



Received For Record At Plainfield CT

On MAY 17 2021 at 1:19pm

Attest: Bianca Villalobos
Town Clerk

TOWN OF PLAINFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Meeting Minutes –May 10, 2021

Kevin Cunningham called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Plainfield Town Hall.

Members present were Kevin Cunningham and Art Gagne. Cathy Tendrich was absent.

Minutes Kevin stated on the 1/25/2021 minutes under Item 5 in sentence two, it says have been to meetings and should say have not been to meetings.

Art stated on the 1/25/2021 minutes, Item 6 in the 2nd to last paragraph, it says Kevin stated Ordinance 116, The Board of Selectmen have to appoint assistant town clerks, it should say the Board of Selectmen have to approve the appointment of assistant town clerks.

Art stated Item 6b in sentence two, he should be she.

*Art motioned to approve the 1/25/2021 meeting minutes as amended; Kevin seconded.
All in favor, motion passed.*

*Art motioned to approve the 4/26/2021 meeting minutes, Kevin seconded. All in favor,
motion passed.*

Public Comment none

New Business

1. Discuss and act on the appointment of Fire Marshal, Emergency Management Director, and Burning Official.

Kevin stated the current Fire Marshal, Paul Yellen, is retiring and he's training the new Fire Marshal, Costantino (Dino) Galasso. State Statute 29-297 states that the Board of Selectmen have to appoint him and then he will be sworn in by the Town Clerk.

Paul Yellen stated that Dino has experience as a Deputy Fire Marshal in Thompson. He is currently a Burning Official in Thompson. He is learning emergency management. Paul stated he will do well. Kevin stated after he is sworn in, the Town also has to notify the State Fire Marshal of the appointment.

Art spoke of item #2 on the agenda and asked Paul if Dino was ok with the deputy fire marshal arrangement. Paul stated yes and that have discussed it. The Town has an arrangement with three existing deputy fire marshals from Griswold and Sterling.

Art motioned to appoint Costantino Galasso as the Fire Marshal, Emergency Management Director, and Burning Official for the Town of Plainfield as of May 11, 2021, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

2. Discuss and act on the appointment of Deputy Fire Marshals.

Kevin stated this is in the budget and it's if the Fire Marshal is not available. The Town already has Tom Holowaty, Jim Sweet, and Fred Marzek as deputies. They would like to add Paul Yellen and Travis Irons as deputies. It's an hourly rate and allocated up to \$10,000. Paul stated they will be covered by the Town's workers compensation and liability insurance.

Art asked if \$10,000 is enough. Paul stated yes.

Art motioned to appoint Paul Yellen and Travis Irons as Deputy Fire Marshals for the Town of Plainfield; Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

3. Discuss and approve a resolution in support of "Home Rule" in municipal zoning.

Kevin stated the State of Connecticut wants to modify municipal zoning so they have more oversight. The resolution is to let the state know the Town of Plainfield has a problem with what they want to do and it takes away a lot of things from the Town. The resolution talks about how it would strip the local planning & zoning process and things that are at risk.

Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner, it's proposed to be as a right as opposed to going through the planning & zoning commission approval process.

Kevin stated he discussed this with Zoning Board of Appeals and they are in favor of the resolution. Kevin will be meeting with Planning & Zoning Commission on May 11, 2021 to discuss this as well.

Art stated there was a space was needed after whereas, the 9th one.

Art motioned to approve the modified resolution as presented with that modification, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

4. Discuss and approve a letter of support for East Coast Energy to the Connecticut Siting Council.

Kevin stated they are going before the siting council so it's a matter of where the Town stands on this. Each of the eight units are self-contained. The Town would send a letter to the siting council stating if the Town was in favor of it or not.

Art asked if fumes would come out of the unit if it caught on fire and would they be toxic. Kevin stated they would have to have someone like Mystic Air come out and do a test on it right away if that happened. They anticipate minimal escape. Kevin stated the fire marshal did not have any issues with this.

Art motioned to send a letter of support to the Connecticut Siting Council in favor of East Coast Energy, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

5. Review Charter Revision suggestions with Charter Revision members.

June Gagne reviewed the list of seven proposed charter changes and stated they need to figure out how to word them. Kevin stated changing Section 2-5b with the dollar amounts was a good idea with it being updated from 1984. He thinks the numbers are reasonable. June stated you can't buy the same things from 1984 to now for \$10,000 and it would save the town money by not having town meetings or referendums. June also stated the \$100,000 was the max the town could spend before having a town meeting.

June stated they need help wording Section 10-5 and would like Kevin to explain the section. Kevin stated Section 10-5 says shall capital improvements remain on a list, even if they are not accomplished during that budget year. Kevin stated there is no consequence if it fails, he would like to see something to say you have to go back and restructure it.

