

**MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
**405 Main Street**  
**Middlefield, Connecticut 06455**

Minutes of the July 20, 2021 Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Mr. Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM. Ed Bailey and Bob Yamartino were present. Carol Bufithis was absent.

Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

***Bob Yamartino made a motion, second by Ed Bailey, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.***

Public Comment

Marianne Corona made comment on volunteer work that she has been doing at the state level regarding wetlands. She discussed her concerns about the ordinances being presented at this meeting.

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Selectmen

- a. June 22, 2021 – Regular Meeting

***Bob Yamartino made a motion, second by Ed Bailey, to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Motion carried.***

COVID-19 Update

Ed reported that he will be meeting with our Health Director regarding the uptick in cases. Case totals have increased since the month of June.

### RSD-13 Update

Bob reported that the Governor has implemented mask mandates for the schools through the end of September. Parents, those who oppose masks as well as those in favor of masks, have become increasingly vocal during public comment sections of Board of Education meetings. District 13 is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Matthew Warner as principal of Coginchaug Regional High School. Mr. Warner joins us from East Hampton High School where he served for 14 years in various roles.

### FY22 Budget Update

Mr. Bailey stated that the Adopted State Budget is more favorable funding wise to the town which means that Middlefield will begin the Fiscal Year with a surplus.

### Initiate Planning & Zoning Enforcement and Inland Wetland & Watercourses Enforcement Ordinances and set Public Hearing date.

Ed suggested that the Public Hearing be set for the same day as an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting.

***Bob Yamartino made motion, second by Ed Bailey, to set the Public Hearing date of August 17, 2021, to amend the "Code of Ordinances of Middlefield, Connecticut" to include: 1. Chapter 400, Zoning Violation Citations & Procedures; 2. Chapter 401, Inland Wetland and Watercourses Violation Citations & Procedures. Motion carried.***

### Approval for the First Selectman to enter into an agreement with the State of CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police for the services of Resident State Police Troopers for contract period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023

Mr. Bailey gave a brief overview of the contract for our Resident State Troopers. Ed noted one addition to the contract is a July 2020 Act regarding Police Accountability. The State would be responsible to ensure compliance with this Act.

***Bob Yamartino made motion, second by Ed Bailey, to approve the First Selectman to enter into the agreement as stated. Motion carried.***

Local Traffic Authority – Request ConnDOT to add signage at the turn-around on Route 147 prohibiting a left turn by tractor trailer trucks from Route 147 North to Route 147 South at the one-way traffic zone on Route 147 at the intersection of Route 157

Ed explained that a citizen has experienced property damage from tractor trailers when travelling Northbound on Main Street and turning left onto Baileyville Road and following the Baileyville Road turnaround.

***Ed Bailey made motion, second by Bob Yamartino, to approve the request for signage from ConnDOT. Motion carried.***

31 Kikapoo Road Appraisal

Ed stated that an appraisal will be happening for this property. Anne Olszewski, Tax Collector, was present to note the well on the property could possibly be contaminated and that the property was never hooked up to the sewer. Ed explained that he made sure the sewer line was located and capped at the time the town took ownership of the parcel.

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Fund – Preliminary List

Mr. Bailey explained that the town has received \$674,000.00 in ARPA funds and will receive an additional installment of the same amount next June. He has been collecting suggestions for how to use these funds in our community.

Bob suggested a reloadable debit card that could be purchased at a discount to be used at businesses around town.

Durham & Middlefield Youth & Family Services, Local Wellness Coalition is currently using grant funds for their operation and these funds will be running out next year and Ed felt that this could be a good use for ARPA funds.

Discussion continued around other uses for these funds including:

Brookside Pump Station upgrade

King Road Pump Station repair

Middlefield Housing Authority Leaching Field replacement (if allowed) or possibly a new well

Grants to the Middlefield Community Service Council, Giving Garden, and Middlefield Food Bank

Middletown Area Transit and Nine Town Transit merger

Ed explained that he is attending meetings twice weekly with the transit district. A memorandum of understanding has been distributed and he believes that they have worked out an acceptable agreement with ConnDOT and the transit district. Once the agreement is finalized a town meeting will be scheduled to join the “Estuary Transit District”.

First Selectman's Report

Ed reported that a postcard went out to all residents regarding a new Composting Pilot Program. The pilot was developed with Durham & Middlefield, Coginchaug Area Transition, in association with DMIAAB, Carol Bufithis, Ed, and Laura Francis. The pilot program will help the team work out any issues that may arise in the hopes that there will be a town wide composting program within the year.

Adjournment

***Bob Yamartino made a motion, second by Ed Bailey, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Motion carried unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Tonya Hogan*

Tonya Hogan  
Assistant Town Clerk

Minutes Approved \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmed by \_\_\_\_\_