

## **SUBJECT TO APPROVAL**

**MEETING DATE:** MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021  
7:00 P.M.

**MEETING PLACE:** HYBRID MEETING –  
TOWN CAMPUS ROOM A & ZOOM ONLINE MEETING

### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**

#### **7:00 p.m. Special Session**

First Selectwoman Lyons called the Special Session of Monday, July 19, 2021 to order at 7:01 p.m. Also in attendance were Selectwoman Duques, Selectman Goldberg, Selectman Murphy and Selectman Wilson.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.  
First Selectwoman Lyons led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of minutes – June 28, 2021

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve Minutes of June 28, 2021.

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

3. First Selectwoman's Updates.  
The First Selectwoman provided an update which is attached to these minutes.
4. Liaison Reports / Selectmen Comments.

None. Many boards are not meeting during the summer months.

5. Citizen Comments.

Walter Lippman of Wellsweep Drive stated that he has called the First Selectwoman's office many times and has not received a call back. He questioned why the Town has not moved forward with eminent domain on the downtown poles. He added that there are many trees on Route 79 that need addressing; and although this is a state road, the First Selectwoman's office can address the concern to the state. Mr. Lippmann added that signage on I-95 is also obscured, lights on I-95 are out and there are other concerns with exit ramps from I-95

6. Presentation from Charlie Corso and Bill Porter on the American Legion Building Program.

Mr. Corso presented an outline which is attached to these minutes. The Board reviewed that their request would be considered as the ARP Funding plan moves forward, including by establishing the Ad-Hoc Committee noted further on the Agenda.

7. Discuss and take action to approve hiring Jennifer Logiodice to the position of Before and After School Program Director in the Beach and Recreation department. The position is non-union. Rate of pay is Grade 5, Step 5 - \$28.50 per hour. The position is budgeted, not requiring an appropriation of funds. This position vacancy was created due to a retirement.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve hiring Jennifer Logiodice to the position of Before and After School Program Director in the Beach and Recreation department. The position is non-union. Rate of pay is Grade 5, Step 5 - \$28.50 per hour.

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

8. Discuss and take action to approve hiring Justin Zeigler to the position of Youth Development Coordinator II in the Youth and Family Services department. The position is non-union. Rate of pay is Grade 6, Step 4 - \$29.02 per hour. The position is budgeted, not requiring an appropriation of funds. This position vacancy was created due to a resignation.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve hiring Justin Zeigler to the position of Youth Development Coordinator II in the Youth and Family Services department. The position is non-union. Rate of pay is Grade 6, Step 4 - \$29.02 per hour.

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

9. Discuss and take action to accept a grant in an amount up to **\$12,000.00** from Work Force Alliance to provide funding for a MYFS Summer Youth Employment Program.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to approve accepting a grant in an amount up to **\$12,000.00** from Work Force Alliance to provide funding for a MYFS Summer Youth Employment Program.

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

10. Discuss and take action to approve the SCRCOG Regional Purchasing Consortium On-Call Engineering Services vendor list as recommended by the Public Works Department.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve the SCRCOG Regional Purchasing Consortium On-Call Engineering Services vendor list as recommended by the Public Works Department.

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

11. Discuss and take action to approve the West Wharf License Agreement.

First Selectwoman Lyons provided an overview of the parcel and agreement. Selectwoman Duques disclosed her relationship with the property owner and also that this relationship did not preclude her from voting under the Ethics Policy as no conflict of interest exists.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve the West Wharf License Agreement.

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

12. Discuss and take action to enter into a 5 Year Lease Agreement for **\$655,714** with First American for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Highway Equipment Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Wilson to approve 5 Year Lease Agreement for **\$655,714** with First American for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Highway Equipment Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.

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

13. Discuss and take action to enter into a 4 Year Lease Agreement for **\$208,000** for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Police Vehicle Replacement Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve a 4 Year Lease Agreement for **\$208,000** for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Police Vehicle Replacement Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.

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

14. Discuss and take action to approve two applications under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program Policy to Town Meeting.

First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the assessment was limited for 175 Fort Path Road, LLC for a period of 5 years.

First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the assessment was limited for Ironworks, LLC for a period of 7 years.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve applications from 175 Fort Path Road, LLC / Milano Development and Ironworks, LLC under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program; pending Board of Finance and Town Meeting approval.

