

Approved
Candia's Virtual Selectmen's Public Session Minutes
March 28th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Note: Individual roll call has been taken after each motion.

7:00 pm Chair Brock opened the Public Session Meeting followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Chair Brien Brock, Selectman Patrick Moran, Selectman Russ Dann, Selectman Boyd Chivers, Selectman Sue Young and Town Administrator Andria Hansen.

Approval of Minutes: Public Session Minutes for March 14th, 2022.

MOTION: Selectman Brock made a motion to accept the March 14th, 2022, Public Session minutes as amended. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. Discussion opened. Correction noted on line 54 take out "be". Discussion ended. **All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.**

NEW BUSINESS

George's – Approval of ADU: Chair Brock updated the Board regarding James & Terri George's home off Merrill Road which is a Class VI Road. They are looking to add an accessory dwelling unit on their house and asking for the Board of Selectmen's approval. Selectman Chivers explained that the George's recently went before the Zoning Board of Adjustment and the Board approved the accessory dwelling unit, subject to approval by the Board of Selectmen for a Waiver on Section 4B of the Class VI Road Policy that limits it to a single dwelling unit without accessory units will be considered.

MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to grant a waiver to Section 4B of the Candia Class VI Road Policy to enable the George's to have an accessory dwelling unit on their lot. Seconded by Selectman Young. Discussion opened. Selectman Young asked for the size of the ADU, and she was told 700 sq. ft, in which it does comply. She also questioned if the reason it came before the Board is because of the Class VI Road and Selectman Chivers said, that is correct. **All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.**

Zoning Board of Adjustment - Recommendation: Selectman Chivers stated the Zoning Board of Adjustment Committee has an opening, and member Judith Szot's term has expired. The Board has unanimously agreed to petition this Board to nominate her for another three-year term.

MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion nominate Judith Szot for another three-year term on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Seconded by Selectman Young. Discussion opened. Selectmen Dann wanted clarification in that the Board received a letter from Judith Szot asking for a re-appointment, and the Chairman of the Zoning Board of Adjustment has recommended her. Chair Brock said, that is correct. Selectman Chivers pointed out that Judith Szot has been on the Zoning Board Committee for about thirty years and does a good job. Discussion closed. **All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.**

Conservation Commission - Recommendation: Chair Brock read a letter the Board received from Judi Lindsey, stating her term expires this year as a member of the Conservation Commission and is asking to continue for another three-year term.

MOTION: Selectman Young made a motion to nominate Judi Lindsey to continue as a member for a three-year term on the Conservation Commission. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.

OLD BUSINESS

Building Inspectors Hours: Town Administrator Hansen informed the Board that the Building Inspector was originally scheduled to work for 35 hours per week. There was never an official vote to change his hours to 40 hours per week and the Board would need to make the approval. Selectman Moran stated the Board will need to revisit this subject at a later date as there will need to be a time study made first and would like to table this discussion for now.

News Article: Selectman Dann stated there has been a lot of positive things taking place in Town and he would like to have articles written regarding the Town of Candia's news and information from Departments or the Board published on a monthly basis to keep everyone updated. The Board had no objections and agreed for Administrative Assistant Linda Chandonnet to help with the articles.

Board to authorize the payments of payroll and payables: The Board agreed to have the amounts for payroll and payables listed on the agenda headline going forward to be written payments of payroll and accounts payables.

Town Office - Fire Doors: Selectman Dann questioned if they had an update on the installing the peepholes for the Town Office fire doors. Selectman Moran said he has not received an update yet.

Affinity Lighting: Selectman Dann stated that Recycle & Energy Committee member Al Couch may be attending the next Board meeting to discuss the funding options for Affinity Lighting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Payments of payroll and payables. Chair Brock confirmed the grand total for payroll and payables for the weeks of 3/24/22 and 3/21/22 was \$156,358.31 and the breakdowns will now be posted on the agenda each time, and they will not be approving them in the meetings going forward, as the amounts are signed and approved for in the office before the meeting.

Calendar:

- The next Board of Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 11th, 2022 @ 7:00 pm.

Public Input: Brenda Coughlin (resident) questioned how a resident would apply to joining a committee in Candia. Chair Brock said, any individual who is interested should submit a letter of interest for an appointment to the Board.

Kevin Coughlin (Resident) stated that after observing the last Board meeting, the Selectmen were assigned their committees and departments to oversee. It seems as though Selectman Young was railroaded out of her job as the Budget Committee's liaison. He indicated Selectman Dann is liaison to many committees and departments and wanted to know if there was a way they could revisit this. He feels Selectman Young has many years of experience and an extraordinary

candidate. Brenda Coughlin (Resident) stated that she does not understand why they would remove her with the years of experience she has and put someone new in that position.

Chair Brock mentioned that two years ago there was a similar change of liaison for the Building Department. During the process Selectman Moran stated he wanted to learn more about that department, and the Board allowed him to be the liaison. Chair Brock stated that he was unaware that Selectman Dann was interested in the Budget Committee liaison until he brought it up in the meeting.

Selectman Young explained that in their last meeting she found it awkward and did not want Selectman Dann to have to nominate himself and felt she should nominate him when no one was speaking up. She stated that the difference of when Selectman Moran took over the Building Department is that the Board received a letter from a resident 's attorney who had concerns about Selectman Chivers being the liaison for the Building Department and a member on the Zoning Board of Adjustment. Beth Chalbeck (Resident) said that in their last meeting she did not hear Selectman Young say that she was interested in being the liaison and encouraged her to say what she wanted. Selectman Young said that the year before she could understand it because she had convinced the Budget Committee to lower the budget, but this year she behaved and did what the Board wanted and was surprised. Beth Chalbeck reiterated she encourages her to speak up and say what she wanted. Selectman Young indicated how Selectman Dann showed that he had interest in learning that assignment and that they put choosing the alternate first, so in her opinion it was just all convoluted. She was not going to add to it and chose not to make it more awkward.

Mr. Coughlin asked the Board if this could be readdressed? Selectman Chivers said that he would rather not readdress it because the other assignments could be up for discussion, so that would be setting themselves up to go backwards.

Chair Brock said, the Board had previously looked into the question of should a liaison be representing the Board, or can they represent themselves when they go to that Budget Committee? He explained that the answer is yes, they could represent themselves of their own opinion, but this Board felt that after the Board had voted, that it was a decision that should have gone to the Budget Committee, and that is where the problem had developed. He noted that Selectman Young did change last year and was more compliant than the following year in what the Board was directing her to do and what the Board felt was her job. She did not have to agree with the other four members, but if that is what the majority voted, that is what should be brought to the Budget Committee.

Selectman Young stated that it is concerning that any of the other positions, the alternates were not asked if they wanted to move up. Mrs. George asked why Selectman Young was the only one that was not. Selectman Chivers explained, that in the past he was not rolled back into his position to the Building Department even after Town Counsel stated there was no conflict. Mr. Coughlin asked if each of the Board Members are individually elected by the Town Residents to look after the best interest of the Town's money and future, and when someone speaks their conscience in doing what they are elected to do, is it the committee's decision that they need to follow line with the committee? Selectman Young said yes. Selectman Young stated that conversation is not

encouraged. Mrs. Chalbeck stated she would expect that everyone should be able to have discussions together regarding their opinions and how they feel, with respecting each other.

Mrs. George (Resident) said there are discussions and disagreements in many of the meetings she attends. Is it just that this Board does not want to have a discussion and disagreement when they are to be representing the Board and going to another Committee? Or is there discouragement of when they are there? Selectman Chivers clarified how there are many disagreements, however when the Board comes to a decision, and is voted on in which a majority of the vote then they all have an obligation to support and represent that position. Mrs. Coughlin asked Chair Brock why he did not ask Selectman Young if she was interested in continuing as liaison for the Budget Committee. Chair Brock stated it is discussed at the meeting in public. Mrs. Coughlin said she is sorry to Selectman Dann, and clarified it had nothing to do with him, but she has an issue if someone who has been on the Budget Committee for seven years and then it was just blown over. Selectman Dann added that when the opportunity came up that he was interested in the position. Chair Brock explained that in the past he had been assigned Roads because he has experience in that field and how Selectman Chivers was interested in it, so he was happy that Selectman Chivers wanted to be involved with that.

Selectman Young said that Selectman Moran had brought up about the number of committees everyone had, and that they are uneven. Selectman Young said, it is a man's world. Two male Selectman disagreed. Selectman Young stated that she had Parks & Recreation and Cemetery, and that will be good.

Mrs. Coughlin stated after watching Zoom that it did not seem right from an outsider and that it looked like Selectman Young was cast aside. There was a discussion about the job of the liaison.

Mr. Coughlin expressed that in the last meeting he saw a few things take place on when Chair Brock and Selectman Chivers were talking about money. When they were talking in code about whether they should reveal to the citizens on how that money was spent that it was awkward and did not look good. Selectman Dann clarified that it was in regard to Accounts Payable and then they authorize, but it was authorized already prior. What they were trying to say is there is no sense in doing this twice, so they added it to the agenda. Mr. Coughlin stated it had to do with a specific charge and there was a distinct reluctance to explain what it was. Selectman Young said it was the LUCT Tax. Selectman Chivers said it was written in the minutes. Discussion ensued.

7:50pm MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to adjourn the Public Meeting. Seconded by Selectmen Moran. All in Favor. Motion carried by a vote of 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Chandonnet, Recording Secretary