Town of Griswold  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
November 26, 2019  
6:00 PM  
Griswold Town Hall  
28 Main St., Jewett City, CT 06351

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  
   Richard Grabowski, Selectman  
   Jared Picco, Selectman

   Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
   Tina Falck, Senior Center Director  
   6 other interested citizens

2. Notification of Emergency Exits – Emergency exits were noted

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Pledge was cited

4. Approval of Minutes

   a. November 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes

      MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to approve the November 12, 2019 regular meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Correspondence - None

6. New Business

   a. Discussion and possible action on one tax refunds for a total of $182.35 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector

      MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to approve the one tax refund for a total of $182.25 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
b. **Discussion and possible action on approving authorizing resolution allowing the First Selectman to execute any documents necessary for participation in the FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program** – T. Babbitt commented this is a grant that is issued every year in collaboration with the SCCOG. Each town that participates has to complete the application every year. The disbursement is handled through the SCCOG.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by J. Picco, to authorize the First Selectman to execute any documents necessary for participation in the FY 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. **Discussion and possible action on seating BOS member to commission seats left vacant by outgoing selectmen** – There was brief discussion on filling the vacancies on the CIP, Ordinance Committee, Municipal Gas Line Committee and BOS representative for town hall union personnel.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by R. Grabowski, to appoint R. Grabowski to sit on the CIP and Ordinance Committee and J. Picco to sit on the Municipal Gas Line Committee and as representative for town hall union business. **Motion carried unanimously.**

d. **Discussion and possible action on sale/transfer of old senior center van** – T. Falck noted this is a 16 passenger bus that has over 100,000 miles. Voluntown has expressed an interest in acquiring the vehicle but has no funding and no current resources for transportation. T. Babbitt noted that Colchester is trying to sell two similar buses and can’t even get an offer of $500 for one. T. Babbitt suggested giving the bus to Voluntown. It does run the only problem is the AC has to be recharged each year. T. Babbitt verified that we have no use for it and the PW personnel would check it for safety issues before handing it over and would report any issues found to Voluntown but we would not spend any money on fixing anything.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by J. Picco, to offer the old senior van to Voluntown for $1. **Motion carried unanimously.**

e. **Discussion and possible action on tentative town hall union contract** – T. Babbitt noted that the contract is a tentative final contract. It was decided the new BOS members would like to have time to review the contract before approval.

7. **Old Business - None**

8. **Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board** – None

9. **Public Forum**

   **Dave Vieaux** – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked if R. Grabowski would be acting as chairman for the ordinance committee and also asked for an update on the development on Rt. 164/201. T. Babbitt noted R. Grabowski would temporarily serve as Chairman until election of officers has been completed. T. Babbitt gave an update on all possible town development.
Ed Berdick – Voluntown Rd. – E. Berdick wanted to welcome the new BOS members and expressed his desire for Welcome To Griswold signs to be placed coming into town. He would like to see four as you get off the highway exits and would like to present the idea to the BOS/BOF. T. Babbitt noted that the EDC has designed a proposed sign and is looking at two locations to start. T. Babbitt has committed to getting permitting approval from the DOT over the winter. It was also suggested looking into solar lighting to illuminate the signs.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly noted his support for the signs because Griswold is synonymous with Jewett City. T. Babbitt then gave an update on naming the post office in town.

D. Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux suggested contacting google maps to have the town designated correctly as Griswold.

Tina Falck – Cook Hill Rd. – T. Falck also noted the difficulty with getting the post office to recognize Griswold and not only Jewett City.

Sharon Viadella – Lester Rd. – S. Viadella asked where the truck stop is proposed and for an update on the bridges. T. Babbitt noted the location of the proposed truck stop and that Sheldon Rd. bridge project is done until spring and Norman Rd. Bridge should be open soon.

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked for an update on the Patrylo garage. T. Babbitt noted they are trying to schedule a meeting with various departments for after the holiday.

John Connelly – Carely Ave. – J. Connelly asked if section of the Stott property is Brownfields.

Tina Falck – Cook Hill Rd. – T. Falck noted the first breakfast for the needy is Saturday and the ground breaking for the new senior center is December 4th, December 7th is fuel fund breakfast.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by R. Grabowski, seconded by T. Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant