

302 Main Street • Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475-2384 Telephone (860) 395-3123 • Fax (860) 395-3125

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN Tuesday, March 23, 2021 6:30 p.m. VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

Direct link to the recording: <u>https://youtu.be/4NmWSwvdRZY</u> It is also included in the following playlists: Board of Selectmen Meetings: _

<u>https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKX0JMf1KPp9SQAH0GUQCR3yLtNYxKOWK</u> Covid-19 Playlist: <u>https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKX0JMf1KPp9udiWTL-WmjmxySYBnCU8N</u>

- I. CALL TO ORDER All members present
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Recited
- **III. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC** Mr. Fortuna read into the record several letters thanking the town for the vaccination clinic and how well it is being run. Also, there was another letter thanking the Old Saybrook Police Department for an emergency response at Saybrook Point.
- IV. COMMENTS FROM THE SELECTMEN Mr. Pugliese commented on the Acton Library book series that addresses race and justice issues and the reading of the book, "Deep South, Deep North". Approximately 30 people read the book and had a discussion with the author. He commented on the 1:1 conversations he has been having with Old Saybrook residents that are non-caucasian. Mr. Pugliese asked about the Cares Act/American Rescue Plan funding that was being allocated to municipalities and is addressed by the First Selectman. He then commented on additional grant funding through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) program and the restaurant revitalization program and that to receive funds from the federal government it will be necessary to set up in the federal contracting system. Scott Giegerich spoke to the amazing response to the COVID-19 crisis and thanked all the volunteers and those who are running the clinic. He is proud that the town is able to handle the crisis as well as it did and still put forth a zero mill rate increase budget. The First Selectman commented on the following:
 - 1. He thanked the Board for their time and efforts during the budget process
 - 2. He also commented on the excellent numbers coming out of the vaccination clinic
 - 3. He mentioned the Ingham Hill Road parking area bid will be opened this Friday
 - 4. He commented on the myriad issues that the state legislature is dealing with from gambling to marijuana to land use issues
 - 5. He mentioned that there may be a delay on installing public bathrooms as intended due to the fact that the town needs to bid the project
 - 6. He then commented on the American Rescue Plan (AMP) and the estimated sum the town may receive, the process by which the funds will be allocated (likely through the Board of Selectmen), when the funds will be received (probably in June, 2021 and late summer 2022), how the funds may be used and NOT used,

that there are a very wide variety of groups receiving money in the AMP from FEMA to veterans to schools, that there is small business support in this bill, and that there is money being set aside for accountability through the Government Accountability Office(GAO). A discussion ensued amongst the board about possible uses, including the WPCA and other water projects, broadband infrastructure, economic development and to aid the tourism industry in town, to possibly fund Parks & Recreation improvements as recommended in their facilities plan, etc. More to come on this.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board of Selectmen Meeting March 9, 2021 FORTUNA /PUGLIESE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VI. BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD

A. Discussion and possible action on a Clean Water Fund Application and Resolution.

The First Selectman explained the purpose of the grant: to get the town closer to a resolution on what might be occurring with the remaining properties in the Waste Water Management District (WWMD) program. We are hopeful that a decision, which the townspeople will be able to vote on, will occur in 2022. There is no guarantee that we will receive these grant funds but the first day to apply is April 1 and we want to make certain we take every opportunity to receive grant funding. Motion made to approve Clean Water Fund Application and resolution. *FORTUNA /GIEGERICH*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- **B.** Acceptance of a portion of Elm Street as a town road: Discussion and action: Under the provisions of Section 13a-48 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Town of Old Saybrook proposes to accept as a town regulated roadway a stretch of highway more particularly described as the roadway from the Elm Street Right-of-Way line to the section of Research Parkway that was previously accepted by the Town in 2004. This stretch of highway is approximately 1,167 feet in length, was formerly known as Elm Street and shall now also be called Research Parkway. The following properties are affected and shall have the following new address on Research Parkway:
 - 1. Current owner Fernwood Realty, with a current address of 167-1 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 006, shall have an address of 65 Research Parkway
 - Current owner Cubesmart LP with a current address of 167-3 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0007, shall have an address of 55 Research Parkway
 - **3.** Current owner Cubesmart LP, with a current address of 175-6 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0006, shall have an address of 45 Research Parkway
 - **4.** Current owner Stark Properties, with a current address of LLC, 175-5 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0005, shall have an address of 35 Research Parkway
 - **5.** Current owner 175-4 Elm St, LLC, with a current address of 175-4 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0004, shall have an address of 30 Research Parkway

