

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
June 1, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber as well as via GoToMeeting by Chairman Polhamus. Members present: Mmes: Ausiello, Maguire, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber. Mr. Indomenico was absent. A quorum was present.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

**III. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**22/23-93 Proposed Amendments to Chapter 43 of the Town Code of Ordinances,  
"Peddlers, Solicitors & Closeout Sales"**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council open the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Chairman Polhamus waived the reading of the following notice:

"TOWN OF AVON  
LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Avon, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, Selectmen's Chamber, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT, and virtually to consider and permit all interested persons to speak in connection with:

The plan of the Town Council to amend and restate Town Ordinance Chapter 43 – Peddlers, Solicitors & Closeout Sales. The recommended changes are: (1) to remove references to itinerant vendors and itinerant vendor licensing in order to comply with current state law and (2) to clarify the definition of the term Solicitor.

A copy of the proposed amendments is on file in the Avon Town Clerk's Office and open to the public for inspection during normal business hours.

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

Brandon L. Robertson, Town Manager"

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council close the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the recommended changes and amend and restate Town Ordinance Chapter 43 – Peddlers, Solicitors & Closeout Sales as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-96**     **Proposed Amendments to Chapter 41 of the Town Code of Ordinances,**  
**Parks & Recreation Public Place Regulations**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council open the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Chairman Polhamus waived the reading of the following notice:

“TOWN OF AVON

LEGAL NOTICE

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Avon, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, Selectmen’s Chamber, 60 West Main Street, Avon, CT, and virtually to consider and permit all interested persons to speak in connection with:

To consider and permit all interested persons to speak on the plan of the Town Council to amend and restate Town Ordinance Chapter 41 – Public Place Regulations. The recommended changes will be to Appendix B, “Public Place Classifications, User Codes and Fees” & the addition of Section VIII “Public Place Rules,” Subsections J and K: (1) a limitation on the types of alcohol containers that will be allowed (by permit only) at the Senior Center, Countryside Park building and the Sycamore Hills Pavilion (cans and boxes only, no glass) and (2) a clear statement of the Town’s “Carry in, Carry out” policy relative to garbage.

A copy of the proposed amendments is on file in the Avon Town Clerk’s Office and open to the public for inspection during normal business hours.

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

Brandon L. Robertson, Town Manager”

Ms. Ausiello commented on the reference to “beer and wine only may be served in boxes, no glass” and other types of alcoholic beverages being served in cans.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council close the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the recommended changes and amend and restate Town Ordinance Chapter 41 – Public Place Regulations as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-102**     **Neighborhood Assistance Act**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council open the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Chairman Polhamus waived the reading of the following notice:

“TOWN OF AVON

LEGAL NOTICE  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Avon, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday, June 1, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, Selectmen's Chamber, 60 West Main Street, and virtually for the following purpose:

To consider participation in the Neighborhood Assistance Act in accordance with  
Public Act 95-268

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.

Brandon L. Robertson, Town Manager"

Gina Kline, President, Avon Volunteer Fire Department, commented that their application is for boiler replacements at Company 4 and Company 2; both systems have been failing on a regular basis. It was noted that last year the AVFD received some funds towards last year's application for solar panels.

Jim Griffin, The Sam & Elizabeth Colt Industrial and Frontier Heritage Center, commented that their request is related to refurbishing two brownstone buildings; the Colt Gun Company provided \$20,000 last year; the Colt site has so much history to it; and he credited George O'Neill for his ongoing contributions to the project.

Jennifer Bennett, Senior Center Coordinator, Avon Senior Center, commented that their request is an effort to expand and enhance technology related to programs at the Avon Senior Center.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council close the public hearing.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the following programs for submittal to the Department of Revenue Services:

- a) Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. - \$32,800.00
- b) Avon Senior Center - \$1,000.00
- c) Nutmeg Symphony Orchestra - \$64,460.00
- d) The Sam & Elizabeth Colt Industrial and Frontier Heritage Center - \$150,000.00

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS:** May 4, 2023

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the May 4, 2023 Meeting as drafted.

