

Woodstock Board of Selectmen Minutes

Thursday, February 15, 2024
6:00 pm
Regular Meeting in Town Hall Room A

1. **Call to order:** First Selectman Jay Swan called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
 - a. **Present:** First Selectman Jay Swan, Selectman Chandler Paquette, Selectwoman Kate McDonald
 - b. **Others Present:** Ray & Pam Morgan, Charlene Perkins Cutler, Jessica Weaver Boose, Assistant Town Planner Cameron James, Norma Jean Nilo, Sharri Potter and Recording Secretary Amy Monahan.
2. **Approval of Minutes from February 1, 2024 Board of Selectmen Meeting**
 - a. Kate McDonald made a ***Motion** to approve the Minutes from February 1, 2024 Board of Selectmen Meeting as presented. ***Seconded** by Chandler Paquette. ***Motion passed unanimously.**
3. **Public Comments**
 - a. Norma Jean Nilo submitted a letter to the Selectmen for reference.
4. **Tax Rebates**
 - a. None
5. **Warn of Special Town Meeting**
 - a. First Selectman Jay Swan read, for the record, the following Legal Notice to Warn of Special Town Meeting:

*Legal Notice
Town of Woodstock
Notice of Special Town Meeting
Tuesday, February 27, 2024*

The Electors and Citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut, are hereby notified and warned that Special Town Meeting of said Town will held in the Cafeteria of the Woodstock Middle School, 147B Route 169, Woodstock, CT on Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 7 pm for the following purposes:

- 1) *To choose a moderator for said meeting.*
- 2) *To consider the adoption of an Ordinance Concerning Property Tax Relief for Eligible Elderly Homeowners.*
- 3) *To consider an amendment to the Ordinance Concerning Appropriation of \$100,000 or More to increase the threshold for a required referendum to \$250,000.*
- 4) *To consider an amendment to the Ordinance Concerning Fire Marshal, Fire Prevention and Protection Fees.*
- 5) *To consider an amendment to the Ordinance Concerning Building Department Fees.*
- 6) *To consider an amendment to the Ordinance Creating a Municipal Economic Development Commission.*

The full text of the proposed new ordinance and the proposed amendments to existing ordinances are available at the Office of the town Clerk and on the Town website: www.woodstockct.gov.

Dated at Woodstock, CT this 15th day of February, 2024

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- b. Kate McDonald made a ***Motion** to approve the Warning of Special Town Meeting on February 27, 2024 as presented. ***Seconded** by Chandler Paquette. ***The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. The Legal Notice was signed by all Selectmen to be sent to the Town Clerk for required public posting.

6. Board and Commission Appointments

- a. Consider the Reappointment of Robert Andrews as the NDDH Board of Directors Alternate for the term of February 15, 2024 through February 15, 2027
- b. Consider the Appointment of George Wetherell as a Member of the Board of Assessment Appeals for the Term of February 15, 2024 through November 2, 2027
- c. Consider the Appointment of Jessica White as a Member of the Poet Laureate Committee for the term of February 15, 2024 through November 18, 2025
- d. Consider the Appointment of Joan Polulech as a Member of the Poet Laureate Committee for the term of February 15, 2024 through November 18, 2025
- e. Consider the Appointment of Holly Dearborn as a Member of the Poet Laureate Committee for the term of February 15, 2024 through November 18, 2025
- f. Consider the Appointment of Marie Chamberlin as a Member of the Poet Laureate Committee for the term of February 15, 2024 through November 18, 2025
 - i. Kate McDonald made a ***Motion** to approve the Board and Commission Appointments as presented. ***Seconded** by Chandler Paquette. ***Motion passed unanimously.**

7. NECCOG Hazard Mitigation Plan Overview

- a. Cameron James, the Assistant Town Planner, shared that NECCOG is currently updating the Hazard Mitigation Plan. NECCOG would like to add 2 new hazards, hazard trees and piretite (crumbling foundations), to the plan. He asked what additional specific hazards should be addressed in the Woodstock plan and the thoughts on mitigating those hazards.
 - i. Jay Swan suggested that Hazardous Trees be included in the new Mitigation Plan. He noted that the current budget included an allocation of funds for this concern and that the Highway Department spends significant time on this issue.
 - 1. Chandler Paquette noted that tree reduction also helps with road conditions.
 - ii. Another possible concern would be drought impact on the community.
 - iii. Chandler Paquette agrees with including the crumbling foundation concern and noted that building permits now require concrete sources documented for new homes.
- b. Cameron James gave the previous list of Hazardous Mitigation topics to First Selectmen Jay Swan. He will follow up to see what items have been addressed on that list with the First Selectmen.

8. Correspondence and Announcements

- a. TEEG Mobile Market will be at the Town Hall on February 28, 2024 from 1:30 to 2:30 pm
- b. The Recreation Department has several upcoming programs and events including the Annual Egg Hunt, Town Wide Clean Up, Line Dancing and several Youth Programs. Please visit the Recreation page for details at <https://www.woodstockct.gov/recreation-department/pages/recreation-programs>

9. Public Comments

- a. Sharri Potter and Norma Jean Nilo are present to address the current rental concerns at Brookside. Jay Swan noted that a letter from Pat Boyd on the housing situation was received today. There is a No Cause Hearing about the Eviction Laws and they would like the Town of Woodstock to support the No Cause Laws in any way possible.

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- i. Kate McDonald, and the other members of the Board of Selectmen, recommended that this topic be addressed with the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- ii. Charlene Perkins Cutler noted that there is power in interested parties coming together to voice concerns. She suggested getting supporters to write letters and voice their concerns.
- iii. Jay Swan suggested that Senate Bill 143 is a great place to focus as this is an election year.

10. Adjournment

- a. Chandler Paquette made a ***Motion** to adjourn. *** Seconded** by Kate McDonald. ***The motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by Amy Monahan, Recording Secretary. DISCLAIMER: These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month's meeting for approval/amendments.