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

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve calling a Town Meeting on Monday, September 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in Town Campus Room A to approve:

1. An application from 175 Fort Path Road, LLC / Milano Development under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program for an assessment deferral of no more than 5 years; pending Board of Finance approval.
2. An application from Ironworks, LLC under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program for an assessment deferral of no more than 7 years; pending Board of Finance approval.

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

15. Discuss and take action to approve a moratorium on applications under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program until the policy can be reviewed and revised in accordance with planning initiatives, to last no longer than six months.

First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the policy is important; but that there was little criteria on determining the merits of the applications. She stated that the objectives of an economic plan would be important to incorporate. The Board reviewed that the state statute dictated what the Town is mandated to include. Selectman Wilson stated that the statute empowers the Board to review application requests regardless of the policy. Ryan Duques stated that as the EDC Chair, he wanted to continue to set the tone that the Town is open to this type of program. Before an application can come forward, the policy states that all other approvals of P&Z, etc. must be met. He stated that he only cautioned establishing a “moratorium” as it wasn’t necessary. Applications are not mandated to be reviewed now, so a moratorium is overkill. He added that the application should illustrate the vibrancy of the project, the value to the grand list and it would be a plus if the project

increases job opportunities in Town. Mr. Duques stated that similar language was included in a prior policy draft but the language was removed to make it more inclusive for potential applicants. Several policies of other towns were reviewed and these policies tended to point back to state statute.

First Selectwoman Lyons questioned if the state statute mandated that the Board had to take action on any application. Town Attorney Kari Olson stated that the statute is permissive; the policy sets the procedure on this permissive opportunity. She added that the statute does not mandate a policy; and certainly the policy can be placed on a moratorium. If the Town does not move on an application, then the applicant can petition to the Board for action regardless of whether a policy exists or a moratorium on said policy exists. Attorney Olson stated that the current policy is only clear on one item (the value of the project) and could be clearer on other initiatives. For instance the Board should determine that some future applications may not just justify an abatement for 10 years. She stated that it doesn't hurt to alert potential applicants of what items would be needed for full consideration.

Selectman Goldberg stated that there had been several criteria thrown out this evening and that the Board should consider which of these criteria may be incorporated into the policy and for this reason he felt the Board should consider further changes to the policy before considering any future applications.

The Board agreed that the moratorium was not needed but that the Board should consider policy changes at their next meeting. The motion was rescinded.

16. Review draft Charge of the Ad-Hoc Marijuana Legalization Advisory Committee.

The Board reviewed a rough draft of a potential committee. Selectman Wilson stated that the Board should consider a timeframe for reporting back to the BOS. The Board reviewed that the Committee could be established and charged by September with their first report to the Board occurring in January. The Board also reviewed that the committee should hold at least one public hearing; and also that some type of survey and therefore budget may be required. The Board reviewed that the draft would be updated and discussed that their next meeting.

17. Review draft Ethics Code and determine next steps.

Attorney Olson stated that the state empowers Towns to create Ethics Codes and Commissions and there has been a push to establish a uniform Ethics Code state-wide; however that has not been established. She stated that the Ethics Policy is not "bad" but in order to take advantage of the powers granted by the state, the Town must enact an Ordinance. First Selectwoman Lyons stated that she felt the Committee should be more advisory and less punitive. The Board reviewed back and forth the difference between an Ordinance and a Policy and in general the Ordinance gives the Town more "teeth" to address potential ethical concerns or violations. The Board reviewed that the next step would be for Attorney Olson, First Selectwoman Lyons and Selectwoman Duques to

review the current drafted Code document and provide a red-lined document to the full Board based on the conversation this evening.

18. Discuss and take action to approve the American Rescue Plan Round 2 projects and services schedule; total expenditures not to exceed **\$419,300**.

**MOVED** by Selectman Murphy and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve the American Rescue Plan Round 2 projects and services schedule; total expenditures not to exceed **\$419,300**.

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

19. Discuss ARP Funding process and review draft Charge for Ad-Hoc ARP Funding / COVID Taskforce Advisory Committee.

First Selectwoman Lyons stated that the Charge is a rough draft. The Board reviewed if more or less members would be appropriate to the Committee; e.g. should members of other commissions such as Coastal Resiliency also be seated on this committee? Or, should only the three major Elected Boards seat members then other committees can provide input such as with the Capital Improvement Plan Committee. The Board reviewed that the draft would be updated and discussed that their next meeting.

20. Appointments / Resignations:

Billy Budd from the Library Building Expansion Committee.

Tony Davis from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

**MOVED** by Selectman Wilson and seconded by Selectman Murphy to approve the above resignations with thanks from the Board.

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

21. Tax Abatements / Refunds.

None.

22. Citizen Comments.

Scott Cochran, Director of Youth & Family Services thanked the businesses involved in helping with the grant accepted under item 9.

23. Executive Session:

There being no objection, the Board unanimously moved into Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. to review:

- a. Contract negotiations shared Economic Development Coordinator position.

Invited in were:

Human Resources Director, Debra Milardo

EDC Chair, Ryan Duques

Town Services Coordinator / Risk Manager, Lauren Rhines

There being no objection the Board moved back into Special Session at 9:47 p.m.

24. Adjournment.

There being no objection the Board adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Rhines

Town Svcs. 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](mailto:milardod@madisonct.org) at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.



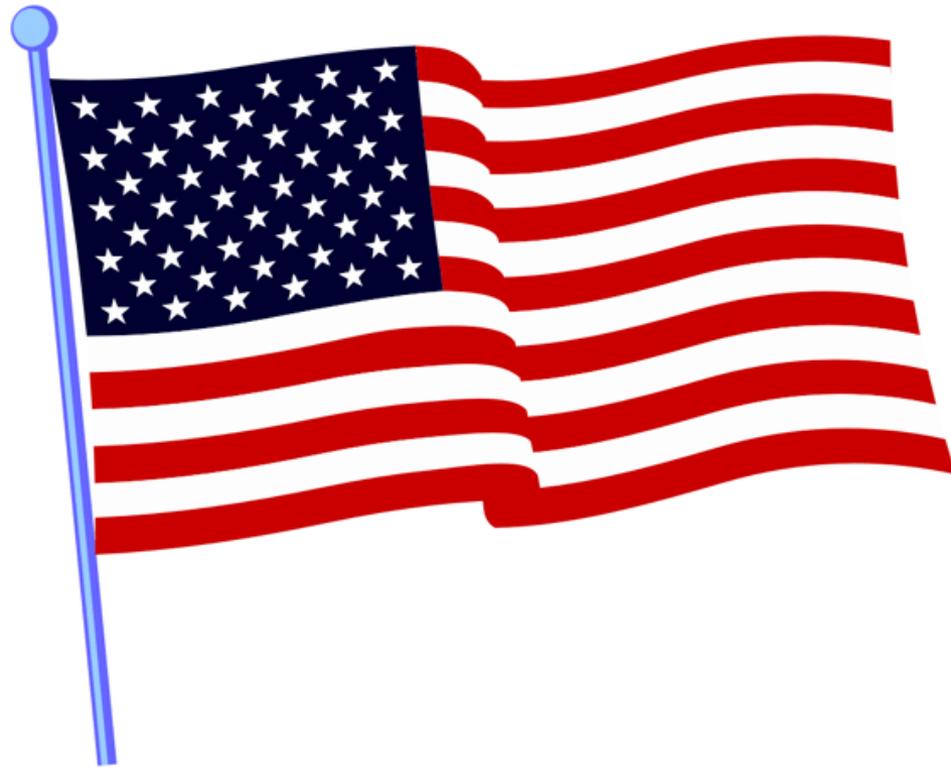
# TOWN OF MADISON

CONNECTICUT

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**Special Meeting – July 19, 2021**  
Board of Selectmen

# Pledge of Allegiance



# Agenda

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approval of Minutes
3. First Selectwoman's Update
4. Selectmen Liaison Reports/Comments.
5. Citizen Comments.
6. Presentation from Charlie Corso and Bill Porter on the American Legion Building Program
7. Discuss and take action to approve hiring Jennifer Logiodice to the position of Before and After School Program Director in the Beach and Recreation department.
8. Discuss and take action to approve hiring Justin Zeigler to the position of Youth Development Coordinator II in the Youth and Family Services department.
9. Discuss and take action to accept a grant in an amount up to \$12,000.00 from Work Force Alliance to provide funding for a MYFS Summer Youth Employment Program.
10. Discuss and take action to approve the SCRCOG Regional Purchasing Consortium On-Call Engineering Services vendor list as recommended by the Public Works Department.
11. Discuss and take action to approve the West Wharf License Agreement.

