

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 14, 2020
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT

MINUTES

Present: Mayor E. Faienza, Deputy Mayor J. Donohue, S. Fortenbach, J. Henehan,
P. Ahlquist, A. Waters, J. Demetriades

Absent:

Also Present: Town Manager A. Salvatore, Chief of Police D. Lamontagne, Director of
Public Works L. Spina, Director of Planning and Development S. Popper

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

J. Donohue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by S. Fortenbach seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to
approve the agenda. Citizen comments moved to after D.

D. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIASON REPORT/STAFF REPORTS

1. PW/WPCA Facility Progress Report attached.

E. MAYOR'S UPDATE

Mayor Faienza reported:

- He will be returning to Spring Hill Suites to drop off a welcome document to them; he will let the Council know in the event anyone would like to join him.
- The Library received a grant of approximately \$30,000; they will be installing a laptop media kiosk for the patrons to borrow a computer lap-top.
- The ceremony for Mr. Honig was very impressive. He is a cromwell resident and an author.
- Representative Carpino sponsored a Farm to Table Event that was very successful; Mayor thanked all staff who helped out.
- The Cromwell Children's Coalition is sponsoring a Halloween Happenings Event this Saturday in Pierson Park; rain date will be the following Saturday.
- Since the Council's November meeting date falls on Veterans Day a special meeting will be held on the 18th of November.

F. TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

Town Manager reported:

- Spoke more about the Library laptop kiosk.
- Thanked the Mayor for honoring Mr. Honig.

- Revenue Collector Sienna is on target with collection.
- No news regarding the Red Lion; they will probably be foreclosed in a few months.
- The Town Clerk's Office is overwhelmed with absentee ballots. The funds received from the State will help with overtime hours.
- Cromwell Landing has been closed during the construction.
- The outside forces did an outstanding job with the Fall paving program.
- Received confirmation from FEMA that we have been awarded \$65,000 and \$8,600 for COVID related expenses. We are still awaiting word on one more request.
- The Highway Facility is absolutely amazing; credit goes to Jon Harriman and Lou Spina and staff.

G. FINANCIAL/FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

1. Budget Reports (Written report included in packet)

2. Tax Refunds

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds 1-23.

3. Discussion and possible action on Tax Abatement for 120 County Line Drive.

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to authorize refund of \$213,808.04 to Scannell. (Tax bill sent in error since Assessor's Office was not notified of amended agreement.)

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to approve the amendment to the Tax Abatement from September 15, 2020 to Lighthouse Real Estate.

4. Discussion and possible action on Tax Abatement for Springhill Suites.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to authorize the Town Manager draft and sign amendment and start the Tax Abatement this year.

Amended motion made by A. Waters seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* that this is granted with the understanding that the number of years of the Tax Abatement will be as agreed upon.

H. CHIEF OF POLICE'S UPDATE

(Written report included in packet)

Chief Lamontagne reported:

- They will be participating in a Drug Take Back Program on October 24th.
- The 15th is the last day of the High Visibility Grant.
- Our recruits are doing very well in the academy. They may be released a little early.
- Chief has appointed with the Town Manager's approval Frederick Sifodaskalakis as Cromwell's Captain of Police. He will begin work on November 23rd.

I. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Director Spina reported:

- His crews are doing a lot of work; they are collaborating within the various divisions and it is working out well.
- The Coles Road project is nearly complete.
- The wood chips have gone through one process and as soon as the second process is done they will be ready to be delivered to those that requested them.
- He also gave an update on the Cromwell Landing Project, The North Road Extension Project and the Highway Facility.

J. CITIZEN COMMENTS

1. A. Grasso, Strand Circle -Spoke regarding the CCD's Scarecrow Contest and thanked all that are involved. The Cromwell Creative District is requesting to be placed on the November Council Meeting for their presentation and interest in the Pierson Coal Building (Sewer Garage).
2. B. DuFresne -Black Birch Drive -Tire damaged on Coles Road during the Coles Road reconstruction. Company performing work will not reimburse him.
3. R. Gondon, Twin Oaks -Mirror on his vehicle was damaged during Coles Road Reconstruction due to narrowing of road during the project and not leaving enough room for two vehicles to pass. Company performing work will not reimburse him for damage.

K. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the Cromwell Outboard Association's proposal for a possible lease extension. -Tabled

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by J. Henahan and *unanimously carried* to take off the table.

Motion made by J. Henahan seconded by J. Donohue and *carried* to authorize the Town Manager to pursue putting a proposal together for a lease extension and bring back to the Council.

Aye: S. Fortenbach, E. Faienza, J. Donohue, J. Henahan, P. Ahlquist

Abstained: A. Waters, J. Demetriades

L. NEW BUSINESS

None

M. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, September 9, 2020

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of September 9, 2020.

2. Special Meeting, September 9, 2020

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 9, 2020.

3. Special Meeting, September 16, 2020

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *carried* to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 16, 2020.

Aye: A. Waters, S. Fortenbach, E. Faienza, J. Donohue, J. Henehan, P. Ahlquist

Abstained: J. Demetriades (was unable to attend)

N. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

J. Demetriades - Mitchell's has reopened.

O. ADJOURN

Motion made by J. Donohue seconded by S. Fortenbach and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus

Re Matus
Secretary