

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Wednesday, February 1, 2023
4:30 PM Town Hall

Present: Matthew Riiska, Sandy Evans and Barbara Gomez

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Minutes: January 4, 2023

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023 meeting as presented.
Second M. Riiska. Carried unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments: Conservation Commission, Historic District Commission,
Inland/Wetlands Commission

M. Riiska presented the following appointments/reappointments:

- Reappointment of John Anderson to the Conservation Commission with the term to expire 2/17/26.
- Reappointment of Julia Scharnberg to the Historic District Commission with the term to expire 12/31/27.
- Appointment of Jill Chase to the Inland/Wetlands Commission to fill vacancy left by Melissa Robinson's resignation with the term to expire 12/31/23.

MOTION M. Riiska to approve the appointments presented. Second S. Evans.
Carried unanimously.

Selectman's Report

- River Place Bridge – M. Riiska reported that we just received reimbursement from the State of Connecticut in the amount of \$539,294.73 to offset costs incurred so far. The new completion date has been pushed out to September or October of this year.
- Fuel Spill Meeting – was held last night at Botelle School. The Town of Norfolk has incurred \$170,000 in expenses and is expecting a check soon for a portion of that.
- Piping in front of 58 Maple Avenue needs to be replaced and will be ordered soon so that it will be available and ready to use during fuel spill remediation work. Because the fuel spill has effected a portion of Maple Avenue the town will be submitting to the insurance company the costs for that specific portion of the road including the piping which will cost \$40,573.
- Maple Avenue – Project went out to bid with the bid opening to be held 2/23/23.
- Mountain Road Bridge – According to the bank all invoices and paperwork need to be submitted by the middle of March. M. Riiska will make sure that gets done to avoid any extra expenses.
- Budget – M. Riiska proposed to the Board of Finance that we pay off the debt of approximately \$91,000 owed for the plow truck and the NVFD pumper truck. The Board of Finance approved using capital reserve funds to pay the debt prior to next fiscal year.

Selectman's Report (continued)

Other debt includes the Botelle School windows/doors and the EMS building which will cost approximately \$138,000 in the FY 23/24 budget. This debt is scheduled to be paid off in FY 26/27. Depending on where we are with our capitol reserve account in the next few years M. Riiska suggested we get rid of that debt also. Upcoming debt includes Mountain Road bridge at \$44,000/year, River Place Bridge at \$35,000/year, Maple Avenue reconstruction, Botelle School roof and possibly fiber optics.

- A fiber optic meeting will be held on Friday, February 3rd with Don Stein (Barkhamsted 1st Selectman), Henry Todd (Falls Village 1st Selectman) and Kim Maxwell to discuss what those towns are doing. M. Riiska stated his position is that whatever agreement we may get into includes the entire town and not just portions of the town as all residents will be paying down the debt, and they must guarantee service and repair. Residents will pay separately to have their homes hooked up.
- BOS Budget Meeting to be scheduled in the new few weeks with topics to include the Public Works Budget and cost of living increase for town employees.

MOTION M. Riiska to adjourn at 4:50 p.m. Second S. Evans. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Gomez, Secretary