

**Preston Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Thursday, July 8, 2021  
Preston Town Hall  
7:00 pm**

**BoS Present:** Sandra Allyn-Gauthier, Jerry Grabarek, Ken Zachem

**Call to Order**

1st Selectwoman Sandra Allyn-Gauthier called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

**Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes**

June 24, 2021 - Regular Meeting

**A motion was made by J. Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem to approve the June 24, 2021 Regular Meeting minutes as amended.**

**All in favor. Motion carries**

*2. Parks & Recreation line item transfer*

*A motion was made by J. Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem to approve the transfer of \$12,289.76 from Part Time Staff General line item #10.5.71.4500.4503.5171*

*to*

*General Rec Park: Repairs and Maintenance line item #10.5.78.4500.4503.5336, \$9,661.00*

*General Rec Park: Program Supplies line item #10.5.78.4500.4503.5610, \$1393.77*

*General Rec TH: Program Supplies line item #10.5.71.4500.4503.5610, \$1,234.76*

*contingent upon the quotes being approved by Parks & Recreation, and no encumbrances needed.*

*All in favor. Motion carries*

*4. Covid Update*

*1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier noted that the sooner the 5-% increases, the sooner we can stop wearing masks and have protection from the Delta variant.*

**Correspondence**

**1.** Letter dated June 14<sup>th</sup> from Attorney Matthew D. Ritter, Shipman & Goodwin to Sandra L. Allyn-Gauthier, First Selectwoman re: Bond Council Services

**2.** Letter dated June 16<sup>th</sup> from Kate Ayers, Staff Attorney Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to Sandra Allyn-Gauthier, First Selectman re: Resident Trooper Contract for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023.

**Reports**

None

**Appointments and/or Resignations**

None

## **New Business**

### **1. Fire Chief Search**

#### **Present:**

*David Paige, Chairman Emergency Services Advisory Committee*

*Russ Holland, Deputy Chief Poquetanuck Fire Department*

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier stated that Fire Chief Tom Casey will retire October 30<sup>th</sup>, and she met with Chief Casey and Dave Paige to discuss the search and selection process.

The draft timeline anticipates a new hire by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

Dave Paige explained that the Emergency Services Committee will screen the applicants and the last search 15 years ago resulted in 70 applicants from all over the country.

D. Paige noted that the proposed schedule is aggressive and the Emergency Services Committee might not make the November 1<sup>st</sup> date.

**A motion was made by J. Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem to waive Bridget Park, President Preston Historical Society on to the agenda.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

### **2. Bridget Park**

Bridget Park explained that the Historical Society would like support for Michael Carroll of Rediscovering History, Inc. proposal to clean up the Guiles Safford Cemetery located on Route 165 and the Killam Cemetery located on 49 Rose Hill Road

B. Park noted that the Preston Historical Society is fortunate to have someone to come in and help with cemeteries that need some help.

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier asked if it is known 100% that the cemeteries are owned by the town of Preston.

B. Park answered the Guiles Safford is owned by the Town but is not sure if Killam is owned by the Town or the State.

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier noted that the BoS can't give permission for Killam until it is known who owns it.

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier stated that for insurance purposes, Michael Carroll and his volunteers will need to sign a waiver of liability and release.

**A motion was made by J. Grabarek and seconded by K. Zachem to approve clean up at the Guiles Safford Cemetery located on Route 165 for work to begin on or around July 25<sup>th</sup> contingent upon verifying that the Guiles Safford Cemetery is owned by the town of Preston through the Preston Town Clerk with the provision that the parties that are participating in the clean up sign a waiver of release and liability.**

**All in favor. Motion carries.**

### **3. Covid Update**

1<sup>st</sup> Selectwoman Allyn-Gauthier gave the Covid vaccination percentages for the town of Preston

Residents who have received a 1<sup>st</sup> dose is at 58%

Residents who are fully vaccinated is at 55%

Preston is still not at the 70 to 80% that is required for herd immunity

### **Old Business**

None

### **Tax Refund**

None

### **Pubic Comment**

None

### **Adjournment**

**A motion was made by K. Zachem and seconded by J. Grabarek to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 pm.**

**All in favor. Motion carries**

Respectfully submitted,

*RT Charpentier*

Preston Recording Secretary