

**Town of Woodstock  
Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
March 5, 2020  
4:00 PM – Room A**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** John Swan, Chandler Paquette, and Gregory Kline

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Michael Dougherty, Heather Paquette, Amy Monahan, Kevin Withers, Dawn Adiletta, Diane Miller, George McCoy, Jim Trowbridge, Patricia Papini, Stephanie Anthony, Dottie Durst, Members of the Public

**1. Call to Order:** First Selectman John Swan called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Mr. Swan led the Board of Selectmen and members of the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approve the Minutes of the February 20, 2020 Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting and February 26, 2020 and March 2, 2020 Special Board of Selectmen's Meetings:**

Mr. Kline noted they should be approved individually since he had been unable to attend the March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting and Mr. Paquette had been unable to attend the February 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Kline made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 20, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Kline made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 26, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes. **Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Paquette abstained.**

Mr. Paquette made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 2, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes. **Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Kline abstained.**

**4. Consider the Appointment of Patricia A. Papini as a Full Member of the Beautification Committee for the Term March 5, 2020 through November 16, 2021.**

Mr. Paquette made a motion to appoint Patricia A. Papini as a Full Member of the Beautification Committee for the Term March 5, 2020 through November 16, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**5. Consider the Appointment of Stephanie Anthony as a Full Member of the Economic Development Commission for the term March 5, 2020 through December 31, 2021.**

Mr. Paquette made a motion to appoint Stephanie Anthony as a Full Member of the Economic Development Commission for the term March 5, 2020 through December 31, 2021. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**6. Tax Rebates:** Mr. Swan referenced items 1-5 relating to tax rebates. The list includes:

- #1 tax rebate to Corelogic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$998.38
- #2 tax rebate to Wells Fargo Real Estate Services in the amount of \$2,336.32
- #3 tax rebate to Lereta LLC in the amount of \$1,715.00
- #4 tax rebate to VW Credit Leasing LTD in the amount of \$73.50
- #5 tax rebate to Toyota Lease Trust in the amount of \$196.76

**Motion** was made by Mr. Paquette to approve the tax rebates as presented. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**8. Correspondence:** Mr. Swan shared an email from Alexandra Stark regarding planting a tree in memory of her nephew who passed away last year. Currently waiting to hear what type of tree and working with John Navarro to determine a suitable location. Mr. Swan also referenced a letter he was copied on from Mr. Gordon, Planning & Zoning Commission Chair, to the DEEP Open Space Land Acquisition Grant Program. The letter was written in support of the Wyndham Land Trust's acquisition of 254 acres of land in the Bull Hill area of Thompson. ALTA Environmental submitted the monitoring results for three residential water supply wells and treatment systems that were recently sampled. Mr. Swan explained that these homes were affected by a gas spill years ago at the Woodstock Elementary School.

**9. Citizen's Comments:** Jim Trowbridge, an Eastford member of the Crystal Pond Park Commission, shared a list of documents with the BOS regarding the Trout Pond Dam located and the park and expressed concern from the commission about the dam. Mr. Paquette asked where the issue now stands. Mr. Trowbridge stated that a formal inspection was done at the direction of the State of Connecticut, and the intake/outflow pipe is seriously deteriorated which could lead to catastrophic failure at some point. The next step is for both the Eastford and Woodstock boards of selectmen to decide if the dam should be repaired or breached. Both options are expensive and beyond the capability of the Crystal Pond Park Commission to pay for. The CPPC has not made a recommendation, they are leaving it up to the two boards to decide. Mr. Paquette asked if the pond was still used. Mr. Trowbridge said it was used very little, perhaps for some fishing and as a location for people to hike to. Mr. Swan said that the DEEP has been involved in monitoring the dam. He met with Selectman Dubois of Eastford last Friday and is meeting with her again Monday to discuss Crystal Pond Park structures and insurance, and agrees that the Trout Pond Dam needs to be addressed. Questioned if a slow release is possible, and acknowledged that both towns need to agree on a course of action. Mr. Paquette asked about equipment access. Mr. Trowbridge stated that the path to the pond is steep, but they may secure permission from an abutting landowner which would allow for better access. Mr. Trowbridge added that as an Eastford Selectman, he will also meet with Mr. Swan Monday. Mr. Kline asked about ATV and equestrian use at the park. Mr. Trowbridge does not know of any ATV use. People do ride horses there.

