members Present: Todd Babbitt, First Selectman
   Steve Merchant Sr., Second Selectman
   Ed Burke, Third Selectman

   Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
   11 interested citizens
   1 member of the press

2. Notification of Emergency Exits – Emergency exits were noted

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Pledge was cited

4. Approval of Minutes

   a. December 11, 2018 – Regular Meeting Minutes

      MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to approve the December 11, 2018 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Correspondence – A letter of resignation by Laurie Sorder from the BOE was noted as received. The final Use of Facilities policy was also noted as received with a few additional modifications.

6. New Business

   a. Discussion and possible action on seven tax refunds for a total of $1422.05 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector

      MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to approve the seven tax refunds for a total of $1422.05. Motion carried unanimously.
b. Discussion and possible action on financing for the new senior center as requested by the Senior Center Building Committee – There was brief discussion.

*MOTION:* Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by S. Merchant, to move forward with the request for financing for the senior center. *Motion carried.* S. Merchant and E. Burke in favor, T. Babbitt abstained.

c. Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to sign the senior center construction management contract – It was noted there were associated fees with this of about $2400 and that money is available. There would be no additional fees until movement forward with construction.

*MOTION:* Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by T. Babbitt, to authorize the First Selectman to sign the senior center contract. *Motion carried unanimously.*


d. Discussion and possible action on setting special meeting dates to review departmental budgets for the 2019/2020 fiscal year – There was brief discussion.

*MOTION:* Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by E. Burke, to conduct special meetings on January 31st, February 7th and February 14th at 4:30 PM to review departmental budgets. *Motion carried unanimously.*

7. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board

a. *MOTION:* Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by E. Burke, to bring the Use of Facilities application onto the agenda for discussion and possible action. *Motion carried unanimously.*

T. Babbitt noted the policy had been previously reviewed and approved but some fees had to be added. This has been done. E. Burke asked about fees for the use of the park by private entities or non-profit. No action was required.

b. *MOTION:* Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to bring onto the agenda the item of flying the POW/MIA flag for discussion and possible action. *Motion carried unanimously.*

*MOTION:* Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by S. Merchant, for the town to fly the official POW/MIA flag along with the American flag on all town flag poles. *Motion carried unanimously.*

Brief discussion followed that the American Legion would be willing to donate two of such flags and that they would be flown at Town Hall and Fanning Park.

8. Public Forum

*James Barnie – Hopeville Rd.* – J. Barnie thought the POW/MIA flags should also be flown at the school facilities.
John Connelly – Carely Ave. - J. Connelly asked for clarification on the POW/MIA flag would be flown by the Borough. It was noted that one of the flags from the American Legion will be flown at Fanning Park.

Tina Falck – Cook Hill Rd. – T. Falck expressed her disappointment in the failure to pass the proposed Blight Ordinance and hopes that the Ordinance Committee will plan to bring this up again. She also noted there was a concern about it effecting the elderly in a financial way, but it has been shown that that generation is not usually the ones in violation of blight.

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young noted his concern about algae growth on the siding of houses being a concern especially for the elderly. It was noted that would be a concern of the health department. R. Young also noted the gas issue they just had in Boston and would like to share some information with the Gas Line Committee.

9. Adjournment

**MOTION:** Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by T. Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant