

Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024  
4:30 PM Town Hall

*Present:* Matthew Riiska, Sandy Evans, Henry Tirrell, Barbara Gomez and Phylis Bernard

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

*Public Comments:* None

*Minutes:* January 10, 2024

**MOTION** H. Tirrell to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2024 meeting as presented.  
Second M. Riiska. Motion carried.

*Reappointment: Conservation Commission*

**MOTION** S. Evans to reappoint Alnasir Pradhan to the Conservation Commission with the term to expire 2/17/27. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

*Resolution for EMPG Grant*

M. Riiska read the Emergency Management Performance Grant resolution (attached), which was necessary to receive a \$5,000 grant for the maintenance of emergency management equipment. This grant was procured by Richard Byrne, Emergency Management Director for the Town of Norfolk.

**MOTION** S. Evans to move forward with the EMPG Grant Resolution. Second H. Tirrell.  
Carried unanimously.

*Resolution for Connecticut Trails Program Grant*

M. Riiska reviewed the resolution (attached) which will allow the Town of Norfolk to execute the documentation necessary to spend the \$399,000 grant already received for the CT Recreation Trail Program.

**MOTION** S. Evans to sign the CT Trails Program Grant resolution. Second H. Tirrell.  
Carried unanimously.

*Selectmen's Report*

- M. Riiska attended the Inland/Wetlands Meeting on Monday regarding City Meadow. The chairman asked Matt to send a letter to Byron Tucker removing him from the committee as he has not attended a number of meetings. The letter was sent out today.
- The Board of Finance will be meeting next week regarding the budget. Matt has been collecting the departmental budgets which look similar to last year. He'd like to meet with the other selectmen later this month to discuss.
- M. Riiska spoke to Troy LaMere, PW Supervisor regarding road work for the next budget year. We will be installing new sidewalks from the post office to the Berkshire Store. Most of the work will be done by our public works employees. The public works vehicles are in good shape.

*Selectmen's Report (continued)*

- City Meadow – Routine maintenance was incorporated into initial P&Z application and permits. Friends of the Meadow will be working on maintenance, fund raising and usage of the meadow. The Conservation Commission would like an annual report of maintenance completed. A rough estimate of work to be done this year amounted to \$112,000 which will be covered by a private donation. Up to this point the only public money used for the meadow was the initial \$500,000 grant from the State of CT but at some point we may have to utilize town funds for some maintenance.
- Solar Project – Surveying has begun at the Town farm and they should begin installing panels soon.
- Michael Halloran, P&Z Enforcement Officer, has resigned and Matt thanks him for all the years he has put in. His replacement, Karl Nilsen will begin next week working approximately 8 hrs/week. Marinell Crippen, the current P&Z recording secretary will be working part time a few afternoons a week.
- MIRA closing – with the closing of the MIRA facility in Hartford our garbage (MSW) will be trucked from the Transfer Station out of state at a cost of \$131/ton. The Town of Norfolk produces approximately 800 tons/year. The NHCOG (Northwest Council of Governments) is looking into taking over the MIRA facility to keep the process going.
- River Place Bridge – Since the project started in the Spring of 2022 there have been an additional \$1.2 million in costs due to footing problems. Matt will be meeting with the State of CT DOT and WMC Engineering next week.
- Maple Avenue Project – Matt meets every other Thursday with Guerrero Construction. If the drainage and catch basin work goes as planned they should have it completed in March. The project is moving along and staying within budget.
- Fuel Spill – Torrington Area Health District sent notices to homeowners on Route 44 that their homes met criteria set by the ST of CT Department of Health to return. The Town of Norfolk is still paying for two homeowners for alternate housing of which we will get reimbursed.
- New Firehouse – Everything the P&Z Commission has asked for has been addressed by Benesh Engineering. A group of individuals in Town is looking into a capital campaign. Matt has spoken to ST of CT representatives regarding getting more funding.
- Route 44 Wall Project – Work has begun and could take up to 4 years with one lane closed. It will be very disruptive.

**MOTION** S. Evans to adjourn at 5:18 p.m. Second H. Tirrell. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Gomez, Secretary

TOWN of NORFOLK



OFFICE OF SELECTMEN  
NORFOLK, CONNECTICUT 06058

**Authorizing Resolution of the  
Town of Norfolk, Board of Selectmen**


**CERTIFICATION:**

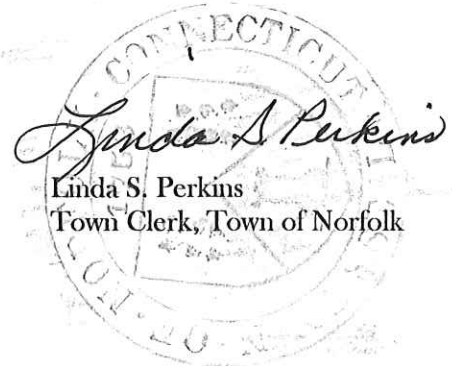
I, **Matthew T. Riiska**, the **Town of Norfolk**, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the **Norfolk Board of Selectmen** at its duly called and held meeting on **February 7, 2024**, at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

**RESOLVED**, that the **Town of Norfolk** may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security, any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate, and **FURTHER RESOLVED**, that **Matthew T. Riiska**, as **First Selectman of the Town of Norfolk** is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the **Town of Norfolk** and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that **Matthew T. Riiska** now holds the office of **First Selectman of the Town of Norfolk** and the he has held that office since **November 20, 2017**.

**IN WITNESS WHERE OF:** The undersigned has executed the certificate this day **8<sup>th</sup>** day of **February 2024**.

  
Linda S. Perkins  
Town Clerk, Town of Norfolk



TOWN of NORFOLK



OFFICE OF SELECTMEN  
NORFOLK, CONNECTICUT 06058

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**RESOLVED**, that the **Town of Norfolk** may enter into with and deliver to the **State of Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection**, any and all documents related to the **Connecticut Recreational Trail Program Grant Information and Application** which it deems to be necessary or appropriate, and

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that **Matthew T. Riiska**, as **First Selectman of the Town of Norfolk** is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the **Town of Norfolk** and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

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