

SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

MEETING DATE: MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2019
7:00 P.M.

MEETING PLACE: TOWN CAMPUS ROOM A

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MINUTES

7:00 p.m. Regular Session

First Selectman Banisch called the Regular Session of Monday, August 26, 2019 to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were First Selectman Banisch, Selectwoman Ferris, Selectman Goldberg, Selectman Murphy and Selectman Wilson.

1. Pledge of Allegiance.
First Selectman Banisch led the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Minutes.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Murphy to **APPROVE** the minutes of July 22, 2019 with the corrections below and also of the meetings of July 30, 2019 and August 13, 2019.

Minutes of July 22, 2019 corrections:

9. Review proposal for ban on single use bags with **BYO Madison representatives**.
DISCUSSION: Fran Brady, **BYO Madison Chair**, provided a PowerPoint presentation which detailed a “Bring Your Own Bag” policy which has been adopted by other states. Mr. Brady reviewed current Town policies and campaigns as well as State bans that will be in effect on August 1, 2019. A copy of the full presentation can be found at <https://www.madisonct.org/971/My-GreenHome> . To move forward, the **BYO Madison** organization has made a business survey to all Town businesses through the Chamber of Commerce, they have drafted an Ordinance and invited the Board to a Public Information Session September 5, 2019. The **BYO Madison** organization was asking that the Board of Selectmen determine what they needed to move to a vote on September 9, 2019 banning **single-use plastic checkout bags** and placing a **\$0.10 per bag fee on paper checkout bags** in Madison. The Board reviewed the costs of plastic and paper bags as well as alternatives to single-use bags. First Selectman Banisch stated that this was a great initiative for the kids to get involved in and he agreed with the proposal of the Conservation Commission. Selectman Wilson stated that he agreed with the proposal as well, but that the Town could also consider how to bring reusable bags to the public, including by having the Town sell them. Selectman Murphy stated that he agreed, but that the Town should “walk before they ran” and that the first step would be to ban single-use bags. Selectman Wilson stated that the initiative works if the consumer can purchase reusable bags as an alternative to single-use bags. He also asked if there were other towns who were imposing a fee on paper bags. The Board reviewed that they were in favor of the ban, but that the draft

Ordinance would need legal review and public input and also to follow approval rules as set forth in the Town Charter.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously

3. First Selectman's Comments.

- a. The CIP process will be starting soon and we should start discussing projects on the town side that need to be included.

4. Public Comment.

Kathryn Hunter of Scotland Avenue stated that she spoke in support of the continuation of the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee. She felt that the current Charge work has not been completed and the Committee has a role in submitting the project to the CIP and in informing the public.

Sandy Ferrerri stated that the Telecom companies are coming into Town with a proposal to install 70" boxes on telephone poles within the Downtown Historic District. She stated that she was looking for support from the Town to help fight the installation of this box. She was also looking for support at the state level from Noreen Kokoruda.

Walter Lippmann of Sycamore Lane stated that in January 2018 he received a letter from Superintendent Tom Scarice stating that the BOE would look into his suggestion that all employees of the Board of Education, specifically those who work with children, should be required to submit to pre-employment drug screenings. He asked the Board to support his suggestion and help to implement this policy through the BOE. Mr. Lippmann also stated that the Town employees did a wonderful job of cleaning his street after work was done last week from the storm. He suggested that when a storm occurs, the First Selectmen should publicize that the Bulky Waste Site be open for all day during the weekends to help residents clean up debris from storms. He stated that residents should "say something" if they "see something" in Town; to that end, he provided a list of Town signs that are obscured by brush, vines, etc. He stated that the Town should notify the state to address these signs.

Eileen O'Neill of Cottage Road stated that she was here to discuss the permitting process for 41 Cottage Road where a number of units were slated to be built although the land was in the Hammonasset watershed area. She provided an overview of minutes from the Conservation Commission meetings where both this item and Inland/Wetlands matter approvals were discussed. In general she stated that the Conservation Commission should be involved in this process.

New Business

5. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation honoring the Madison Little League.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson read aloud the Proclamation. He stated that the Proclamation was also read at the Little League celebratory event on Friday, August 16th.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** a Proclamation honoring the Madison Little League.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

6. Discuss and take action to approve a Proclamation honoring the Madison Lutheran Church.

DISCUSSION: First Selectman Banisch read aloud the Proclamation.

MOVED by First Selectman Banisch and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** a Proclamation honoring the Madison Lutheran Church.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

7. Discuss and take action on proclaiming September 8th – 14th, 2019 as a time of remembrance, a commitment to volunteerism and community pride in the Town of Madison.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson read aloud the Proclamation.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** proclaiming September 8th – 14th, 2019 as a time of remembrance, a commitment to volunteerism and community pride in the Town of Madison.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Update from the Conservation Commission.

DISCUSSION: Chairman, Fran Brady stated that the purpose of tonight's presentation is to provide an update to the Board of the work of the Commission. Mr. Brady provided a PowerPoint presentation which can be read at www.madisonct.org. Additionally, summer interns Elizabeth Ozimek and Marina Dixon provided an overview of the research project of invasive species that they and a third intern completed this summer. The girls also thanked the Commission for their internship opportunity and also to the Board for allowing their presentation at this meeting.

Going forward, Mr. Brady stated that the Commission wants to: work with the BOE to help with a sustainability curriculum, to get the Town to Sustainable CT Silver status, to fill three vacancies on the Commission, to continue the conservation inventory, to hire 2-3 more summer interns, to create a budget to help complete the natural resources inventory, to have a larger role in P&Z matters.

Selectman Goldberg asked how a budgetary request from the Commission would be brought to the Board and First Selectman Banisch stated that the line item would be part of the Land Use budget and that he would speak to Director, Dave Anderson about this additional line item.

9. Discuss and take action to approve a request from the Beach and Recreation Department to purchase a used John Deere tractor for Building & Grounds; funds will come from the Planned Equipment Fund.

DISCUSSION: Scot Erksine, Beach and Recreation Director, stated that the larger tractor is straining under heavier loads. The new equipment would help the Building & Grounds crew to maintain Town and BOE green space and fields. He reviewed that the tractor is being purchased from a private farm.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded by Selectman Wilson to **APPROVE** a request from the Beach and Recreation Department to purchase a used John Deere tractor for \$10,000 for Building & Grounds; funds will come from the Planned Equipment Fund.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

10. Discuss and take action to approve Line Item Transfers totaling **\$462.00**.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded Selectman Murphy by to **APPROVE** Line Item Transfers totaling **\$462.00**.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action to approve a Special Appropriation Request in the amount of **\$147,344** from the Public Works and Engineering Department to fund the Tuxis Walkway Lighting Project.

DISCUSSION: John Iennaco stated that at the prior Board Meeting the Board voted to approve the project at the Tuxis Pond Walkway for the rehabilitation less the lighting work. The four bids that came in were over the grant funding amount so the project approval to-date was only for work that was covered by the grant. The Board reviewed the benefits of the lighting work being completed at the site.

Selectman Goldberg questioned if the Town's Energy Commission had been consulted on this project and Mr. Iennaco stated that the Town had brought in a design consultant to create a design that included a low-cost, appropriate, lighting solution. This is standard procedure for these projects and the consultant, Milone & MacBroom, has done this and other projects successfully for the Town. Also, the Board reviewed that the Energy & Efficiency Chair had weighed in on the lighting project and corresponded with the consultant.

Selectman Murphy confirmed that the amount of lighting was adequate and appropriate for the location.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded Selectwoman Ferris by to **APPROVE** a Special Appropriation Request in the amount of **\$147,344** from the Public Works and Engineering Department to fund the Tuxis Walkway Lighting Project.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

12. Discuss and take action to approve calling a Special Town Meeting on Monday, September 23, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. in Town Campus Room A to take action on:

- i. A Special Appropriation Request in the amount of \$147,344 from the Public Works and Engineering Department to fund the Tuxis Walkway Lighting Project

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded Selectman Murphy by to **APPROVE** calling a Special Town Meeting on Monday, September 23, 2018 at 6:45 p.m. in Town Campus Room A.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

13. Discuss and take action to approve a Charge for a 2019 Charter Review Commission.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson stated that the Charge had a minor change from the last version sent to the Board and that a timeline had also been presented from the Executive Assistant.

Selectman Goldberg questioned if the Commission would need to hold a Public Hearing at the beginning of their process and Lauren Rhines stated that the State Statutes dictate that the Commission must hold a Public Hearing prior to any substantive work being completed and also must hold at least one more Public Hearing during their process. The Board also reviewed the Committee make-up and also the timeline brought forward from the Executive Assistant.

Selectman Wilson questioned if the timeline allowed for enough time for the work to be completed in conjunction with other Town initiatives.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded Selectwoman Ferris by to **APPROVE** a Charge for a 2019 Charter Review Commission.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

14. Discuss and take action on the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee.

DISCUSSION: Selectman Wilson gave an overview of the Extended Charge of the Commission and stated that the Committee has fulfilled the work in this Charge. The Board needs to review whether to expand the Charge of the Committee to include: supporting the CIP Process, continue looking at funding sources, and to support the process to a referendum question.

Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee Chairman Bill Stableford stated that the Committee felt that their work was not complete and there are four areas the Committee should continue to work on:

1. Refine estimates for construction costs, revenues, operating costs.

2. Explore more in-depth possibilities for public-private partnerships and developing revenue streams from private businesses.
3. Support CIP process through different steps.
4. Serve as experts to other Boards & Commissions about the facts of this project as developed.
5. Pursue grant opportunities
6. Bring findings to wider public to ensure that the voters have access to accurate information prior to referendum.

Selectman Goldberg stated that there is still work to be done although the current charge may be fulfilled. He stated that the Committee has spent hundreds of hours becoming experts on this matter and that they should be allowed to be continued to work on this project prior to the referendum vote.

Selectman Wilson questioned if the Committee was unsure of the estimates that were already provided to the Board and Mr. Stableford stated that the estimates could still be refined. Selectman Wilson stated that the project has to come through the Board in order to be included in the CIP and there is a risk that an entire budget season will be “lost” should the process continue through the Ad-Hoc Committee and not through a vote of the Board to the CIP Committee. He stated that the data currently available should be used to plan at the CIP level now; if the numbers are changed, then that affects how the project can be planned at the CIP level.

The Board reviewed that the referendum question would be for the full amount of the project and then the project may cost less as the Town would solicit grant funds.

Roz Cama of the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee stated that the initial Capital Budget was brought by Colliers and the amounts are accurate only for a two-year period. The timeframe is important and ground may be lost if the process is halted now for the CIP process.

Selectman Wilson clarified again that he is not opposed to the Committee continuing so long as it is clear what the Committee will be charged to do. He stated that if the Committee wants to continue to look into funding sources for the current plan, then that would be beneficial for the Town; however, if the Committee was going to research public-private agreements, then that changed the nature of the project.

The Board reviewed the estimates, the current Charge and also the capital budgeting process.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded Selectman Goldberg by to **APPROVE** extending the Charge of the Ad-Hoc Academy School Community Center Design Committee to research additional funding and revenue sources and to provide public educational opportunities.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

15. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Mark Casparino from the Board of Finance.

MOVED by Selectman Murphy and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** the resignation of Mark Casparino from the Board of Finance with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

16. Discuss and take action to approve the appointment of Justin Murphy to the Board of Finance for a term to expire November 5, 2019.

MOVED by Selectman Goldberg and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** the appointment of Justin Murphy to the Board of Finance for a term to expire November 5, 2019.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

17. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Scott Sandora from the Conservation Commission.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** the resignation of Scott Sandora from the Conservation Commission with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

18. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Richard Gedney from the Conservation Commission.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** the resignation of Richard Gedney from the Conservation Commission with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

19. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Carol Snow from the Historic District Commission Alternates.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded Selectman Goldberg by to **APPROVE** the resignation of Carol Snow from the Historic District Commission Alternates with thanks from the Board.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

20. Discuss and take action to approve the resignation of Steve Somma from the Zoning Board of Appeals.

MOVED by Selectman Wilson and seconded Selectman Murphy by to **APPROVE** the resignation of Steve Somma from the Zoning Board of Appeals with thanks from the Board A.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

21. Discuss and take action approve the appointment of Bill Piggot from the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate to Zoning Board of Appeals full member for a term to expire November 1, 2019.

MOVED by Selectman Goldberg and seconded Selectman Wilson by to **APPROVE** the appointment of Bill Piggot from the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate to Zoning Board of Appeals full member for a term to expire November 1, 2019.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

22. Discuss and take action to appoint Dennis Crowe to the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate for a term to expire November 1, 2021.

MOVED by Selectwoman Ferris and seconded Selectman Murphy by to **APPROVE** the appointment of Dennis Crowe to the Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate for a term to expire November 1, 2021.

VOTE: the motion was approved unanimously.

23. Tax Abatements / Refunds.
None.

24. Public Comment.

Fran Brady of Genessee Lane stated that it seems that the Town would benefit from having a central purchasing agent.

Eileen O'Neill provided information from the website pertaining to the Inland/Wetlands input on Planning and Zoning applications. Mr. Brady stated that Inland/Wetlands did everything that they were supposed to do but also that the website should be updated as this language is inaccurate.

25. Adjourn.

There being no objections, First Selectman Banisch adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Rhines
Executive Assistant