

# **Town of Greenwich**

Board of Selectmen Meeting

January 12, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room and via Zoom webinar

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m.

#### **a. Attendance**

- a. First Selectman Fred Camillo - present
- b. Selectwoman Lauren Rabin – present
- c. Selectperson Janet Stone McGuigan – present remotely via Zoom

### **2. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Regular meeting of December 20, 2022

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin and a second by Ms. Stone McGuigan, the minutes were approved unanimously.

- b. Special meeting of December 20, 2022

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin and a second by Ms. Stone McGuigan, the minutes were approved unanimously.

### **3. First Selectman's Updates**

First Selectman Camillo began by wishing everyone a Happy New Year, noting that this was the first Board of Selectmen meeting in 2023. He thanked the “fast response” of town government, its emergency services and town first responders to the storm that passed through town on Dec. 23. Camillo said he appreciated the response from the whole team. He said a memorial was to be held Jan. 14 for former Town Deputy Tree Warden Steve Gospodinoff at the Mianus River Boat and Yacht Club and urged people to stop by to express condolences to his family and friends. He previewed remarks he was set to give on Jan. 13 to the Greenwich Association of Realtors, which he compared to giving a state of the Town address about the year that just ended and what was ahead for Greenwich in 2023. He said he would be speaking about that as well on the Mark and Russ Pruner radio show. Camillo announced there would be a public forum on Brothers

Brook on Jan. 19. This is the area around Echo Lane and Hillside Drive and he said anyone in that area should try and join the meeting. Camillo announced there would soon be a release of a Town-wide study on flooding for each part of town and said the Brothers Brook area would “definitely be included in it.” He also announced he would be giving his presentation of the proposed Town of Greenwich 2023-24 municipal budget on Jan. 24 and noted it would be a “challenging year” in the capital budget with the funding for Central Middle School bumping other items out. He said the Town was doing its best to get other items in but he had to be “very mindful of being fiscally prudent.” Camillo also promoted a Jan. 30 presentation at Town Hall from local historian Missy Wolfe about colonial Greenwich and the Jan. 30 Old Greenwich Association meeting. Camillo reported he had delivered a proclamation to mark Freccia Brothers’ centennial as a local business, which he called a “town treasure” and one for Island Bowl Poke, a new business that has already earned high marks in a survey. Camillo also honored Pete and Jackie Pinella upon their retirements after 42 years at the Old Greenwich Mobile Station, mentioned the opening of a new gym called The Ave at 17 East Elm Street while wishing the owners a lot of luck and said he had given a certificate of recognition to Greenwich High School graduate Austin Towle, a student at The Ohio State University whose financial modeling team won a contest.

Camillo spoke again after Selectwoman Rabin gave her updates. He thanked Selectwoman Rabin, Selectperson Stone McGuigan and former State Rep. Michael Bocchino for speaking at the public meeting on Western Middle School’s soil remediation and for being “strong advocates.” He said that reminded him that he and Rabin had attended a forum in Glenville the previous week about a proposal for 200 Pemberwick Road and said people should “stay tuned on that” and that he told residents there would be an inspection of the dam before June 1 and the beginning of hurricane season.

#### **4. Selectwomen’s Updates**

Selectwoman Rabin said she would be filling in for Camillo on Jan. 13 for the Ask the First Selectman Show on WGCH for the sixth week in a row and joked that people were starting to call her Joan Rivers for how often she did it. She reported on attending a League of Women Voters of Greenwich presentation on Jan. 11 about the league’s capital projects study that had begun in 2019 before being put on hiatus during the pandemic and then being brought back this year. She said this was timely given the upcoming budget presentation and the amount of capital projects in the queue. Rabin said she attended the Jan. 11 public forum from the state’s Department of Energy and Environmental Protection on the soil remediation of Western Middle School. She said DEEP was still looking for public comment through Jan. 17 and urged people to focus their comments on feedback about the specific remediation plan not on how overdue the project was. Rabin reported on her work as liaison to the town’s Commission on Aging and thanked the Representative Town Meeting for accepting a gift in December to help the commission with building improvements for the senior center.

Selectperson Stone McGuigan, appearing virtually over Zoom, wished everyone Happy New Year and also noted the start not only of the new calendar year but the start of the town budget season. She said “like many budget watchers in Greenwich” she was working to educate herself in preparation for the Jan. 24 budget presentation by reading the town’s operations plan for 2023-24. She thanked Camillo for including on page four of the plan language calling for the Sustainability and Enhancement Committee to further identify and expand initiatives for food scrap and textile recycling programs, waste management and committee engagement. As co-chair of the committee, Stone McGuigan said the committee was “incredibly appreciative” of the support and stands ready to support the goal “in any and every way possible” and announced the committee would hold its first meeting of 2023 on Jan. 13 by Zoom. She said a new initiative from the committee would be a monthly newsletter and urged people to subscribe to it.

## **5. Old Business**

- a. Discussion of the Greenwich Fire Department’s plan review fee schedule.

At the request of the Greenwich Fire Department the item was withdrawn for further work to continue and for discussion and a vote at a future Board of Selectmen meeting.

## **6. New business**

- a. Board of Selectmen Meeting Date Change from Jan. 26 to Jan. 23, 2023.

No discussion was held and upon a motion by Ms. Rabin and a second by Ms. Stone McGuigan the board voted unanimously to change the date of the meeting from Jan. 26 to Jan. 23, 2023 at 1 p.m.

Mr. Camillo spoke about how before the pandemic, the board had tried to do one meeting a month at night and suggested that this was something the board could revisit doing again later in the year. He said it was “very well received” when the board did it before the pandemic.

## **7. Public comment**

Peter Alexander, speaking virtually via Zoom, said he felt the town was “in good shape for 2023” thanks to the Board of Selectmen and thanked everyone while wishing everyone a good year. Camillo joked it was the “nicest comment we’ve had all year.”

## **8. Appointments/Nominations**

No appointments or nominations were made.

## **9. Adjournment**

At 10:23 a.m., Ms. Lauren Rabin made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Ms. Stone McGuigan, the motion was approved unanimously.