

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES RE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting Monday, July 19, 2021. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at the Newtown Municipal Center. First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:30p.m.

PRESENT: First Selectman Daniel C. Rosenthal, Selectman Maureen Crick Owen and Selectman Jeff Capeci

ALSO PRESENT: Director of Parks & Recreation Amy Mangold, Cultural Arts Chair Laura Lerman and Vice Chair Andrea Spencer and one member of the public.

VOTER COMMENTS: none.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES: Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 21, 2021. Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.

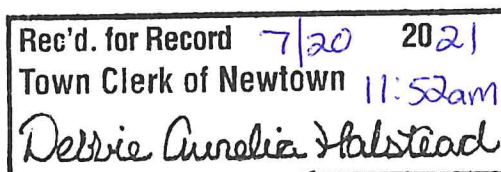
COMMUNICATIONS: none.

FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT: In the absence of the finance director, First Selectman Rosenthal stated the next meeting will include the year end transfers as well as the appropriations process relative to the Hawley HVAC project. 90% construction documents are complete. Public Building & Site expects a more current estimate at their July 27 meeting. Two options are being considered should the project pass at referendum. The most realistic is to move the students out of the school; the Superintendent has made preliminary arrangements. The project would commence in June 2022 and complete in April 2023. This is currently at \$7.1 million. The other option is to close the building in phases and shift the students within the school. The challenge is that students will be in the midst of a construction site. This option is \$800,000 more. The Board of Education will vote on this. Should the project gain public support there will be discussion as to whether or not the American Rescue Plan funds may be allocated to the project.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

1. Cultural Arts – P&R Dog Park Mural: Andrea Spencer explained that local artist Lindsay Fuori submitted a grant proposal to the Cultural Arts Commission in 2020. The idea was to paint mini murals on electrical boxes over the course of three seasons. The CT DOT did not allow this. Several other proposed locations were rejected for various reasons. The Cultural Arts Commission and the Parks & Recreation Commission unanimously approved the proposal for a mural on the building at the dog park. It is very gratifying to see the hard work paying off and the Cultural Arts Commission is delighted the Town recognizes the value of the project. The project is expected to take a week; the public is invited to watch Ms. Fuori paint. Ms. Mangold said that the dog park committee had wanted to do this and is happy to have partnered with the Cultural Arts Commission. The Parks & Recreation Commission is in full support; it is a fun, whimsical drawing that will enlighten the building and enhance the area. Both Ms. Mangold and Ms. Spencer thanked First Selectman Rosenthal for his support. First Selectman Rosenthal stated that permissive zoning specifies exactly what is allowed. There is no specific language on murals. People in the dog park will enjoy the mural, however it cannot be seen from the road. Ms. Spencer believes the conversation will come up again, and thinks setting guidelines is a good idea, saying there's has to be a way to have public art. First Selectman Rosenthal suggested looking at other towns to review their regulations. Ms. Lerman stated the arts are a revenue generator. Selectman Capeci suggested looking into the Farmington Canal Rail Trail as there is a lot of public art on buildings along the trail in Southington. The proposal received the full support of the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the Cultural Arts and Parks & Recreation Dog Park Mural as presented (att.). Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.



- 2. Dispatch Union Contract:** First Selectman Rosenthal stated the contract was informally negotiated, has minor changes related to management, working conditions and scheduling. There is no impact to the budget this year. Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the agreement between the Town of Newtown and Nutmeg Independent Public Safety Employees Union, dated July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024. Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.
- 3. Appointments/Reappointments/Vacancies/Opening:** Selectman Crick Owen moved the appointments/re-appointments as presented (att.) Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.
- 4. Driveway Bond Release/Extension:** Selectman Crick Owen moved the driveway bond release for Corbo Associates, Inc., Hattertown Road, M13, B2, L53 in the amount of \$1,000. Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.
- 5. Tax Refunds:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the July 19, 2021 Tax Refund #1 in the amount of \$2,104.86. Selectman Capeci seconded. All in favor.

VOTER COMMENTS: Ed Schierloh, Shady Rest Blvd., spoke with 40 years experience with hospitals and universities. He said if the school project is done in sections teaching will be disrupted by trucks, deliveries and noise, even if the air quality is controlled. Mr. Schierloh supports the opinion of First Selectman Rosenthal that the first option of doing the entire project at one time, is best.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the regular Board of Selectmen meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Att.: Cultural Arts/P&R dog park mural; appointments/re-appointments

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Marcinek, clerk



BOARD OF SELECTMEN – July 19, 2021

APPOINTMENTS

Fairfield Hills Authority

(R) James Landy, 150 Head of Meadow Rd.

To fill a vacancy that was created and expires on July 31, 2021. Appoint from 7/31/21 to 7/31/24.

Board of Health

Dr. Robert Grossman, Chairman Emeritus

Robert Bazuro, DO, 3 Miya La., SH

Stephanie Stroeve, 7 Possum Ridge Rd.

07/01/21 – 07/01/24

07/01/21 – 07/01/24

Economic Development Commission

(D) Francis Pennarola, 17 Webster Pl.

To fill a vacancy that expires 1/6/24

RE-APPOINTMENTS

Fairfield Hills Authority

(D) Ross Carley, 66 Currituck Road

07/31/21 – 07/31/24

Board of Health

William Begg, M.D., 11 Cobblestone Lane

07/01/21 – 07/01/24