5:30 p.m. Special Session

First Selectwoman Lyons called the Regular Session of Tuesday, February 8, 2022 to order at 5:31 p.m. Also in attendance were Selectman Goldberg, Selectwoman Kokoruda, Selectman Murphy, and Selectman Wilson.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
   First Selectwoman Lyons led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of minutes – January 24, 2022
   
   **MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve Minutes of the January 24, 2022.

   **VOTE**: this motion was approved unanimously.

3. First Selectwoman’s Updates.

   First Selectwoman Lyons provided an update which is attached to these minutes.

4. Liaison Reports / Selectmen Comments.

   Noreen Kokorda  Senior Commission
   Bruce Wilson    EDC, Broadband
   Scott Murphy    2/15 Referendum
   Al Goldberg     Affordable Housing Committee

5. Citizen Comments.

   None.

6. Discuss the Town plan for Electric Vehicle replacement and charging station strategies.

   The Town plan for electric vehicle replacements highlights:
A program that supported EV chargers covered free charging for 3 years in downtown Madison in the ChargePoint network. When it started out, it was 4,000 kiloawatt hours. It was used at 19,000 kilowatt hours. It is frequently completely booked. Madison is few of surrounding towns that do not charge for the charging base. Recommending charging 25 cents per kilowatt hour.

You can stay at the station for 4 hours, after that you can charge for $10 per hour.

One car was plugged into charger for 2.5 days.
- Police do not have any desire to patrol the charger. On the ChargePoint app, you will be able to see the charge max amount of time.
- Competitive regarding pricing for 25 cents for kilowatt hour, which is based off of charging in the surrounding area.
- Building up the infrastructure for fleet -to serve town needs as a municipality.
- Desire to expand downtown to attract visitors by increasing amount of chargers for EV
- Dilemma regarding high tension/voltage wires not being sufficient to support widespread adoption of EV
- Different options regarding low volume chargers and battery chargers
- Most electric car owners charge cars at night due to high rates and electric grids
  - Location of new chargers for EV
  - Discussion regarding who should own plan for EV (new committee or use what is currently available).
- Encouraged loose working group due to a lot of strategy and maximum amount of flexibility needed at this time.
  - Potential to convert a few town vehicles.
  - Rebate program for EV chargers, money on a first come first serve basis. Discussed timeline regarding rebate program through Eversource.

7. Discuss Ethics Code implementation and Committee.

The Board agreed to extend the deadline for ethics committee applications until February 28th

Lauren Rhines stated that the changes needed now to comply with the Ordinance are:

- No changes to oath of office for appointed or elected officials as the oath is standard; instead, the Town should continue to give out copies of code of Ethics to officials for currently serving members and elected/appointed officials.
- The Town should provide copies and ask for an acknowledgement signature from town employees.
- Include standard language in contracts, RFP’s, bids, etc. that all parties agree to comply with the Code of Ethics.
8. Discuss and take action to establish an Ad-Hoc Facilities Committee.

- Discussion regarding overlap in committee members and same ideas circulating between committees.
- Discussion of spreading committee members thin regarding overlap in engagement.
- Tabled discussion to next meeting.

9. Discuss and take action to approve an application for a Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant and a Resolution authorizing the First Selectwoman to sign contracts with the State of Connecticut in conjunction with this grant: as requested by the Old Elm Street Historic District Committee.

MOVED by Selectwoman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve an application for a Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant and a Resolution authorizing the First Selectwoman to sign contracts with the State of Connecticut in conjunction with this grant: as requested by the Old Elm Street Historic District Committee.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.

10. Discuss and take action to call a Budget Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School and on Zoom for the purpose of a budget presentation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education Budgets, conducted by the Board of Finance in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.A).

The Board confirmed that this was routine and involved the transfer of budgeted funds into individual salary line items. This request is made each year to balance salary line items changed due to resignations, new hires, step increases, and cost of living increases.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to call a Budget Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School and on Zoom for the purpose of a budget presentation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education Budgets, conducted by the Board of Finance in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.A).

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action to approve calling a Special Town Meeting in Town Campus Room A on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. for the following purposes:

a. To approve a Special Appropriation request from the Police Department in the amount of $210,000.
MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve calling a Special Town Meeting in Town Campus Room A on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. for the above item.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.

12. Appointments / Resignations:

Appoint Dennis Duranta to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2024.

Resignation of Amy Stefanowski from the Solid Waste Disposal Committee.

Resignation of Lynn Hubbard from the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Resignation of Barbara Yaeger from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve the appointment of Dennis Duranta to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2024.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to approve the resignations of: Amy Stefanowski from the Solid Waste Disposal Committee, Lynn Hubbard from the Board of Assessment Appeals, and Barbara Yaeger from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee; with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.


MOVED by Selectwoman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Wilson to approve Tax Abatements / Refunds in the amount of $19,786.44.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.


None.

15. Executive Session:

MOVED by First Selectwoman Lyons and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve moving into Executive Session at 6:44 p.m. to review Pending Litigation, Hewes v. Madison.

VOTE: this motion was approved unanimously.
Invited in were:
Ed Dowling
Attorney Mike Rose
Debra Milardo, HR Consultant

There being no objection the Board adjourned to Special Session at 7:37 p.m.


There being no objection the Board adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle Nobitz
Recording Secretary

Lauren Rhines
Town Coordinator / Risk Manager

The Town of Madison does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and the meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who need assistance are invited to make their needs known by contacting the Town’s ADA/Human Resources Director Debra Milardo at 203.245.5603 or by email to milardod@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.
Pledge of Allegiance
Agenda

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of minutes: January 24, 2022.
3. First Selectwoman’s Updates.
4. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.
5. Citizen comments
6. Discuss the Town plan for Electric Vehicle replacement and charging station strategies.
7. Discuss Ethics Code implementation and Committee.
8. Discuss and take action to approve a Facilities Committee.
9. Discuss and take action to approve an application for a Supplemental Certified Local Government Grant as requested by Old Elm Street Historic District Committee.
10. Discuss and take action to call a Budget Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
11. Discuss and take action to approve calling a Special Town Meeting in Town Campus Room A on Monday, February 28, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Other Appointments / Resignations
12. Appointments / Resignations:
13. Tax Abatements and Refunds
14. Citizens Comments
15. Executive Session
16. Adjournment
First Selectwoman’s Update

- Referendum scheduled for next Tuesday, February 15th
  - Voting from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. District 1 at Polson Middle School, District 2 at Brown Intermediate School

- Town gearing up for Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) passed in November 2021 - historic $1.2T investment in nation’s core infrastructure
  - Prioritizes roads, bridges, rail, transit, ports, airports, electric grid, water systems, and broadband.
  - Mix of formula funding & competitive grants
  - Combines incremental funding for existing DOT programs and new programs

- CT will receive ~ $6 billion over 5 years
  - $3.5B for highway programs, $561M for bridge replacement & repair with a focus on climate change mitigation, resilience, equity, and bike/ped safety
  - $1.3B for public transportation, $62M for airport infrastructure, $53M to expand EV charging network
  - $445M to improve water infrastructure, $100M for broadband
  - $20M to protect against cyberattacks, prepare infrastructure for impacts of climate change and extreme weather events, $6.4M to protect against wildfires
EV Strategy – Why Now?

- Climate crisis driving urgent need to reduce dependence on fossil fuels
- Federal & State government incentivizing conversion to EV
  - IIJA Bill includes $7.7B for deployment of EVs and infrastructure, $12.7B for clean vehicles & fueling infrastructure, and $10.3B for grid/battery-related investments
  - CT committed to putting 125,000 Zero-emission vehicles on road by 2025
  - SCRCOG coordinating regional efforts for municipal EV replacement by 2050
  - CT launched the EVConnecticut program to provide grants for charging stations
  - CT - DEEP created Connecticut EV roadmap
  - CT deploying point of sale rebates through CHEAPR program

- Steps taken by Town to date
  - Town operates one dual Chargepoint unit located downtown (installed 2017).
    - Town pays ~ $5K/year for electricity use. Huge increase in demand.
  - Staff participation in SCRCOG EV Toolkit educational webinars
  - Working with Energy Conservation Commission to develop infrastructure plan and capitalize on recent grant opportunities
  - Hired consultant to review Town fleet – report expected end of February
EV Strategy – Next Steps

• Board of Selectmen
  • Set long-term goals and objectives for EV strategy
  • Identify working group to develop plan (Staff, Energy, Sustainability, EDC, other)

• Town Infrastructure
  • Identify locations for Town and school fleet EV charging
  • Determine strategy for expansion of public use on public and/or private property
  • Identify charging options for employee use at Town/School facilities

• Town Fleet
  • Professional consultant study of replacement options underway
  • Identify and target vehicles in fleet plan for EV replacement
  • Capitalize on grant opportunities to save investment dollars in CIP
  • BOE to work with Durham Transportation on school bus conversion plan

• Other Town policies/issues
  • Evaluate parking and enforcement issues for chargers
  • Develop building, permitting and zoning guidelines or regulations

• Community
  • Assess needs/demands for charging stations
  • Educate and encourage community conversion
Ad Hoc Facilities Committee

Charge:
• Develop a Town-wide facilities Master Plan
• Evaluate all existing town facilities and review suitability for current operations by leveraging completed studies and other resources
• Determine any current needs for space and facility improvements
• Identify properties for potential repurposing, lease or sale
• Review longer term needs and make appropriate recommendations to Board of Selectmen
• Evaluate and coordinate facility needs with the Board of Education and ancillary town properties, including the Scranton Memorial Library, Madison Hose #1, NOMAD, Ambulance Facility

Membership:
• Appointed by the Board of Selectmen
• 5 Regular Members: 1 BOS, 1 BOF, 1 BOE, and 2 public members
• Staff liaisons: Facilities Director and Town Planner. Coordinates with other Town Departments when necessary