Mmes; Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE** - None

**VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL**

Mrs. Maguire congratulated Mr. Weber's son Jonah on his Avon Dollars for Scholars scholarship; 69 scholarships were awarded this year. She highlighted the Memorial Day parade; Avon does a great job with this thanks to the Avon Volunteer Fire Department, Public Works, and so many others. She noted the National Trails Day Hike with Town Council is scheduled for Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Fisher Meadows. She gave a shoutout to BeanZ and Co. who are in the process of moving to Old Avon Village; they are a great business in Town and take care of so many people; and they raised close to \$75,000 through GoFundMe.

Mr. Weber thanked Mrs. Maguire for her work with Avon Dollars for Scholars; the generosity of the businesses and people of the Town to keep it going and the commitment to our youth. He noted tomorrow is senior prom and hope all stay safe and well, followed by graduation. He added that the National Trails Day Hike starts at 10 AM on Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. He noted the following: ribbon-cutting ceremony next Friday for the Sycamore Hills Playscape; the FY 24 Budget passed; the Town Council Bike Ride was a fun evening; echoed sentiments regarding the Memorial Day; and he attended the recent bear forum – an extremely informative evening, keep trash bins inside, and the best thing we can do is “scare the bear” to avoid them from forming a habitat.

Ms. Ausiello echoed sentiments and expressed thanks regarding the Memorial Day parade, the Town Council Bike Ride, and the bear forum. She noted the Friends for Equity community dialogue session held last night which was well-attended. She noted it is Family Picnic Night on June 9<sup>th</sup> at Sycamore Hills Recreation Area; it is Pride Month; and there is a Juneteenth celebration on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Polhamus noted the representation from the Town at the Friends for Equity community dialogue, including the Avon Police Department, local groups, Avon Public Schools, etc. He thanked all involved with the Memorial Day parade.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **16/17-51 Town and Public Safety Communication System Replacement Project (Town Wide Radio System)**

The Town Manager recognized Chief of Police Paul Melanson, Tom Kline, and Fire Chief Bruce Appell who are in attendance tonight, as well as John Zematis; all have played an important role in moving this along. He highlighted the two requests before Council tonight. He noted that the system as it is now designed is going to rely on three locations; site at the Landfill (Huckleberry Hill) where Council approved the lease agreement with SBA last year and has been through the CT Siting Council and have all approvals to proceed, site at Ridgewood Drive with modifications requiring land use approval, and site with the State located at Troop H. He noted that most of Avon's cost for the project will be related to work done at the Ridgewood Drive site; the original bond authorization approved in December 2018 was for an amount up to \$3.8 million; the revised project cost is about \$3.6 million; from the \$3.6 million we deduct the original 10% of the project paid to Motorola in 2018 and a few other smaller reductions; it brings us down to a project cost of approximately \$3.3 million and then add a little back for bond issuance costs along with a contingency of about \$228,000 going into the project. Next steps are to move forward with the State, execute the CT Land Mobile Radio Network (CLMRN) agreement, and work with Motorola to finalize the amendment to the original contract signed in 2018 to reflect the updated pricing

proposals and other changes that have been made to the number of user devices. He noted that there will be ongoing operating costs to keep the new system current; we would be under warranty with Motorola for a year following the installation and after that we would need to execute an ongoing maintenance agreement which would cost \$90,000 in the first year (2025) with slight increases projected after that. He added that by joining the State system and with the ongoing operating costs we are getting 24/7 monitoring, all of the purchasing power of the State behind us with Motorola; an amount and value with that arrangement that we could not duplicate if we were doing this alone; in addition, by having the State involved it takes a lot more of the onsite responsibility away from the Police Department.

Chief of Police Paul Melanson noted that 90 municipalities are already on the State system and several of those police departments speak very highly of the system; the interoperability and responsiveness has been great for them, and it has been a very good relationship. He came to the same conclusion that our former Director of Police Services came to; officers are extremely excited about this project. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Weber, Chief Melanson responded that the actual radios would look similar to the current ones, but they will actually work for police, fire, EMS, and the schools; we will be able to communicate on a daily basis and during emergency situations. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Chief Melanson responded that there are experts with the State that we have talked with to decide on the necessary equipment needed. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, The Town Manager responded that the \$100,000 supplemental appropriation request is not currently budgeted, and we are now recommending use of ARPA funds. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Tom Kline responded that schools will have a commercial grade system and let us reuse all portables and mobiles that police and fire are using now; it is now a separate project through a local vendor; it will include 2-way radios with an antenna (approximately 3' in height) on top of each school and the repeaters have fiber optic connectivity to connect them back to the Central Office and the Police Department. Chief Melanson noted that the State recommended the Town go this route with the schools, a more economical approach.

