

**Preston Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 22, 2018
Preston Town Hall
6:30 pm**

**BOS Present: Robert Congdon, Michael Sinko, Lynwood Crary
BOS Excused: None**

Call to Order

1st Selectman Congdon called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2018 Regular Meeting
February 15, 2018 Budget Workshop

**A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko to approve the February 8, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.
R. Congdon abstained. Motion carries.**

**A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko to approve the February 15, 2018 Budget Workshop Minutes as presented.
All in favor. Motion carries.**

New Business

1. Budget

**A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko to move Budget down on the agenda.
All in favor. Motion carries.**

2. Budget Workshops

March 1st

5:30 Fire Department

6:00 Parks & Recreation

6:30 Senior Affairs

7:00 Preston Redevelopment Agency

3. Capital Projects

1st Selectman Congdon met with Mark Chapman and Attorney Chudwick

Mark Chapman submitted a proposal from Roosevelt & Cross.

1st Selectman Congdon requested and received a proposal from Dime Bank.

1st Selectman Congdon presented and explained both proposals and noted that Roosevelt & Cross's

proposal was better for the Town financially.

A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko to waive Board of Finance on to the agenda.

All in favor. Motion carries.

4. Board of Finance

1st Selectman Congdon stated that the Board of Finance has made 2 requests of the Board of Selectmen.

- The BoF requests that the BoS have the Public Safety Committee reassess regional policing, i.e. having a State Trooper versus using Ledyard or Norwich police.

A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko that the BOS request the Public Safety Committee revisit their discussions with Ledyard and Norwich regarding regional police.

All in favor. Motion carries.

- The BoF requests that the BoS explore what it would cost to video and/or audio tape the BoF meetings and post them to the Town's website.

A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to waive Senior Affairs on to the agenda.

All in favor. Motion carries.

5. Senior Affairs

A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to transfer \$2028.00 from Senior Affairs line item Wages Bus and Van Drivers, and transfer to

- Cleaning Person \$28.00
- Congregate Meal \$2,000.00

All in favor. Motion carries

A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko to waive on to the agenda Connecticut Department Emergency Services and Public Protection.

All in favor. Motion carries.

6. Connecticut Department Emergency Services and Public Protection

A motion was made by L. Crary and seconded by M. Sinko that the BoS approve the Connecticut Department Emergency Services and Public Protection Resolution.

All in favor. Motion carries.

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that Robert Congdon, as First Selectman of the Town of Preston, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.
The undersigned further certifies that Robert Congdon now holds the office of First Selectman and that he has held that office since November 1995.*

**A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to waive on to the agenda Office of the Fire Marshal.
All in favor. Motion carries**

7. Office of the Fire Marshal

1st Selectman Congdon received a letter from Chief Tom Casey requesting that firefighter Michael Guiher be promoted to Lieutenant of the Preston Fire and Emergency Services.

The BoS stated that they do not object to the promotion, but will ask Chief Casey why the BoS is the appointing authority and not him.

Old Business

None

Reports

None

Appointments and /or Resignations

None

Tax Refunds

Chelsea Savings Bank – 12 Kimball Farm

A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to refund Chelsea Bank \$643.00 for overpayment of taxes.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Gary Lynch – 207 Route 165

A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to refund Gary Lynch \$352.80 for overpayment of taxes.

All in favor. Motion carries.

New Business

1. Budget

- Right now wages are at 3%
- There is ~ \$20,000 to \$30,000 in line items that still need more work.
- Right now, \$162,900.00 above last year.
- Of the increase \$160,869 is the 2nd resident trooper.
- \$27,111 is weekend ambulance
- The PRA is proposing \$43,400 higher than the current year.
- Totals \$231,000; if those 3 expenses are done away with the budget is lower than the current year.
- Health Care will have a 2% cost reduction.
- Town insurance will have a 2.5% reduction.
- Liability will have a 10% reduction.
- Worker's Compensation will have a 3% increase, which is based on wages.

Correspondence

1. Letter dated January 31, 2018 from CLA Engineers re: Riverwalk Dam inspection
2. Letter dated February 8, 2018 from Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board re: Audit for FY18.
3. Letter dated January 23, 2018 from John Spang re: Employment Contract
4. Letter dated February 6, 2018n from Tom Theve re: signs when running elections.
5. Letter dated February 9, 2018 from Fran Minor re: East River Energy
6. Letter dated February 12, 2018 from Chief Tom Casey re: Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
7. Letter dated February 13, 2018 from Edward Shea, NPU to Chief TomCasey re: Natural Gas Emergency training.
8. Letter dated January 18, 2018 from FEMA re: Thames Watershed Discovery report
9. Notice from Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments re February 28th National Flood Insurance Program.
10. Letter dated February 6, 2018 from Crown Castle re: Notice of Exempt Modification for Sprint Crown site BU: 876366
11. Letter dated February 7, 2018 from New London Homeless Hospitality Center re: Thank you for donation.

Public Comment

Andy Depta, Preston resident asked when will the town budget be available for public request.

1st Selectmen answered that Town Ordinance requires that it is submitted to the BoF by March 6th.

Andy Bilodeau, Preston resident noted that the fence is still down at Public Works

Andy Bilodeau, asked if the old back hoe will be disposed.

1st Selectman Congdon answered that it will probably be disposed of.

Andy Bilodeau noted that 1st Selectman has been driving a different vehicle and asked what is wrong with the vehicle he usually drives.

1st Selectman Congdon answered that there is nothing wrong with the vehicle, he just didn't want to hear any flack about driving a Town vehicle with only 1 leg, so he is driving his own vehicle.

Adjournment

A motion was made by M. Sinko ad seconded by L. Crary to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm.

All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Charpentier
recorder