

**TOWN OF CROMWELL BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021 7:00 pm
CROMWELL TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Chairman Julius Neto, Vice Chairman Allan Spotts, John Ireland, Ed Maley, Steve Wygonowski, Daniel Kelly (virtual)

Also Present: Town Manager Anthony Salvatore, Director of Finance Marianne Sylvester, Alternate Brian Stermer

A. CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Julius Neto called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

RECORD
Sep 30, 2021 12:32P
JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Pledge of allegiance was said by all.

C. SEAT ALTERNATES – No alternates were seated

D. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – A motion was made by Vice Chairman Allan Spotts and seconded by John Ireland to approve the agenda dated September 23rd. **All in favor. Motion Passes.**

E. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

1. Special Meeting, May 26, 2021

a. A motion was made by John Ireland and seconded Vice Chairman Allan Spotts to approve the revised minutes from May 26th. **All in Favor. Motion Passes.**

2. Special Meeting, August 12, 2021

a. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Allan Spotts and seconded by John Ireland to approve the minutes from August 12th. Daniel Kelly asked that under Report of the Tax collector, wording be added to say that Finance Director Marianne Sylvester spoke on behalf of Douglas Sienna. **All in favor. Motion Passes.**

F. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. Deputy Mayor Jennifer Donohue, 32 Franklin Road, joined by Jack Henahan (Councilmen), 17 Crest Drive wanted to show support for using funds given by the American Rescue Plan Act to pay essential town workers, on behalf of the town council. They were pleased that the first proposal to spend the ARPA funds was to show support for town employees.

G. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

1. Still continuing to monitor covid
2. Looking at getting booster shoots for residences
 - a. Should be getting Moderna as was what was given out
3. Still having meetings about American Rescue Plan Act to see where and how funds should be used
4. Still interest in the Red Lion but not sure if there is interest in the facility itself.
5. Reviewed various projects happening around Cromwell
6. Fall paving has begun

H. REPORT OF THE FINANCE DIRECTOR

1. Finance Director Marianne Sylvester noted that there were no areas of concern for the current fiscal year and that they are still closing out the prior year.

I. REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR

1. Finance Director Marianne Sylvester stated that collections are in line with where Cromwell is normally.
2. Discussion on collecting taxes from last year
3. Ed Maley spoke on an issue of not getting a tax bill for his business after asking about it was sent a bill, asked if this is happening to other businesses. Marianne did not have an answer but will ask the Tax Collector.

J. OLD BUSINESS - None

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and possible action to appropriate \$165,000 within the American Rescue Plan Act Fund for premium pay for essential Town workers.
 - a. Town Manager Tony Salvatore presented his proposal to use \$165,000 of the money Cromwell received from the American Rescue Plan Act for a premium pay for essential town workers that worked during the height of the pandemic. During his presentation Tony mentioned that only workers who worked during the pandemic and are still currently an employee will get the one time pay out. A full time employee would receive \$1,000, including the Tax Collector and Town Clerk, and a part time employee, including the two Registrar of Voter, would receive \$500. The fire District was also included.
 - b. Ed Maley commented on the lack of documentation for how the idea come about and the numbers behind it.
 - c. Daniel Kelly stated that his mother is the Registrar of Voters and would be recused himself
 - d. Vice Chairman Allan Spotts wanted it on the record that he is a fire commissioner and will be voting on this matter.
 - e. A lengthy discussion followed on how the proposal was created and if it was allowed legally. There was also discussion on if there might be a better way to spend the ARPA funds.
 - f. A motion was made by Vice Chairman Allan Spotts and seconded by John Ireland to approve appropriating \$165,000 within the American Rescue Plan Act Fund for premium pay for essential Town workers. **Approved by John Ireland, Vice Chairman Allan Spotts, Ed Maley and Steve Wygonowski. Chairman Julius Neto and Daniel Kelly abstained. Motion Passes.**

L. BOARD OF EDUCATION- LIASON REPORT - None

M. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Chairman Julius Neto stated that he appreciates input and discussion and thanked everyone for their patience.

N. VICE CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS – Vice Chairman Allan Spotts thanked members of the board for their discussion and passing the act.

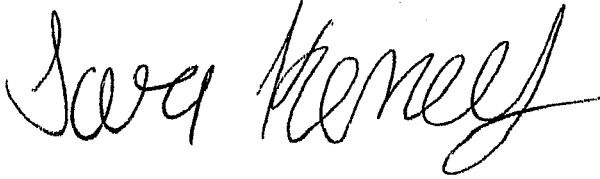
O. GOOD AND WELFARE

1. Ed Maley asked who the Republican alternate was. Vice Chairman Spotts responded stating that Brian Stermer was sworn in. He also brought up that there was confusion on when the meeting would be held and because of the confusion Alternate Anne Hulick was not able to join the meeting.
2. John Ireland asked if there would be a report showing how much of the American Rescue Plan Act funds have been spent and how much is left.

3. Steve Wygonowski commented that the minutes from the Town Council meeting did not show that there was a discussion about approving spending the American Rescue Plan Act to pay employees. He wanted minutes to show that there was a discussion.
4. Daniel Kelly wanted to thank everyone for accommodating him on the phone.

P. ADJOURNMENT – A motion was made by Vice Chairman Allan Spotts and seconded by John Ireland to adjourn the meeting. **All in favor. Motion Passes.** Meeting Adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sara Kennedy".

Sara Kennedy
Recording Clerk