Town of Greenwich

Board of Selectmen Meeting

January 23, 2020

10:00 a.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 A.M.

a. Attendance:
   a. First Selectman Fred Camillo - Present
   b. Selectwoman Lauren Rabin - Present
   c. Select-person Jill Oberlander - Present

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Board of Selectmen Workshop on Dec. 20, 2019
b. Board of Selectmen Workshop on Jan. 6, 2020
c. Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on Jan. 9, 2020
d. Board of Selectmen Workshop on Jan. 13, 2020

Ms. Oberlander requested clarifications/corrections be made to the Jan. 6, Jan. 9 and Jan. 13 minutes.

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

3. First Selectman’s Updates

Mr. Camillo said that because of the number of meetings that are being scheduled, the Board will now conduct one workshop per month rather than weekly. That workshop will be held between the two regularly scheduled Board meetings.

He said that he is completing the budget process which will include presentation of the budget to the BET Budget Committee on Thursday evening.

Mr. Camillo also provided updates on the Tarry Lighthouse project (it will be subject of the Port Chester Zoning Board of Appeals Feb. 20 meeting); his work to
establish a Public Safety Committee; meeting with the Pemberwick Glenville Association; the Greenwich Legislative delegation on legislative priorities impacting the Town; Census 2020 efforts in Town; meeting with U.S. Rep. Jim Himes to discuss federal grant opportunities for public safety and alternative energy programs;

4. Selectmen’s Updates

Select-person Oberlander reported that the Environmental Sustainability and Enhancement Committee is continuing its work with a lot of enthusiasm from the Committee members and that if people are interested in becoming involved, to reach out to the Committee.

Selectwoman Rabin said she attended a CCM workshop for newly elected officials; and that she is working on a PoCD committee that is measuring Key Performance Indexes (KPIs).

5. Old Business

a. Proposed 2020 Greenwich Avenue Banner Fee Schedule – Parks & Recreation Director Joe Siciliano.

   Mr. Camillo said the town will be working on a comprehensive banner policy for the entire Town. Ms. Oberlander stated most of the many comments she has received weighed in favor of having the banner for nonprofit event promotion and that questions have been raised on the character of the banners and commercialization with banners including advertising. Ms. Oberlander noted that since it will take a while to develop a comprehensive advertising policy, she was not opposed to approving these fees as an interim measure.

   Ms. Rabin made a motion to approve the banner fee. Upon a second by Ms. Oberlander, the motion was approved unanimously.

b. Scenic road designation for northern loop around Binney Park – Rita Baker, Candace Garthwaite.

   Ms. Garthwaite explained the process of obtaining a scenic road designation with the first step involving the Board of Selectmen to make a recommendation to the Representative Town Meeting. The designation request came as a result of a previous proposal to redesign the Sound Beach Avenue rotary, Ms. Garthwaite said.
Mr. Camillo said concerns and questions raised by Land Use, Public Works and the Law departments should be addressed before the Selectmen vote on the proposal.

Other speakers included resident Alan Lovejoy, Deputy Public Works Commissioner James Michel; Binney Park Advisory Committee member Nancy Chapin; residents Paul Pugliese, Monica Prihoda, Renee Siblotnick. The Board did not take any action on the request.

c. Proposed ordinance to create an Energy Management Commission – Environmental Affairs Director Patricia Sesto.

Ms. Sesto provided background on the proposal and said the proposal has been revised based upon feedback from the RTM’s Finance, Legislative & Rules and Land Use committees. The Commission will be under the aegis of the Office of the First Selectman, not the Conservation Commission. Ms. Sesto said that 23 of the 28 Connecticut towns that reduced energy consumption by 10 to 20%, had an Energy Commission or Committee; and the 11 Towns that did not make that reduction, did not have such commission or committee.

Ms. Sesto agreed to meet with the RTM committees again so that the Selectmen can vote on the issue in two weeks.

