Town of Griswold
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
May 14, 2019
6:00 PM
Downstairs Meeting Room
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
   Steve Merchant Sr., Second Selectman
   Ed Burke, Third Selectman

   Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
   7 interested citizens

2. Notification of Emergency Exits – Emergency exits were noted.

3. Pledge of Allegiance – Pledge was cited.

4. Approval of Minutes

   a. April 23, 2019 – Regular Meeting Minutes
   b. May 2, 2019 – Special Meeting Minutes

   MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to approve the April 23, 2019 regular meeting minutes and the May 2, 2019 special meeting minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Correspondence - None

6. New Business

   a. Discussion and possible action on three tax refunds for a total of $390.67 as presented by Leona Sharkey, Tax Collector

   MOTION: Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke to approve the three tax refunds for a total of $390.67 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.
b. Discussion and possible action on appointment of alternate member of the ordinance committee to a regular member position – There was brief discussion noting there is one vacancy for a regular resident member, which if you move up an alternate then creates an alternate vacancy. It was also noted that Larry Laidley is listed as an elected official and is not an elected official, rather only a borough resident and has not been regularly attending the meetings. It was discussed sending a letter to the Borough to see if they have an elected official who would like to serve. It was also noted D. Vieaux was the longest serving alternate member.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to appoint D. Vieaux from an alternate member position to a regular member position on the ordinance committee. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Discussion and possible action on appointment of an alternate member of the ordinance committee – It was discussed that there were two letters of interest and it was decided to go with the first one received.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by E. Burke, to appoint David Estabrook as a resident alternate member of the ordinance committee. **Motion carried unanimously.**

d. Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectmen to sign contract for preliminary engineering report and environmental study to supplement USDA grant application – T. Babbitt noted there were only two RFQ’s received and they were reviewed by himself and the Town Planner. They have decided the better qualified candidate is Fuss & O’Neill.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Merchant, seconded by E. Burke, to authorize the First Selectman to sign a contract with Fuss & O’Neill for preliminary engineering report and environmental study to supplement USDA grant application. **Motion carried unanimously.**

e. Discussion and possible action on participation in the 2019 Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act – T. Babbitt noted this is a program offered by the state that the Slater Library would like to participate in. It provides for certain businesses to defer their tax payments which would normally be made to the State to a local non-profit organization. There is a cap on how much an organization can contribute and the program includes certain types of business that may participate and certain causes they can donate to. The library would like to use the money to replace windows at the library. The Town has to hold a public hearing in order to move forward with participation in the program. The library has contracted with a consultant who would make the presentation at the public hearing and complete the required paperwork.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by E. Burke, seconded by S. Merchant, to move forward with participation in the program and set a date for the public hearing. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by S. Merchant, to set a public hearing date for the Neighborhood Assistance Act for June 11, 2019 at 5:30 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**
7. Old Business

a. Discussion and possible action on the offer of St. Anne's Church in Glasgo

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by E. Burke, to table action on this item. Motion carried unanimously.

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

9. Public Forum

Dave Vieaux – Leha Ave. – D. Vieaux asked about the clean-up day and wanted to know if there may possibly be another one in the fall. T. Babbitt noted the total tonnage was down about 8 tons but tires and mattresses were up. There were also more streets cleaned up. He also noted that he felt the poor weather hindered people from bringing out stuff for pick-up the night before. He also noted we could discuss, at a future point, having an open transfer station day in the fall.

Ransom Young – Rixtown Rd. – R. Young wanted to know if there was clarification on a non-resident being able to participate on the Rixtown cemetery committee and whether or not they would be doing any maintenance. T. Babbitt noted the attorney has noted that a non-resident can be a member but is researching further information at this time and that the committee will be serving in an administrative manner.

Sharon Viadella – Lester Rd. – S. Viadella noted that she and FOPF are continuing to pick up trash along the roads, asked if the gun range information was going to be removed from the website, and also asked about the status of possible development projects in town. T. Babbitt provided an update on the projects.

10. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Babbitt, seconded by E. Burke, to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant