

Town of Morris
Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting Minutes

Received
Asst. Town Clerk
Susan J. Jeffer
JAN 22 2020
11:00 A.M.

Tuesday, January 21, 2020, 4:30 p.m.

Morris Town Hall
Morris, CT

Board Members Present: Tom Weik, Erica Dorsett-Mathews, Vinnie Aiello

- I. Call to Order by Tom Weik at 4:30 p.m.
- II. **Motion** made by Erica Dorsett to add 5a. Morris Fire Company air packs to Agenda. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.
- III. **Motion** made by Vinnie Aiello to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2020. Erica Dorsett seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.
- IV. **Motion** made by Erica Dorsett to approve the 2019 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 5 Memorandum of Agreement and resolution. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.
- V. **Motion** made by Erica Dorsett to approve the resolution through the Regional Performance Incentive Program for Construction of the Litchfield Hill Animal Shelter Facility. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to approve the resolution through the Regional Performance Incentive Program for Regional Produce Processing Service. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.
- VI. **Motion** made by Erica Dorsett to approve bid for Morris Fire Company refurbishment of Engine 3 to The Gowans-Knight Company in the amount of \$134,962.00. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

Motion made by Vinnie Aiello to approve bid for Morris Fire Company air packs to Shipman's Fire Equipment Co., Inc. in the amount of \$116,000.00. Erica Dorsett seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.
- VII. **Motion** made by Vinnie Aiello to form a Fiber Optic Committee up to 7 members. Erica Dorsett seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

X

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to appoint Dennis Williamson, Ben Paletsky and Michael McGill to the Fiber Optic Committee. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

- VIII. **Motion** made by Erica Dorsett to approve Abatements/Refund of property taxes for Karen Loomis in the amount of \$536.16 and The Nutmeg Spice Co LLC in the amount of \$14.04 as recommended by Tax Collector, Rebecca Juchert-Derungs for a total amount of \$550.20. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

IX. Appointments

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to appoint Clifford Wheeler and Constance Trolle to the Inland Wetlands Commission with a term 12/1/19 – 11/30/22. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to appoint Terry Connor, Jr. to the Sandy Beach Commission with a term 1/1/20 – 12/31/22. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to appoint Beverly Huntley to the Senior Center Commission with a term 3/23/19 – 3/22/22. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to appoint Paul Adams to fill a term to the Beach & Recreation Commission with a term ending 10/14/21.

Motion made by Erica Dorsett to request an updated list from Town Clerk of Appointments on a monthly basis to the First Selectman. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

- X. First Selectman's Report attached

- XI. **Motion** to adjourn at 5:00 p.m. made by Erica Dorsett. Vinnie Aiello seconded. **Motion carried:** unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Gillotti
Executive Assistant

First Selectman's Report

1/21/20

On December 22, 2019, the Town held a Community Dinner which was well attended and enjoyed by Town residents. The dinner was free and prepared and served by volunteers. This is something we hope to do again next year and possibly add a Community Breakfast in the near future.

The First Selectman met with representatives from SHR Energy at the proposed solar array location adjacent to the Transfer Station to determine the area where the array would be located. Another meeting was held today to discuss the process moving forward for the project.

Met with Peter Punzi, the new Executive Director of the White Memorial Foundation to get to know one another and to discuss future collaborations between the Foundation and the Town. Mr. Punzi took over the position when Keith Cudworth retired last August after 21 years as the Executive Director.

Participated in a Board of Directors meeting for the Chore Service Program and was elected vice-president of the Board. The Litchfield Hills Chore Service Program provides an affordable way for seniors to get the extra help they need in order to remain comfortable and safely in their own home for as long as possible. Chore workers are local people, carefully screened with background checks so you can be sure the person coming into your home is honest and reliable. The cost for this service is income based.

The Smokey Hollow Bridge Project work is continuing with the steel beams arriving on January 15th and put in place the same day. Work will continue as the weather allows.

The Highway Department has been busy with several weather events and with routine winter maintenance.

The budget season has started with budget worksheets being sent out to all departments. Once the budgets are all received, they will be compiled and reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and then a recommended budget will be presented to the Board of Finance for their review along with any changes needed.

The renovation project at the Fire House is almost complete with a punch list of items for the contractor to finish up. The ceiling in the meeting room at the Fire House has been replaced with a combination of volunteer work and a local contractor doing the ceiling installation. The volunteers have also insulated and painted the meeting room and kitchen and put a new ceiling in the kitchen. The Legion Post/Fire Marshal office in the lower section of the Fire House is also receiving a new ceiling which is being paid for by a grant through the Thomaston Savings Bank.