The Town Manager noted the amount of work, thought, and effort that went into this project; the hours put in by Tom Kline, John Zematis, Grace Tiezzi, and Chief Melanson. He added that Chief Melanson engaged in discussions with the State and led to a \$2 million bond authorization which pays for 100% of the work at the Landfill site and they are making other upgrades to allow us to join the State system. He recognized the Planning and Engineering Departments, the Town Attorney; it was a very complex team effort. This project is all about enabling our public safety personnel to provide service. Council thanked all involved with the project. Chairman Polhamus noted that this is a huge step forward and has had the support of every Town Council going back several years.

#### **a) Approval of License Agreement with CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a Connecticut Land Mobile Radio Network (CLMRN) License Agreement between the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Town of Avon as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**b) Supplemental Appropriation (ARPA), \$100,000**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 22/23 Budget by increasing:

**REVENUES**

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$100,000 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, BOE CIP-Facilities, Digital Mobile Radio System-ARPA, Account #50-4859-54604 in the amount of \$100,000 for the purchase and installation of a Digital Mobile Radio System for the Avon Public Schools.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**21/22-46     American Rescue Plan Act: Discussion re: Projects List**

Chairman Polhamus noted the \$100,000 supplemental appropriation for the Digital Mobile Radio System that was just approved.

**22/23-70     Appointment: Town Council Representative-Farmington Valley Health District (12/31/2023)**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council table agenda item 22/23-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-Farmington Valley Health District (12/31/2023) to the July 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-79     Avon Volunteer Fire Department Facility Expansion, Renovation & New Construction**

**a. Review, Discuss, and Approval: Building Committee Charge**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council hereby adopts the following CHARGE to the Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) Fire Station Expansion, Renovation & New Construction Building Committee:

**BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accepted the “Statement of Need for Avon Volunteer Fire Department Facility Expansion, Renovation & New Construction,” at its regular meeting on May 4, 2023 and further,

**RESOLVED:** That a Committee, “The Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) Fire Station Expansion, Renovation & New Construction Building Committee,” consisting of seven (7) members, the composition of which shall include no more than three (3) member(s) of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department, is hereby established for an indefinite term to:

1. Organize in an appropriate manner to carry out the functions of the Committee to include a chair appointed by the Town Council and a vice-chair/secretary to be selected by the chair with the approval of the Committee membership.

2. Familiarize itself with **Town Council Policy #13, “Procedures for Constructing Public Buildings – Avon, Connecticut.”** These procedures have been developed by the Town Attorney and define the Town Charter and Connecticut General Statutes steps and requirements to be followed during a building project.
3. Familiarize itself with the **“Avon Fire Department Plan for the Future”** analysis, adopted by the Town Council December 1, 2022.
4. **Phase I:** (1) Conduct an open and competitive process to identify a qualified architectural firm to provide the scope of services outlined below; (2) recommend said firm to the Town Council for a contract award; and (3) work with the selected firm to carry out the scope of services:
  - a. Determine how the permanent additions and renovations to the existing Company #1 facility at 25 Darling Drive can be fulfilled, including informal reviews by the appropriate land use commissions of the Town, and;
  - b. Determine how the new Company #3 facility can be constructed on the available West Avon Road parcels (503, 511 and 519 West Avon Road), including reviews by the appropriate land use commissions of the Town, and;
  - c. Determine how the permanent additions and renovations to existing Company #4 facility at 365 Huckleberry Hill Road can be fulfilled, including informal reviews by the appropriate land use commissions of the Town, and;
  - d. Provide appropriate sketches, schematics and detailed cost estimates for the projects and their components necessary for presentation and acceptance by the Town Council, and to assist the Town Council and the Building Committee as appropriate and necessary for the preparation and presentation of materials for a Special Town Meeting and Referendum Vote.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

1. That the Committee members shall submit a disclosure to the Town Clerk’s Office as required by Policy #19 of the Town Council titled “Standards of Conduct for Public Officials and Policy #13 Procedures for Constructing Public Buildings.”
2. That Committee members shall not receive compensation for their services. Necessary expenses of the Committee shall be included in the cost of the project.
3. The records of the Committee shall be filed with the Town Clerk and open to public inspection during normal business hours.
4. Upon completion of the project, the Committee shall make a complete report and accounting to the Town Council.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**b. Appoint Building Committee Members**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint James Speich (Chairman), James DiPace, Gina Kline, Brian McDermott, Mark Massaro, Raz Alexe, and Brian Mirizzi to the Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD) Fire Station Expansion, Renovation & New Construction Building Committee.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**22/23-104 Proclamation: LGBTQ+ Pride Month and Flag Display**

Chairman Polhamus noted that it is important that we continue to show our support for LGBTQ+ residents. He read aloud the following proclamation.