# Agenda (cont.)

12. Discuss and take action to enter into a 5 Year Lease Agreement for \$655,714 with First American for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Highway Equipment Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.
13. Discuss and take action to enter into a 4 Year Lease Agreement for \$208,000 for the financing of the 2022 Capital Improvement Program Police Vehicle Replacement Leasing Plan and to authorize the First Selectwoman to sign the same.
14. Discuss and take action to approve two applications under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program Policy to Town Meeting.
15. Discuss and take action to approve a moratorium on applications under the Town of Madison Tax Incentive / Assessment Deferral Program until the policy can be reviewed and revised in accordance with planning initiatives, to last no longer than six months.
16. Review draft Charge of the Ad-Hoc Marijuana Legalization Advisory Committee.
17. Review draft Ethics Code and determine next steps.

# Agenda (cont.)

18. Discuss and take action to approve the American Rescue Plan Round 2 projects and services schedule; total expenditures not to exceed \$419,300.
19. Discuss ARP Funding process and review draft Charge for Ad-Hoc ARP Funding / COVID Taskforce Advisory Committee.
20. Appointments / Resignations.
21. Tax Abatements / Refunds.
22. Citizens comments.
23. Executive Session.
24. Adjournment.

# First Selectwoman Update

- Madison continues to experience low COVID infection levels despite state wide uptick
  - Only 2 active COVID cases during month of July
  - 71% of population fully vaccinated by end of June
  - 12-15 age group lowest at 44% vaccination rate
  - Town co-sponsoring with Griffin Health and East Shore a vaccination clinic at the Surf Club on Wednesday, July 21st from 2-6 p.m.
    - MPS planning school based vaccination event late July
- BOS holding a Public Hearing on August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. regarding Island Avenue Proposals.
- Town working with Coastal Resiliency Commission on updating and prioritizing infrastructure needs to address climate change/flooding concerns in vulnerable areas
- Town coordinating with Board of Police Commissioners and Madison Police Department on development of public awareness regarding car theft issues

# EXHIBIT A



# Ad Hoc Marijuana Legalization Advisory Committee

**Background:** Effective July 1, 2021 the State of Connecticut passed SB 1201, An Act Concerning Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis. In accordance with this Bill, municipalities are empowered to make certain decisions for the usage and sale of marijuana.

**Charge:** The committee shall prepare a recommendation for the conditions of use and sale of marijuana within the Town of Madison, including but not limited to:

- Regulations on usage on Town-owned or public property, including fines or penalties for consumption on public property, if applicable
- Establishment of municipal sales tax on the sale of cannabis
- Enactment of Zoning regulations or ordinances governing cannabis establishments
- Regulations for usage by Municipal employees
- Law enforcement guidelines
- Policies and programs for Prevention/Youth Services
- Such plan shall be presented to the Board of Selectmen for review and approval to enable adoption of recommended regulations.

**Committee Meetings:** The Committee shall meet as required to fulfill their charge. Meetings will be noticed and include time for public comment as a standing agenda item.

## **Committee Composition:**

- one (1) representative from the Board of Selectmen
- one (1) representative from the Board of Finance
- one (1) representative from the Board of Education
- one (1) representative from the Planning & Zoning Commission
- one (1) representative from the Economic Development Commission
- one (1) representative from the Youth and Family Services Board
- one (1) representative from the Board of Police Commissioners
- three (3) additional members from the public.

## **Staff Liaisons:**

Catherine Barden, Youth & Family Services  
Representative, Madison Police Department  
Representative, Planning Department  
Trent Joseph, Health Director

The Board of Selectmen will appoint the members of the public to the committee.

# Ad Hoc ARP Funding/COVID Taskforce

**Charge:** The committee shall create a Plan that coordinates the long-term community and economic recovery of Madison in the wake of the COVID-19 public health emergency to:

- fully restore Town government services
- aid residents in recovery efforts
- aid businesses in recovery efforts
- determine Emergency Management needs in the face of future public health emergencies
- determine projects to move forward under ARP Funding

Prior to the completion of such plan, the committee shall hold at least one Public Hearing to gather public input.

**Committee Meetings:** The Committee shall meet as required to fulfill their charge. Meetings will be noticed and include time for public comment as a standing agenda item.

## **Committee Composition:**

- one (2) from the Board of Selectmen
- one (1) from the Board of Finance
- one (1) from the Board of Education
- one (1) from the Economic Development Commission
- one (1) from the Senior Services Commission
- one (1) from the Youth and Family Services Board
- three (3) additional members from the public.

## **Staff Liaisons shall be:**

Director of Finance (or their designee)  
Town Planner (or their designee)  
Director of Senior/ Beach & Rec (or their designee)  
Director of Youth & Family Services (or their designee)  
Town Services Coordinator / Risk Manager  
Economic Development Coordinator

The Board of Selectmen will appoint the members of the public to the committee.

