

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FINANCIAL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 8, 2025**

Present: John Dillon, Michael Hernandez, Robert Hetrick, Jr., Tim Lavoy, Michael Pelton, Jim Tripp

Others Present: Members of the Public and Media

1. FIRST SELECTMAN CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Deputy First Selectman Michael Hernandez called the Financial Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Buck-Foreman Community Room located at 265 Main Street, Portland, Connecticut.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ACCEPT AGENDA

Michael Pelton made a motion to accept the agenda, seconded by John Dillon, all were in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion carried.

4. APPROVE MINUTES: (Special) December 30, 2024 Minutes

John Dillon made a motion, seconded by Jim Tripp, to approve the (Special) December 30, 2024 minutes, Tim Lavoy abstained, all others were in favor, motion carried.

5. COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

Michael Hernandez announced that in observance of former President Jimmy Carter, all town offices, will be closed on Thursday, except for the medical rides provided by the Senior Center.

Robert Hetrick read a letter from Kim Hanna asking for support for Michael Hernandez to complete Ryan Curley's term as First Selectman.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

7. RESIGNATION OF FIRST SELECTMAN RYAN CURLEY/APPOINTMENT OF FIRST SELECTMAN FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE TERM STARTING 1/8/2025

With Ryan Curley's resignation being received, Michael Hernandez asked for nominations for a First Selectman to complete Ryan's term. Tim Lavoy nominated Michael Pelton. John Dillon made a statement regarding the tragedy Portland experienced and its resiliency, and seconded the nomination.

Vote:

Aye: Tim Lavoy, John Dillon, Michael Pelton, Jim Tripp.

Nay: Robert Hetrick, Michael Hernandez.

Motion carried.

8. APPOINTMENT TO BOS VACANCY

Tim Lavoy nominated Rick Sharr to fill the BOS vacancy, seconded by Michael Hernandez, all were in favor, motion carried.

9. APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- **Resignations:**

- D) T. Mareen O'Doherty, Inland Wetlands Commission (resigned 11/13/24)

- R) Matthew Walsh, Long-Range Capital Improvements Commission (resigned 12/9/24)

- R) Tim Lavoy, Long Range Capital Improvements Commission (resigned 1/3/25)

- **Appointments:** Brownfield Area Steering Committee (4); America 250/PortlandCT Committee (7+2 alternates)

- **Reappointments:**

Robert Hetrick nominated Captain Scott Cunningham to the Emergency Management Advisory Board, seconded by Jim Tripp, all were in favor, motion carried.

Robert Hetrick nominated Rebecca Esmi to the Inland Wetlands Commission seconded by Tim Lavoy, all were in favor, motion carried.

Robert Hetrick nominated Vincent Pitruzzello to the Long-Range Capital Commission, seconded by Jim Tripp, all were in favor, motion carried.

Robert Hetrick nominated Peter Lord to the Long-Range Capital Commission, seconded by Jim Tripp, all were in favor, motion carried.

Robert Hetrick nominated Joe Spada to the Water & Sewer Commission, seconded by Michael Pelton, all were in favor, motion carried.

Michael Pelton nominated Sarah Elliott-Caratasios to the America 250 Portland CT Committee, seconded by Michael Hernandez, all were in favor, motion carried.

John Dillon nominated Linda Prelli to the America 250 Portland CT Committee, seconded by Michael Hernandez, all were in favor, motion carried.

John Dillon nominated Thomas J. Bransfield to the Brownfield Steering Committee, seconded by Michael Hernandez, all were in favor, motion carried.

10. REFUNDS OF EXCESS PAYMENTS

Robert Hetrick made a motion, seconded by Michael Pelton, to reimburse Smuckers Foodservice Inc. [\$24.66], all were in favor; motion carried.

11. STATUS REPORTS

Jim Tripp reported that the well construction went down 160 feet and switched to a different size cable.

John Dillon reported on the BOE meeting that took place the night before. Stacy Beckham will take the place of Timothy Lavoy; two teachers have retired; a presentation was given with a 5-year lookback of progress in a number of areas in the school system. Some children struggled through covid. John recommends watching it on You Tube.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

13. BOARD OF SELECTMEN GENERAL INFORMAL DISCUSSION

Michael Hernandez congratulated Michael Pelton and Tim Lavoy in their new roles. John Dillon told of his past experience and volunteered his help as needed. Jim Tripp congratulated Tim and welcomed back Rick Sharr.

14. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

- **Review Town Charter**
- **Ethics Ordinance**
- **Discussion: First Amendment to Extension of Lease Agreement between Brownstone Exploration and Discovery Park LLC and the Town of Portland**

15. ADJOURN MEETING

Robert Hetrick made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by John Dillon, all were in favor; the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hoy

Sharon Hoy, Board Clerk