

Board of Selectmen Meeting
July 17, 2023
7:30 pm (in-person only)
Town Hall Hearing Room
100 Hill Rd, Redding CT

Present: Selectwoman Julia Pemberton, Selectwoman Peg O'Donnell, Selectman Michael Thompson. Also present: Janet August Recording Secretary, members of the public.

1. Call to Order

Selectwoman Julia Pemberton called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

MOTION: Ms. O'Donnell moved to adjust the agenda by placing the Executive Session (item #3) after the Committees Update (item #4). Seconded by Mr. Thompson. Motion unanimously approved.

2. Approval of BOS Meeting Minutes from June 20, 2023

MOTION: Ms. O'Donnell moved to accept the minutes of June 20, 2023. Motion seconded by Mr. Thompson. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Committee Updates

Gilbert and Bennett Wire Mill Advisory Committee (GBWMAC)

Ms. Pemberton stated the Ward Mazzucco has asked to step down from the GBWMAC, due to his other responsibilities as chair of the Board of Finance. Mr. Mazzucco recommended that Robert Dean, also from the Board of Finance, replace him. Ms. Pemberton stated that she spoke with Mr. Dean and he is willing to serve on the GBWMAC.

MOTION: Ms. O'Donnell moved to appoint Robert Dean to the GBWMAC. Seconded by Mr. Thompson. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pemberton shared that a site walk with the GBWMAC and the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) was held earlier today at the mill. Most of the available SHPO grants do not apply to the mill site; however, a smaller grant is available that could fund the cost for an architect to evaluate how to stabilize the buildings.

As part of a previous \$200,000 grant for the mill site, Tighe & Bond (T&G) did a visual examination of the buildings along with other environmental work. The Town recently received another \$200,000 grant for additional work at the site. T&G is conducting additional testing next week. Ms. Pemberton stated that there are signs of additional deterioration in the weaving building.

Economic Development Committee (EDC)

At the committee's last meeting, they discussed the results of the small survey sent to businesses in West Redding. They want to conduct a more comprehensive survey encompassing the entire town. Next steps for the committee include developing a survey scope, methodology, and the survey itself.

The EDC is also thinking about developing a useful guide for opening a business that could be given to prospective business owners.

4. Executive Session: Legal Issues related to the Wire Mill Property, property tax appeals and other pending or threatened claims.

MOTION: Mr. Thompson moved to enter executive session. Seconded by Ms. O'Donnell. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board entered executive session at 7:43pm.

The Board exited the executive session at 9:05pm and returned to the public session.

5. Other business.

None.

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Ms. O'Donnell moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Mr. Thompson. Approved unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:07pm.

Submitted by:

Janet August, Recording Secretary