American Legion Griswold Post 79 is

an Asset to the Town of Madison

and

IT NEEDS YOUR HELP

## Subjects To Discuss

- Legion Activities Past/Present
- Covid-19 Financial Impact
- Building Renovation Plans
- Funding To Date

## Griswold Post 79

- Adjacent to Senior Center
- 130 Members
- American Legion Women's Auxiliary
- Established 1920
- Building Constructed 1936
- Town/Legion Partnership
  - Wilcox Property Swaps
  - Bradley Road Realignment
  - Building Expansion 1952
  - Senior Center Parking
  - Memorial Observances

## Griswold Post 79 (Con't)

### Town/Legion Partnership

- Flags-Veterans Graves
- Schools-Veterans Day
- Trees on Green Fund Raiser 1938
- Ambulance Service-56 Years
- “News From Home” WWII, Korea and Vietnam

## Legion Activities

- Sponsor of Boys and Girls State for DHHS students since 1959
- Sponsored Boy Scout Troop since 1946, Cub Scout Troop over 50 years. Over 100 Eagle Scouts
- Sponsored American Legion Baseball since 1947.
- Supports Madison Food Pantry.
- Organizes Memorial Day Parade, Programs and Places Flags on Veterans Graves. A century old tradition.
- Provides Meeting Hall for Civic/Business Organizations and Family Events
  - Helped Organizations During Pandemic.

## Veteran Activities

- Provides Honor Guard for Average of 340 Veteran Funerals a Year
  - Regional/State Veterans Cemeteries
  - Connecticut Wall of Honor-Capitol
  - ALL Veterans
  - Perhaps Loved One of Yours?
- Provides Service Officer to Inform, Assist and Support Veterans Seeking help from Department of Veteran Affairs.
- Provides Financial Support to Many Veteran Programs
  - K of C Operation American Soldier
  - Quilts of Honor
  - Honor Flights
  - Fisher House
  - Harkness House
  - ETC.

## Covid 19 Financial Impact

- Memorial Day Poppy Donations Lost \$17,000
- Meeting Hall Rentals Lost \$13,000
- Total Losses \$30,000
- Rental Bookings Down
- Many Needs Unmet!

## Building Renovation

- Built 1936
- Few Renovations
- Worn Out
  - Appearance
  - Accessibility
  - Member/Renter Functionality
- Two Phases
  - Phase I – Campus Look Siding, Roof, Disabled Ramp, Relocation Honor Guard Rifles/Equipment
  - Phase II – Renovate Meeting Hall, Bathrooms, Kitchen
- Funding Goal for Phase I - \$200,000
- Renovation Plan/Costs Evolved with Member/Contractor Input
  - Material Cost a Factor
- Phase II Projection \$150,000 (Estimated)

## Funding Status

- Donations Currently \$140,000 (70%)
- Promotional Effort
  - News Articles
  - Source Advertising and Support
  - Digital Advertising
  - GoFundMe
  - Madison Foundation
  - Maureen and Peter Dalton Fund
  - Letters to Editor
  - Letter to Businesses/Individuals
- Few Large Contributors
- Funding Slowed
- Phase I Construction to Start Soon
- Expect to Meet our \$200,000 Goal

## WE NEED YOUR HELP!

- WE HAVE TRIED TO WITHSTAND FINANCIAL LOSSES AND FUND THE RENOVATION ON OUR OWN  
BUT
- WE HAVE COME TO REALIZE OUR FAILURE TO SEEK ASSISTANCE IS JEOPARDIZING
  - Help for Veterans
  - Renovation Plans
  - Our Long Term Future

### SO THE AMERICAN LEGION AND ITS MEMBERS ARE ASKING

- Is the Legion Eligible for Help from the Federal American Rescue Plan?
- Will the Town Help us Fund our Renovation?

# The American Legion



Griswold Post 79  
P.O. Box 504  
Madison, CT 06443

July 12, 2021

First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons  
8 Campus Drive  
Madison, CT 06443

Dear Peggy,

I would like to thank you for allowing me to come before you to talk about the American Legion Griswold Post 79. As you know, it is located at 43 Bradley Road adjacent to the Madison Senior Center. I will cover three subjects with you today:

- 1) An overview of what the American Legion does and its history nationally and here in Madison.
- 2) How Covid-19 has negatively impacted our Legion financially which has impacted our ability to support Veteran`s and other community organizations.
- 3) Our efforts to renovate our building-both externally and internally, which was constructed in 1936.

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919. Griswold Post 79 was established in 1920. The American Legion`s mission is to: 1) Assist Veterans 2) Support Children and Youth and 3) Help their communities. The American Legion founded two youth programs which are well established nationally and in Madison today: 1) Boys and Girls State 2) American Legion Baseball. They also sponsor more than 2,500 scouting units across the country.

Some of the things Griswold Post 79 has done in Madison over the years are as follows:

- 1) Operated the Madison Ambulance Service for 56 years-ending in 1985.
- 2) Organized fundraising to replace trees on the Madison Green which were destroyed during the 1938 Hurricane.
- 3) Published and mailed a " News from Home" newspaper to servicemen and women on duty in WWII, Korea and Vietnam.
- 4) Sponsors Boys and Girls State, since 1959, for Daniel Hand High School students.

- 5) Sponsored a Boy Scout Troop since 1946, Cub Scout Troop for over 50 years and recently began sponsoring a Sea Scout Troop. Over 100 young men have become Eagle Scouts from our troop.
  - 6) Organized Memorial Day Programs, Parades and placed flags on all veteran graves in Madison since 1920-A Full Century.
  - 7) Sponsored American Legion baseball since 1947.
  - 8.) Provides a meeting hall for civic and business organizations and family events. We assisted some organizations during the Covid-19 when they were unable to meet anywhere else.
  - 9) Established an Honor Guard for funerals of military veterans in 2003. This Honor Guard is for all deceased veterans-not just American Legion veterans. It is the primary regional Honor Guard, and at the State of Connecticut Veteran's Cemetery in Middletown. Our Post averages 340 funerals a year. Perhaps some of your parents or grandparents have received this Honor?
  - 10) Financial Support to the Madison Food Pantry.
- The activities I have mentioned are just some of the things Griswold Post 79 does for the community.

I have not addressed our activities supporting Veterans. I will mention briefly that we provide a wide range of support to all Veterans-not just support to our 130 active members. These include helping Veterans obtain services from The Veterans Administration, providing emergency rental payments, assistance in getting wheelchairs, etc. to Veterans in need. We also provide financial support to the Fisher House at the West Haven Veterans Hospital which is a hotel for families whose loved one is in the hospital there. And, we provide financial support to the Harkness House in New Haven. which provides a place for homeless veterans, helping them transition to permanent housing. Needless to say, our 130 members of Griswold Post 79 are proud of the services we provide to veterans and the Madison community.

We envisioned two phases for the renovation. Phase I, updating the outside of the building, replacing the roof and doing some urgent renovations in the meeting hall. Phase II was planned to completely update the meeting hall including, bathrooms and kitchen. Our plan for the outside of the building is to use the same materials and colors as the adjacent Senior Center to give that area a " Campus Appearance ".

We started with an estimate of \$100,000 for Phase I. After speaking with contractors and receiving input from our Building Renovation Committee, we raised our goal to \$200,000. This included moving our disabled persons ramp to the back of the building to improve accessibility from the parking lot and moving our Honor Guard Rifle Safe and equipment out of the meeting hall to a room in the basement. Rapidly increasing material costs were also a factor. Phase II costs are expected to be about \$150,000.

Post 79 has received wonderful support from veterans and residents of Madison. We have achieved \$140,000 or 70% of our Phase I objective. Despite numerous outreach programs, digital advertising, news articles and GoFundMe contributions have slowed. However, we still expect to reach our \$200,000 goal. Members have asked me, repeatedly, if we could acquire any financial assistance from the Town. Our revenue losses have impacted our ability to support veterans. If we had more funds we could provide more veteran support. Each year we have to carefully budget our support to various veteran needs. The completion of Phase II which will completely renovate our meeting hall will enable us to increase our rentals and serve our community and veterans better. It will be a real asset for the Town as well. Members have also asked if the American Legion is eligible for assistance from the Federal American Rescue Plan for our financial losses and/or our renovation costs. I am hopeful we can receive assistance from Madison for Phase II of the renovation and our revenue losses brought on by Covid-19. I would, once again, like to thank you for this opportunity to speak at your Board meeting.

Gratefully,



Charles Corso, Commander  
Griswold Post 79, Madison  
American Legion

cc: Bruce Wilson  
Erin Duques  
Al Goldberg  
Scott Murphy