6. New Business


Deputy Chief Marino explained that the proposed parking fee increases are the result of the imposition of the state sales tax of 0.0635% on Jan. 1 would create a monthly revenue loss of $10,583 for Parking Services. He provided a history of rates and increases for parking meters and annual permits. The increase on meters would be immediate and increases in annual permits would be effective upon permit renewal later this year. For example, the $5 fee charged for daily rail commuters who do not hold an annual permit, has been in place since 1999, according to Deputy Chief Marino. The proposed increases also would help defray the cost of recalibrating meters and payment kiosks.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin that was seconded by Ms. Oberlander, the Pintail Lane change was approved unanimously.

b. Proposed Charter and code change regarding Stuart Drive parking – Deputy Police Chief Mark Marino.
Deputy Chief Marino gave a history of parking regulations for the street and that the request to remove parking restrictions came from residents, 63 of which signed a petition requesting same. Residents speaking in favor of the removal of parking restrictions included Chris Garafolo, Janine Cirilli, Jeff Borenz and Tim Peck.

Upon a motion by Ms. Oberlander that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the removal of parking restrictions was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Ms. Oberlander that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board unanimously approved adding to the agenda, a request to add a request for permit parking for merchants at the Lafayette Place municipal lot.

Deputy Chief Marino said the request to allow permit parking was reviewed by the Law Department. The initial permit program would allow merchants to purchase 20 permits for their employees.

Upon a motion by Ms. Oberlander that was seconded by Mr. Camillo, the parking permit program was approved unanimously.


Mr. Camillo explained he is looking at all Town departments for efficiencies and that he wanted a different model for Law Department staffing. He said after being contacted by several law firms, Attorney Vincent Marino of Cohen & Wolf is being recommended. There was discussion about the availability of Mr. Marino and staff from Cohen & Wolf; coordination of work with in-house staff attorneys. Ms. Oberlander said she was not involved with the selection of Mr. Marino and Cohen & Wolf and not provided sufficient information about the First Selectman’s process for selecting Cohen & Wolf over other law firms to make an informed decision. In addition, Ms. Oberlander noted her concerns about potential self-referral and cost risk and the process for transition. Ms. Rabin said she met with Mr. Marino and did not have any questions.

Upon a motion by Mr. Camillo that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board voted 2-1-0 to appoint Mr. Marino as Town Attorney. Ms. Oberlander cast the dissenting vote.

This proposed settlement was discussed in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Camillo that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the settlement.

e. RFK Greenwich Enterprises, Inc. v. Town of Greenwich - Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

This proposed settlement was discussed in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Camillo that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the settlement.

f. RFK Greenwich Enterprises, Inc. v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

This proposed settlement was discussed in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Camillo that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the settlement.

g. Ii Mandorlo, LLC v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

This proposed settlement was discussed in Executive Session.

Upon a motion by Mr. Camillo that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, the Board unanimously voted to approve the settlement.

7. Appointments and Nominations

a. Appointment of Howard Richman to fill vacancy on Board of Assessment Appeals.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin that was seconded by Ms. Oberlander, former Tax Collector Howard Richman was appointed to the Board of Assessment Appeals for a term expiring Dec. 31, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously.

b. Appointment of Renata Michalski as Director of Purchasing & Administrative Services.
Upon a motion by Ms. Oberlander that was seconded by Ms. Rabin, Ms. Michaelski's appointment was approved unanimously.

8. Executive Session

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin that was seconded by Mr. Camillo, the Board unanimously voted to move into Executive Session at 12:46 p.m.

Also attending were Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin and Board Secretary Barbara Heins.

Upon a motion by Ms. Rabin that was seconded by Ms. Oberlander, the Board unanimously voted to exit the Executive Session at 1:06 p.m.

9. Adjournment

At 1:10 p.m., Ms. Oberlander made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Ms. Rabin, the motion was approved unanimously.

The next regularly scheduled Board meeting is Feb. 12, 2020 at 10 a.m. in the Mazza Room.

Fred Camillo, First Selectman

Prepared by Barbara A. Heins, Recording Secretary