

MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
405 Main Street
Middlefield, Connecticut 06455

Minutes of the April 4, 2022 Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Bob Yamartino called the meeting to order at 6:33 PM. Bob Yamartino, Carol Bufithis and Jim Irish were present. Pam Deziel, Middlefield Assessor, was also in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Jim Irish made a motion, second by Carol Bufithis, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Public Comment

None.

Assessor's Report

Middlefield Assessor, Pam Deziel, discussed the recent Revaluation Process. She began by reviewing the Motor Vehicle portion of the Grand List. She explained that she had software installed to more accurately identify trailers, campers, motor homes, and incomplete trucks which have been difficult for assessors to identify in the past. Pam has spent some time addressing record keeping practices as well as implementing some procedural updates. With that she explained that the Board of Assessment Appeals met and hearings were conducted. There were 3 Personal Property appellants heard, and 14 Real Estate appellants heard. Decisions were reached and communicated to the appellants. Pam has also been working on updating the Veterans Records process to an electronic format. Homeowners and Veterans Applications and Renters Rebate programs have been noticed in the Senior newsletter. She is looking to establish a better tracking system for Building Permits and Inspections. She also worked with Tigh & Bond to create a map for the recent senate redistricting. Her next project will be a comprehensive audit of all PA490 forms for Farm, Forest and Open Spaces land to be sure they are all up to date in accordance with state statute. This will be a substantial project as there are 171 PA490 accounts in Middlefield.

Budget Update

Bob very briefly reviewed budget percentages and expenditures. He explained that his proposed budget is being worked on by the Board of Finance and noted a few minor changes for some line items.

ARP Distribution Update

The board discussed the amount of total potential funding that the Town could receive and the possibility to use some funds toward the Lake Shore Drive culvert project. Bob reviewed a quote for the Brookside Drive Pump Station. He noted that the Plainville Southington Health District could help with vetting a vendor to complete the work on the leaching field and water well at the Middlefield Housing Authority. Discussion continued around the various projects that are planned and a few potential projects that may qualify for funding.

Racial Equity Statement

Mr. Yamartino read the Racial Equity Statement into record.

Carol Bufithis made a motion, second by Jim Irish, to approve the Racial Equity Statement as read and attached. Motion carried.

New Business

- a. Boards and Commissions Appointments
 - i. Park and Recreation Commission
 - 1. David Lowry - 1/1/22-12/31/2025 – ALT Reappointment

Bob Yamartino made a motion, second by Carol Bufithis, to approve the appointment to the Park and Recreation Commission.

Selectmen/Selectwoman Report

- a. Affordable Housing Update

A public information presentation of the plan was done by Tyche Planning and Policy Group at a Public Hearing held on March 23rd. A copy of the presentation as well as a recording of the meeting are available on our town website.
- b. Review of information regarding potential for having live broadcasts of BOS and other Town Committee/Commission Meetings

Jim reported that the equipment should be up and running for the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Finance may also be using the equipment at their next meeting.
- c. Other

Jim explained that he was made aware of a Federal Grant for Community Project Funding and reached out to Rosa DeLauro's office to obtain applications. Unfortunately, the deadline is fast approaching and Jim is seeking assistance from a grant writer that Robin Newton suggested.

RiverCog is conducting an Emergency Management program called Resilient 2.0 to address climate change issues that arise from flooding and draught conditions. Jim will be in attendance for the program and asked Robing Newton and Rob Poturnicki to join as well.

Adjournment

Jim Irish made a motion, second by Carol Bufithis, 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 _____

TOWN of MIDDLEFIELD, CONNECTICUT



Board of Selectman

April 4, 2022

We, the Board of Selectmen of Middlefield, CT, have gone on record that discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, color, age, disability, gender identity, or any other basis is unacceptable in Middlefield, CT, and in District 13.

We assert our unwavering commitment to foster respect for all individuals in our town and community at large.

We are supportive of ongoing conversations, trainings and activities to help create and encourage a caring and inclusive environment that enriches our whole community.

Robert C. Yamartino
First Selectman

Carol L. Bufithis
Selectwoman

James R. Irish
Selectman

"This institution is an Equal Opportunity Employer"

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