



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday August 12, 2020
Virtual Zoom Meeting– 6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – A meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on Wednesday August 12, 2020 at Town Hall via Zoom. First Selectman Hayden called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Selectman Doering and Selectman Ziobro were present. Resident Trooper Capps was an invited guest

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**– None

Resident Trooper Capps was invited to the meeting to discuss Spoonville Road Speed Data. The consensus of the BOS was to take item 5 (e) out of order.

Spoonville Road Speed Data – Resident Trooper Capps took some speed data in the last four months (128 days) and compared it to data from 2019. Going Northbound (towards Seymour) before the new stop sign was installed, the average speed was 23.58 mph for 87,293 vehicles. The 85th percentile speed, which is the speed that 85% of the operators are traveling. Before the sign went up the 85th -percentile speed was 31.93 mph. After the sign was put up the average speed was 30.47 mph.

Going Southbound (toward Route 187) before the sign went up, the 85th-percentile average speed was 33.57 mph. After the sign was put up the average speed was 28.37mph. A significant number of drivers go South – 128,475 versus those going North – 87,293. Prior to COVID, 80% of the people who were pulled over, resided in the Spoonville area. The Police Department will continue to collect data for another 2 months and the Board of Selectmen will make a final decision in November on whether the extra sign should remain or be removed.

3. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Preliminary July Tax Collector Report, Superintendent Letter for 2020-21 School Year, COST Ballot Issues Memo, Senator Fasano Letter on Elections, Lembo July Report, Greenway & Trail emails, Preliminary General Government FY20 Year End Report, Police Accountability Act, COST Letter to PURA Supporting Investigation into Electric Companies Response to Tropical Storm Isaias,

Eversource Email on Key Factors Driving Electric Bills, Niche Ranking of EG as #3 Best Suburb to Buy a House in CT, Resident Email on Political Signs in EG

4. **MINUTES** – Selectman Ziobro made a motion to accept the July 22, 2020 minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

5. **OLD BUSINESS** –
 - a. **Tax Incentives** – No new information. There was a discussion that the Economic Development Commission will research and provide incentive information to the BOS.

 - b. **School Town Building Committee Report** – First Selectman Hayden stated that Wyncairne Drive and Wyncourte Road are in the process of being paved. After the paving, curbing, and backfilling is completed, Eastfield Farm Road, Wintergreen Lane and Glen Hollow Drive will be paved. First Selectman Hayden mentioned that the committee and the project manager are working with the Superintendent to finalize the reimbursement request from the State for the MS/HS and Allgrove roofs. Finalizing the work for the Electric Upgrade at Allgrove Elementary School, as more electricity is needed before air conditioning can be installed. The electrical vendor has ordered equipment and is working with Engineer. Temporary air conditioning units have been ordered by the school district to be installed by the Town with the anticipation of the units arriving before the beginning of the school year.

 - c. **Economic Development Report** – First Selectman Hayden was unable to attend the last meeting. Selectman Doering mentioned there was considerable discussion about goals and bringing in a Facilitator at the last meeting of the EDC.

 - d. **Discussion of Options Regarding the Intentional Feeding of Wildlife** – Based on discussion at the last meeting of the BOS, First Selectman Hayden attended a virtual meeting held by Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). DEEP's concern is that black bears become comfortable around humans where they associate humans with food. In East Granby there are 15-20 incidents annually where a bear gets too close to a home. In 2004 DEEP estimates that there were 500 bears in Connecticut. The 2019 DEEP estimate is that there are now 1500 bears in Connecticut. DEEP's public safety concern is that bear will build Den's under decks attached to houses. Bird seed and garbage cans can escalate activity. DEEP recommends that towns consider an ordinance to prevent the intentional feeding of wildlife and for bear proof garbage cans and dumpsters. Barkhamsted and Simsbury have passed similar ordinances this year. After discussion by the BOS, First Selectman Hayden will ask the Town Attorney to draft a proposed Ordinance for the BOS to consider at its next meeting.

 - e. **Spoonville Road Speed Data** – please see Agenda item 2.

f. Discussion of 5-Year Capital Plan per BOF Request – First Selectman Hayden is working on the five-year plan including cost of police body and vehicle cameras which are required by 2022 per the Police Accountability Legislation recently passed by the State Legislature and signed by Governor Lamont. The Board of Selectmen will work on the capital plan at their next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS –

a. Tax Refunds – Selectman Ziobro made a motion to accept the Tax Refunds as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

b. Youth Services Commission By-Laws – The Youth Services Commission requested approval for two changes to their By-Laws. However, since one of their requests is spelled out in the Town Ordinances, the Ordinances would have to be amended. The change in ordinance would provide full membership and voting rights to the police officer member and the two student members. The Commission would also like to formalize attendance requirements for members. First Selectman Hayden will discuss with the Town Attorney and bring it back to the BOS and potentially to Town Meeting.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

8. ADJOURN – Selectman Doering made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Ziobro. **Motion Approved Unanimously** at 7:59pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nicole Sokolowski