June stated in Section 3-4, it doesn't say who is responsible to make the changes in the voting districts. June and Kevin stated it could be the Board of Selectmen in conjunction with the Registrar of Voters.

Roz Chviek asked in Section 2-4b, what/who are the percentages. Kevin stated registered voters.

June stated they will keep working on the rough draft.

Virginia Sampietro thanked June for being the chair of commission.

Kevin asked to have Items 6(Discuss and act on bid for wide format scanner/plotter) & 7(Go into executive session for discussion on real estate transaction) added to the agenda.

Art motioned to add Items 6 & 7 to the agenda, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

6. Discuss and act on bid for wide format scanner/plotter.

Kevin stated there was a bid for this and all the bids are in the packet.

Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner, stated there were four bids. Merritt Graphics appears to be the low bidder for the double roll machine but when you take into consideration the service & maintenance contract and the ink and paper costs, Ricoh is the most cost effective for the Town and that is the recommendation.

Art motioned to accept the bid from Ricoh for the double roll for \$8,552, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

7. Executive Session for discussion on real estate transaction by political subdivision.

Art motioned to go into executive session with Mary Ann Chinatti, Town Planner, at 7:39pm, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Art motioned to come out of executive session at 7:53 pm with no action taken, Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Other

5/8/2021 was the Project Pin dedication in honor of Irene Kettle and the food drive. 1,800 lbs. of food were collected and \$5,015 was collected. Tim Kettle had sent out letters for donations and had received approximately \$3,000.

Kevin put in an application for Heart Safe Designation and it was approved so Plainfield is a Heart Safe community.

Bike Night is 7/15/2021.

Fireworks on 8/6/2021.

Celebrate Plainfield on 8/7/2021.

VJ Day Parade on 8/8/2021.

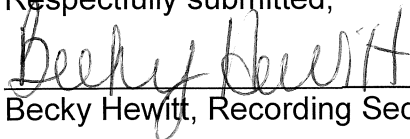
Memorial Day Weekend-rededicate tow town parks.

Adjournment

Art motioned to adjourn at 7:58 pm; Kevin seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

This is a summary of the meeting and the recording is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Becky Hewitt", is written over a horizontal line.

Becky Hewitt, Recording Secretary



TOWN of PLAINFIELD

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF "HOME RULE" IN MUNICIPAL ZONING DECISION
MAKING APPROVED BY THE PLAINFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON May 10, 2021
and BY THE PLAINFIELD PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION ON May 11, 2021**

WHEREAS, Connecticut's towns and cities successfully use local zoning and planning processes to balance private property rights, the community's interests, demands on infrastructure, housing needs, and economic growth; and

WHEREAS, local control and decision making empowers the residents and taxpayers of each town and city to carefully tailor zoning policies that reflect its unique geography, economy, and housing market; and

WHEREAS, localized decision making ensures the greatest level of accountability while allowing affected community members the greatest level of input and the platform through a public hearing to provide specific, relevant information on potential impacts that only they would have knowledge of; and

WHEREAS, local control and local input enable neighbors and the local community to provide beneficial suggestions, identify errors and maximize community buy-in on zoning proposals; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been introduced in the General Assembly to strip local planning and zoning processes from towns and cities; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been introduced in the General Assembly to allow BY RIGHT market value multi-family development that will not generate any new affordable housing units; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been introduced in the General Assembly to allow outside Housing Authorities within 15 miles radius to develop affordable housing projects within our town; and

WHEREAS, BY RIGHT multi-family development can lead to exponential market value overbuilding and can cause adverse impacts to town infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, BY RIGHT development gives outsized rights to builders over all other property owners and prevents local Planning and Zoning Commissions from identifying the potential impacts of their project and imposing conditions upon a developer to address those direct impacts; and

WHEREAS, eliminating public hearings and community input on zoning matters would have unintended consequences such as increased infrastructure costs, increased local property taxes, and reduced home and business values which will be borne by the town residents; and

PLAINFIELD TOWN HALL

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WHEREAS, each town and city already have the choice to modify or abolish its zoning ordinances if the elected town or city government decides it best serves the community's interests; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (PZC) of the TOWN OF PLAINFIELD oppose any State Mandated one size fits all Zoning Legislation and the ability of any outside housing authority to have jurisdiction over our town's Affordable Housing plan and any similar legislation that would further overrule, remove or diminish local control and decision making related to planning and zoning or affordable housing from the town of Plainfield; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to all State Representatives and State Senators representing the Town of Plainfield, to the Governor, and all members of the State Legislature's Planning and Development, Finance, Transportation and Housing Committees, and to all legislators sponsoring bills that remove local control of planning and zoning and affordable housing.

Kevin M. Cunningham, First Selectman

Karla Desjardins, Chairman, Plainfield PZC

Arthur Gagne, Selectman

John Meyer, Vice Chairman, Plainfield PZC

Cathy M. Tendrich, Selectman