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon cherishes the value and dignity of each person and appreciates the importance of equality and freedom, and;

**WHEREAS**, all are welcome to live, work, and play in the Town of Avon and every family, in any shape, deserves a place to call home where they are safe, happy and supported by friends and neighbors, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon denounces prejudice and discrimination based on age, gender identity, gender expression, race, color, religion, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, or physical attributes as an affront to our fundamental principles, and;

**WHEREAS**, the month of June was chosen for LGBTQ+ Pride Month to commemorate the anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, which occurred in June 1969 and became a catalyst for the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement in the United States, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon, recognizes, appreciates, and encourages the cultural, civic, academic, artistic, and economic contributions of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, plus (LGBTQ+) community which strengthen our social welfare, and;

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative that all members of our community, but most especially our young people, feel valued, safe, empowered, and supported by their peers and community leaders, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or expression, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Avon affirms our support for our LGBTQ+ residents and their allies and stand with them to protect their civil rights and their ability to live openly and without fear.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Avon hereby declares the month of June 2023 as LGBTQ+ Pride Month in the Town of Avon and urges residents to recognize the contributions made by members of the LGBTQ+ community and to actively promote the principles of equality, liberty and justice in our society.

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the proclamation as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council hereby approves the display of the Pride flag on the flagpole located at the Avon Free Public Library. The Pride flag shall be displayed for the month of June in recognition of LGBTQ+ Pride Month.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-105 Eagle Scout Proclamations**

Chairman Polhamus read aloud the following proclamation.

June 1, 2023

Permit the Town Council to join your many friends in offering our heartiest congratulations upon your achievement as an Eagle Scout.



This is indeed an appropriate honor for the many years you have spent as a Boy Scout. Through the years you have spent in scouting you have had to show qualities of leadership, integrity, loyalty, and service to your troop, community, school, religion, and your friends. The high standards of the Boy Scouts of America are well known and your elevation to Eagle Scout most certainly attests to your fulfillment of their high standards. Congratulations on your outstanding achievement!

Dan Polhamus, Chairman  
Avon Town Council

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve proclamations for the following Scouts that will achieve Eagle rank: Daniel Lachlan Hamilton, Conor Raymond Mussa, and John Theodore Pavlakis.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-106    Review and Discuss: Update and Expansion of Recreation and Parks Master Plan RFP**

Ruth Checko, Director of Recreation and Parks, provided a summary of the draft RFP for a Recreation and Parks Master Plan; it is very important that the 10-year plan be realistic, manageable, and feasible. Mr. Weber noted that the RFP is well written, comprehensive in scope and addresses concerns we had with regards to space needs as well as including the public for comment. Ms. Ausiello agreed that the RFP is comprehensive. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Checko responded that a presentation will be made to the Town Council following the public meetings. The Assistant Town Manager noted that a “stakeholder” meeting with Avon Little League can be taken care of via a zoom call. Mrs. Maguire commented that the Board of Education should be considered a “stakeholder” regarding facility space and use based on needs and demographics. Ms. Checko noted that the goal with pickleball is to replace the two courts at Sycamore Hills and add two courts at Avon Middle School, sharing courts for tennis and not dedicated courts.

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the Update and Expansion of Recreation and Parks Master Plan RFP document as presented.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-107    Support for Community Events Grant Program Award, \$6,180**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council award the Avon Lions Club a grant through the Community Events Grant Program in the amount of \$6,180 to support the Avon Hometown Festival.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Chairman Polhamus noted that the next award is scheduled for November 2023. He shared that the Farmington Valley Arts Center has an idea about doing artistic light installations around the Town green area and will circle back with them about applying through this grant program.

**22/23-108    Approve Resolution: Complete Streets**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council, on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2023, adopts this resolution in support of the continued implementation of the Complete Streets design strategy on public roads within the Town of Avon.

