



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE

CARL P. FORTUNA JR., FIRST SELECTMAN

SCOTT M. GIEGERICH, SELECTMAN

MATTHEW PUGLIESE, SELECTMAN

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REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

8:30 a.m.

Old Saybrook Town Hall – First Floor Conference Room

Direct link to the recording: <https://youtu.be/sFmnRi2Mzms>

It is also included in the following playlists:

Board of Selectmen Meetings: _

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKX0Jmf1KPp9SQAHO0GUQCR3yLtNYxKOWK>

I. CALL TO ORDER – All members present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Recited.

III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC – Dan Welch stated that he felt the by-laws passed by the Police Commission are in response to the change in the commission membership last fall and that the by-laws represent a community desire for more trust with the police department. He discussed his career in human resources and recent changes in the US military to demonstrate that the by-laws should remain in effect.

Claudia Way came in to comment on two blighted properties: Chapman and Dean. She showed pictures to the board and asked that action be taken. Mr. Fortuna said he would look into it and respond.

IV. COMMENTS FROM THE SELECTMEN: Board of Police Commissioners' By-Laws: Mr. Giegerich read a statement supporting the reinstatement of the Police Commission by-laws based on the advice of counsel. He also commented on the lights and how they are on schedule for July installation. Mr. Pugliese thanked the parents and teachers for another successful school year and a very successful sports season. He also discussed a conversation he had with the Chief of Police about a gun buyback program. Mr. Fortuna stated he had no issue with the buyback. An amount of funding for this program must be identified. Mr. Fortuna commented on:

1. Beaver Dam Trail Culvert- a utility meeting occurred Monday morning. This is potentially a 1.5m job but FEMA funding may be available for a portion of that.
2. Sidewalks around town were recently completed. We are looking at additional sidewalks on Maple Avenue and Sheffield Street for repair.
3. With rising income, the town should reap significantly more treasurer's income.
4. He also congratulated the sports teams on a successful spring season.
5. That the new by-laws passed by the Police Commission should be rescinded. He felt he gave the newly elected Police Commission a wide berth since last November, engaging new counsel at the request of the Chair on an opinion letter regarding Police Commission authority. He felt this by-law discussion had now run its course. It has been discussed for 6 months and now 4 lawyers have

weighed in, all with the same opinion. He stated that if he and the Board of Selectmen went against the advice of counsel to this extent, the board would be removed from office. It's okay to disagree with the opinion but the commission should follow Attorney Tallberg's advice. Any further amendments to the by-laws should be crafted with counsel. Mr. Pugliese stated that he felt the Police Commission should follow the advice of counsel. Mr. Alfred Wilcox stated that the by-laws are the first item on the agenda of the next Police Commission meeting.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board of Selectmen Meeting May 24, 2022.

Motion made to approve

FORTUNA /GIEGERICH

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. Appointments

1. Oversight Committee. Appointment of substitute fiduciary. The Finance Director, Lee Ann Palladino, was appointed.

Motion made to approve

FORTUNA /PUGLIESE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Blight Hearing Officer – Attorney Robert Rimmer was appointed.

Motion made to approve

FORTUNA /GIEGERICH

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments. Old Saybrook representative as an alternate member to the RIVERCOG Regional Planning Committee. This appointment is for the unexpired portion of a two-year term due to end 11/2023.

This item was tabled. The first selectman will contact Michael Bender.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – *Motion made to adjourn at 9:23 a.m.*

FORTUNA /PUGLIESE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,
Carl P. Fortuna Jr., First Selectman