George McCoy spoke about forming a Woodstock citizens patrol group, given the recent car break ins and thefts, especially in the Bungay Lake area. He met this morning with people interested in this effort. He cited the Neighborhood Watch and Citizens on Patrol programs as examples of what they'd like to do. He stressed that this would not be a vigilante group. These

groups assist local law enforcement, they often have a marked citizen's patrol car with a spotlight and a radio to contact police. Those involved would observe and report suspicious behavior. They would use cell phones or cameras when possible. Mr. McCoy stated that this idea has had a good response from people, many of whom feel that Troop D presence is lacking in the area. At this time 5 people are working to move this idea forward and there will be another meeting for those interested next Wednesday at 7 pm at the Bungay Fire Station. He has started a Facebook page called Woodstock Citizens Patrol. He believes the presence of an official looking vehicle would help to serve as a deterrent. Mr. McCoy discussed this idea Wednesday with Mr. Swan and provided him with additional information and suggested 3 levels of involvement from the town. 1. Highest level is to be part of the town somehow. 2. If town does not want to do option #1, they can become a non-profit and work to get grants to help cover expenses. 3. People can patrol in their own vehicles with the intention to observe and report. No less than 2 people, 3 preferred in the vehicle. Mr. Swan stated that he would send the information he received from Mr. McCoy to the other two selectmen. Mr. Kline asked if the group will give out their phone numbers so people can call them. Mr. McCoy responded that people should call 911 first. The group will purchase a cell phone just for the patrol. Mr. Paquette asked if they will be able to have a blue light on the car. Mr. McCoy stated that a group member is looking into this and the permitting process that would be involved. Mr. McCoy expressed his disappointment that the town policy prevented him from being able to reserve a meeting room at the town hall to meet and discuss the citizen's patrol group with interested residents. He was told that his group would need to be a non-profit and provide a COI. As a taxpayer he believes he should be able to use a room. Mr. Paquette stated that you must have liability insurance to use a town building and thanked him for his efforts. Mr. Swan asked if he had spoken to anyone at Troop D about his idea. Mr. McCoy said that he and Sgt. Haglund have left each other voice messages.

Dottie Durst, of the Economic Development Commission, said that the EDC has recently launched and is full of energy. She is disappointed that the town website contains some old information, such as members who no longer serve on a committee. Mrs. Adams stated that she sent an email out to all the chairs asking them to let her know what changes needed to be made on their respective pages so that she can update them. Mr. Paquette said that Mrs. Adams is busy working on the new town website. Mrs. Durst said that the EDC would like to have the website modified to show Facebook Live Streams of business grand openings.

Amy Monohan, of the Woodstock Grange, provided a list of local businesses put together 2 years ago by Mel Rose to Mrs. Durst and the selectmen. She stated that the Grange is a community organization and is working to revitalize. She provided information to the BOS about upcoming events, and invited them to attend one of their coffee hours that they hold twice each month.

George McCoy asked that Mr. Paquette and Mr. Kline would consider the information that Mr. Swan will share with them, and to reach out to him with comments or concerns.

**10. Other from Committee:** Mr. Swan shared information from Mr. Kline about the Woodstock Senior Social Hour that will be starting Wednesday April 1st at 9:30 am in Meeting Room 1. This event is hosted by the Agent for the Elderly and the Recreation Department will sponsor planned events afterwards at 11 am. Events may include exercise, crafts, or lectures.

Regarding the Woodstock citizens patrol, Mr. Swan cautioned that we are in budget season and marked cars, radios, and uniforms are expensive.

Mr. Swan attended a meeting in Woodstock on March 3rd with the Northeast District Department of Health along with the Woodstock Superintendent, representatives from Woodstock Academy, and Woodstock Emergency Management to discuss the coronavirus and be proactive and formulate a plan for the schools if needed. A meeting is being scheduled with all Northeast Connecticut superintendents and school nurses as well. The NDDH receives information from the State Department of Health, who gets direction and information from the CDC. Mr. Swan is receiving information daily on this situation from the State of Connecticut Emergency Management.

**11. Adjournment:** Chandler Paquette made a motion to adjourn at 4:45pm. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Crystal Adams  
Office Manager