**WHEREAS:** “Complete Streets” describes a comprehensive, integrated transportation network with infrastructure and design that allows for safe and convenient travel for all users, including pedestrians, bicyclists, persons with disabilities, motorists, transit vehicles, emergency responders, users and operators of public transportation, seniors, children, youth and families, and;

**WHEREAS:** Public Act 09-154, “An Act Improving Bicycle and Pedestrian Access” requires the integration of Complete Streets principles in every state-funded highway, road or street project that is implemented by the State of Connecticut or a Municipality of the State, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Town of Avon’s 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development includes an endorsement of the Complete Streets concept by the Planning & Zoning Commission; encouraging investments by the Town, State and private developers to improve existing infrastructure and construct new roadways that meet the objectives of Complete Streets, and;

**WHEREAS:** Avon residents have expressed a desire and need for additional opportunities for walking and bicycling and in response the Town has engaged in a Bicycle & Pedestrian Master Planning effort in order to develop prioritized recommendations for improving and expanding the Town’s existing bicycle and pedestrian network, and;

**WHEREAS:** Complete Streets contributes toward the safety, health, economic vitality and quality of life in a community by providing safe, convenient, and efficient connections between home, school, work, recreation and other destinations, and improving the Town’s existing transportation network by creating a connected and comprehensive network, and;

**WHEREAS:** Complete Streets policies are commonly implemented by local government agencies that are regularly involved in the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of a transportation network as a method of improving travel conditions for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit, and freight in a manner consistent with, and supportive of, all transit users, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Town is already in the practice of including Complete Streets concepts as part of state- and town-funded projects that are completed within the Town’s road network, where practicable, and;

**WHEREAS:** The Town recognizes that the implementation of a Complete Streets Policy will be an essential tool to aid in the Town’s pursuits to apply for state funding to support local transportation projects in the near future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** in consideration of all of the above, that the Town Council of the Town of Avon supports the tenants of Complete Streets and makes the following policy statements:

1. The Town will strive, where practical and economically feasible, to incorporate “Complete Streets” elements into transportation projects in order to provide appropriate accommodation for bicyclists, pedestrians, transit users, and persons of all ages and abilities, while promoting safe operation of vehicles, both motorized

- and non-motorized, for all users in comprehensive and connected networks and in a manner that is consistent with, and supportive of, the surrounding communities.
2. The Town will coordinate with Town staff, and municipal boards, commissions and committees, the Capitol Region Council of Governments, the Connecticut Department of Transportation and related advisory and community organizations to develop appropriate Complete Streets implementation strategies.
  3. The Town will develop new, or revise, existing documents in order to integrate Complete Streets implementation strategies in all roadway projects where practicable. This may include the development and adoption of a Complete Streets Ordinance, and/or the development or revision of relevant planning documents, including the Plan of Conservation & Development; regulations, including zoning and subdivision regulations; guidelines; codes; procedures; design standards and templates.
  4. The Town will create and maintain a comprehensive inventory of pedestrian and bicycle facility infrastructure and develop a list of prioritized projects with budgetary requirements, to eliminate gaps in the bicycle and pedestrian network.

The Town Council acknowledges that the foregoing policy statements will not apply under the following circumstances:

- a. Transportation improvement projects where specific users are already prohibited by law, such as pedestrian only pathways.
- b. Transportation improvement projects where the cost of accommodation necessary to implement Complete Streets has been demonstrated and documented to be excessively disproportionate to the need or probable use, as determined by the Town Manager after discussion with appropriate staff.
- c. Transportation improvement projects that are to be funded by a budget appropriation approved prior to the date of adoption of this resolution.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-109 Contract Award: Design Services for the Reconstruction of Old Farms Road (Phase II – East/West Section)**

In response to a question from Mr. Weber, the Town Manager responded that WMC will have continuity with the other section of Old Farms Road.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council award a contract to Wengell, McDonnell, and Costello of Newington, CT in an amount not to exceed \$249,000 to provide design, permitting and bidding services in support of the Reconstruction of Old Farms Road (Phase II – East/West Section).