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- **6.** Current owner Stark Properties, LLC, with a current address of 175-2 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0002, shall have an address of 40 Research Parkway
- Current owner Saybrook Offshore LLC, with a current address of 175-1 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 008, Lot 0001, shall have an address of 50 Research Parkway
- **8.** Current owner Adam M. Stuart and Paula A. Stuart, with a current address of 171 Elm Street, Map 039, Block 004, shall have an address of 60 Research Parkway.

On advice of counsel, this matter was tabled.

C. Discussion and action on a motion to appropriate \$135 thousand from the Town's capital and non-recurring account for the purpose of replacing and repairing the gutters at the KHCAC and to place these monies in an off-budget account entitled "KHCAC gutter replacement". Further to move this appropriation to a town meeting or moved to the Board of Selectmen for consideration pursuant to Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7S, whichever is in effect.

The Board has been discussing this project for several months and the Board agreed that getting the contractor on the job sooner rather than later would be a good thing for the people who work at The Kate as well as the property.

Motion made to approve appropriation and further move to a town meeting or to the Board of Selectmen for consideration pursuant to Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7S, whichever is in effect.

FORTUNA /PUGLIESE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- **D.** Action of the Board of Selectmen pursuant to Governor Ned Lamont's Executive Order 7S:
 - a. Based on the recommendation of the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen, to appropriate \$135 thousand from the Town's capital and non-recurring account for the purpose of replacing and repairing the gutters at the KHCAC and to place these monies in an off-budget account entitled "KHCAC gutter replacement". Moved and approved

FORTUNA /PUGLIESE

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. To accept a portion of Elm Street as a town road: Under the provisions of Section 13a-48 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Town of Old Saybrook proposes to accept as a town regulated roadway a stretch of highway more particularly described as the roadway from the Elm Street Right-of-Way line to the section of Research Parkway that was previously accepted by the Town in 2004. This stretch of highway is approximately 1,167 feet in length, was formerly known as Elm Street and shall now also be called Research Parkway. Tabled.

Motion to add to the agenda the appointment of an alternate to the Planning Commission.

FORTUNA /GIEGERICH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY Board of Selectmen Minutes March 23, 2021

Planning commission alternate appointment. Motion to appoint Dennis Tulimieri
(U) to the Planning Commission.
FORTUNA /PUGLIESE
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to add to the agenda the discussion of the purchase of a "Jaws of Life": FORTUNA /GIEGERICH MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion on recommending to the Board of Finance the purchase of a "Jaws of Life"

The fire chief Joe Johnson discussed that the older tools they have do not cut as well and that time is precious in these situations. It was noted that this item was bid and one bid was returned. Mr. Fortuna asked about what other towns may have for equipment like this and was told that since time is so critical in these situations, it is important for Old Saybrook to have this. Also, other local departments are not always able to come quickly due to the number of volunteers they have. Mr Fortuna noted that it is usually Old Saybrook that responds to other departments in full force. Mr. Pugliese asked if additional training would be required for the department on the new equipment and also asked the chief if there had been any failure in the field of their current equipment. Motion to make recommendation to the Board of Finance. *FORTUNA /PUGLIESE*

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Discussion and action to remove 107 Nehantic Trail from seasonal classification recorded in Volume 200 and approve as a year round dwelling.

Motion made to approve as a year dwelling and remove from the Volume 200 seasonal classification.

VII. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn at 7:40pm FORTUNA /PUGLIESE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Carl P. Fortuna Jr., First Selectman