



TOWN OF ROXBURY CONNECTICUT

Board of Selectmen

29 North Street • P.O. Box 203 • Roxbury, CT 06783-0203

ROXBURY BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING JUNE 4, 2018 MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Barbara Henry, First Selectman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
Board of Selectmen Present: Barbara Henry, James Conway & Russ Dirienzo
Others Present: Mo Clark and Wendy Walker

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting - May 7, 2018

Motion: Motion was made to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of May 7, 2018 by Russ Dirienzo; seconded by James Conway and carried unanimously.

TAX REFUNDS FOR EXCESS PAYMENT

There were no tax refunds for excess payment.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PUBLIC

Mo Clark came forward to speak with the Selectmen. He complimented the kitchen and bathroom additions at the Pavilion and said it was a nice improvement. He reported he heard gunfire on Saturday, June 2, 2018 at 6:00 PM, and it seemed to be coming from the center of the Town. Barbara Henry responded that it had been reported and the police were sent out to investigate. The police reported it was on a private piece of property, 500' from neighboring properties and met all legal requirements. The Selectmen will look further into it.

COMMISSIONS & BOARDS APPOINTMENTS/OTHER

Senior Center Board of Director's- no term limit

Motion: A motion was made to table the appointment of a member to the Senior Center Board of Director's by Russ Dirienzo; seconded by James Conway and carried unanimously.

BUSINESS

Fair Housing Resolution; Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement; Affirmative Action Policy Statement

Motion: A motion was made by Russ Dirienzo to accept the following Fair Housing Resolution; Fair Housing Policy; Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement; Affirmative Action Policy Statement:

Whereas, All American citizens are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location, and

Whereas, Connecticut Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, the Town of Roxbury is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

Now therefore, be it resolved; That the Town of Roxbury hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase and obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

Be it further resolved; That the Chief Executive Officer in the Town of Roxbury or her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practices in the Town of Roxbury and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities(CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

The motion was seconded by James Conway and carried unanimously.

Hurlbut Park Rental Fees

There was a discussion to adjust the fee schedule for the Hurlbut Park Pavilion from five categories to three.

Motion: A motion was made by James Conway to adjust the Hurlbut Park Pavilion fee schedule to the following:

- Children's Party (under 10 yrs. old) \$25.00
- Pavilion with Bathrooms \$75.00
- Pavilion with Kitchen & Bathrooms \$100.00

Seconded by Russ Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Blue Star Marker Dedication

Barbara Henry reported the Roxbury Bridgewater Garden Club will have the dedication for the Blue Star Marker on June 14, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. James Conway will be attending the dedication for the Board of Selectmen.

Conservation Commission Meeting- Ceil Santillo

Barbara Henry reported she will be attending the Conservation Commission meeting on June 13, 2018 to present Ceil Santillo with her Service Award.

Historic Property Preservation Ordinance

Wendy Walker, Chairman of the Historic District Commission (HDC), came forward once again to speak to the Selectmen regarding setting up a Historic Property Preservation Ordinance. Ms. Walker reported the HDC sent out letters to all the property owners who have houses in the Roxbury Historic and Architectural Survey book regarding the establishment of the ordinance. She received 23 responses. The responses were 12 against the ordinance, and 11 in support of it.

Ms. Walker reported there were some misconceptions regarding what the proposed ordinance would do and not do. The proposed ordinance would:

- Alert the HDC of dangers to old houses; ex. holes in roofs
- Hold accountable home owners who deliberately and with malice damage a historic property to get rid of it
- When alerted to situations of financial burden, would work with the owners to find grants, tax credits, etc.
- Work to resolve a demolition order of a historic home

It would not:

- Levy fines, except for deliberate damage to historic homes
- Monitor properties for ordinary every day maintenance
- Penalize old house owners for insignificant problems or minor issues
- Police, but respond to formal complaints

Ms. Walker went on to report there are currently seven houses in jeopardy, and she is looking for permission to have the Town Attorney draw up the ordinance.

Russ Dirienzo suggested having a Town Meeting to see what the Town wants before spending money to have an ordinance prepared. He further stated he did not want to waste money when he does not think there is much support for the ordinance.

James Conway remarked that you can't make people fix up their houses if they don't want to, nor make them accept help if they don't want it.

Barbara Henry remarked that Ms. Walker had received a 50/50 response to her letter and that she did not want to spend money on drafting an ordinance when, in her view, there was not overwhelming support for it.

Ms. Walker also spoke about establishing a Historic Trust Fund. Barbara Henry pointed out that like the Roxbury Land Trust, a Historic Trust Fund would be independent and not part of the Town Government.

Barbara Henry suggested Ms. Walker speak with Peter Filous, Chairman of the Planning Commission. With the upcoming POCD there may be some way they can help the HDC.

New Meeting Day/Dates for the BOS

Motion: A motion was made to move the Board of Selectmen meeting day to the first Tuesday of the month, effective October 2018, by Russ Dirienzo, seconded by James Conway and carried unanimously.

The new meeting dates shall be:

- Tuesday, October 2, 2018
- Tuesday, November 6, 2018
- Tuesday, December 4, 2018

The meeting time shall remain at 7:30 p.m.

Electrical Supplier Bid through CCM

Barbara Henry reported the Town will be part of an RFP through CCM for an electrical supplier bid for the municipal buildings.

Legislation Updates

There were no legislation updates.

Region 12 Referendum

The second Region 12 referendum will be held Tuesday, June 5, 2018 from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. in the Town Hall.

Fire Marshal & Resident Trooper Reports – May 2018

The Fire Marshal and Resident Trooper reports for May 2018 were reviewed by the Selectmen. It was noted Resident Trooper Kevin Anderson will be retiring effective July 1, 2018.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion: To add Joey's Trail and Intergovernmental Agreement- NW Regional Workforce Investment Board to the agenda by James Conway; seconded by Barbara Henry and carried unanimously.

Joey's Trail

Barbara Henry reported the opening ceremony for Joey's Trail was held on Saturday, June 2, 2018. Joey's Trail was built in honor of the late Joey Awlasewicz who died in 2014 at the age of 11. The trail connects the Minor Memorial Library, the Roxbury Senior Center, near Booth Free School. Barbara Henry stated it was a beautiful trail and praised the Conservation Commission for doing a great job. Barbara Henry also thanked the numerous volunteers who worked on it.

Intergovernmental Agreement- NW Regional Workforce Investment Board

Barbara Henry reported she had received more information regarding the NW Regional Workforce Investment Board Intergovernmental Agreement which the Selectmen had decided not to enter into last month. Forty-one towns participate in the program, with Roxbury using 37 clients over the past year. Barbara Henry was assured the NWRWI Board had enough insurance and assets to cover any liability the Board may encounter. The Town was encouraged to sign the agreement and cross out the liability sentence.

Motion: A motion was made by Russ Dirienzo to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the NW Regional Workforce Investment Board, and to cross out the following sentence:

“The municipalities who execute this agreement shall assume liability for the misappropriation, misuse, or other loss of grant funds and other obligations.”

The motion was seconded by seconded by James Conway and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. was made by James Conway; seconded by Russ Dirienzo and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Cady

Julie Cady, Secretary

These minutes are not considered official until approved at the next Regular Meeting of the Roxbury Board of Selectmen