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-110 Review, Discuss, Set Public Hearing: Sanitary Sewer Easements: 239 Old Farms Road**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council set a public hearing to be held at their July 27, 2023 meeting to consider the acceptance of two sanitary sewer easements as defined below:

The Easements shall be located on that certain piece or parcel of land located at 239 Old Farms Road and situated in the Town of Avon, County of Hartford and State of Connecticut said Easement Parcel being shown and designated as “PROPOSED SANITARY SEWER EASEMENT” on a certain map entitled “Sanitary Sewer Easement Plan” prepared for Towpath Condominium Association. The location of the Easements on the Easement Parcel as shown as the Easement Plan shall be referred to herein as the “Easement Area.”

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-111 Contract Extension: Health & Welfare Benefits Consultant**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve a contract extension with Lockton Companies, LLC of Farmington, CT for a two-year period beginning October 1, 2023 and ending on September 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$148,000 (Year 1 \$73,000; Year 2 \$75,000) for health and welfare benefit consultant services.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-112 Contract Award: Provision of Hauling & Equipment Services for Town Transfer Station**

Mr. Weber inquired about the year over year increase. The Assistant Town Manager responded that it is not a tremendous increase but will report back with that information. She noted that we have a contract with CWPM for the dumpsters on Town properties.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council award a three-year contract to Paine’s Inc. of Simsbury, CT in an amount not to exceed \$435,363.96 to provide hauling and equipment services from the Transfer Station.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-113 Approval of Real Estate Tax Refunds, \$14,884.39**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve real estate tax refunds to Ryan Baca, \$1,492.39; Liberty Bank, \$7,186.08; Donald Holbrook, \$1,991.46; and Amber Berry, \$4,214.46.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-114 Approval of Motor Vehicle Tax Refund, \$2,003.43**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve a motor vehicle tax refund to Sherry Lang or Andrew Lang in the amount of \$2,003.43.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-115 Sign Tax Warrant (Rate Bill)**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council sign and execute the Tax Warrant (Rate Bill) as presented by the Office of the Collector of Revenue.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-116    Resignation: Deputy Registrar of Voters (D)**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Carmen Rourke as Deputy Registrar of Voters.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-117    Resignation: Amplify, Inc. (D – 12/31/2023)**

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Mary-Jane Eisen from Amplify, Inc.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Chairman Polhamus noted that leaves one member from the Town on this board and this vacancy will not be filled at this time.

**22/23-118    Appointment: Assistant Town Attorney (Tax Appeal Matter)**

The Town Manager noted that the Town Attorney has a conflict with the representation of the Town regarding a tax appeal matter. Chairman Polhamus added that this tax appeal matter had been brought before the Board of Assessment Appeals.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint Thomas A. Kaelin, Attorney-At-Law, as Assistant Town Attorney.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**IX.    TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS**

**Misc. A: Purchasing Update:** The Assistant Town Manager noted that with regards to the Green Bank Solar MAP, Verogy is ready to begin construction once the school year concludes. The Town Manager noted that with regard to the Old Farms Road Phase I (North/South Section) State Project No. 004-0001, we are working toward an August bid award with construction starting before the end of the year. He noted that with regards to the Route 44 Pump Station Rehabilitation, the cost may require a Special Town Meeting for approval, perhaps in early September.

**Misc. B: Construction Update:** The Town Manager noted that Countryside Park Renovations are going well. Chairman Polhamus inquired about the completion date with that project. The Assistant Town Manager added that Sycamore Hills tennis courts are expected to re-open this fall.

**Misc. C: ARPA Project Updates:** No additional highlights were provided.

**Misc. D: Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan:** The Town Manager reported that the next meeting is scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Misc. E: Route 44 Pump Station Project:** No additional highlights were provided.

The Town Manager reported that the Town has been designated a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community by the League of American Bicyclists, in huge part by the Assistant Town Manager and Fran Gurtman, co-leader of BikeWalkAvonCT.

The Town Manager shared that Paul Welsh has been appointed as Operations Manager with Public Works and starts his new role next Monday.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Collective Bargaining

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Polhamus, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council enter into Executive Session at 8:53 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

The Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager, and the Clerk attended the session.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council come out of Executive Session at 9:08 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**22/23-118 Possible Action on Item Discussed in Executive Session (DPW Contract)**

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to execute a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Public Works Union as presented by the Town Manager for the three-year period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2026 which has been ratified by the Public Works Union.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

**XII. ADJOURN**

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:09 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor.

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk