

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
September 1, 2022**

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: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico. A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: None

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: July 28, 2022

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the July 28, 2022 Meeting as drafted. Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Adam Lazinsk, 88 Deepwood Drive, noted the recent passing of former Town Clerk, Caroline LaMonica; it was his pleasure to have known her for many years and to work with her as a fellow Town employee; she was a friend and a friend to many people; her knowledge of the old Town of Avon that none of us experienced was voluminous and he had the opportunity to speak with her at VFW dinners; and he was saddened to hear of her passing.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Chairman Polhamus shared a brief statement that this week we learned of an unspeakable tragedy involving Sgt. Jacius; most importantly we all wish to offer our condolences to the family of the victim, Doreen Jacius, and to the entire community of East Granby; we continue to learn more about Doreen as a member in her community and the impact of her loss has been felt widely; we also offer to wish condolences to our police department who lost a friend and long-time colleague, support has been initiated, and we and the community will continue to support you in any way possible to heal from this; looking forward, one of the requirements in the recent Police Accountability Bill was to instate mandatory mental health screening within a five year window for officers; we should aim to use this experience to reflect upon, provide feedback for what may be valuable components of these assessments to prevent this kind of tragedy from ever repeating here or anywhere across our broader community.

Ms. Ausiello hopes that everyone had a good start to the school year and looking forward to what we have before us to discuss tonight.

Mr. Weber thanked Mr. Polhamus' for his statement and echoed his thoughts. He noted that Avon Public Schools started on Monday and asked drivers to slow down because our children are out and about and good luck to all students, teachers, faculty, and staff. He added that it was neat to see Dream Ride pass through Avon.

Mrs. Maguire echoed Mr. Polhamus' statement; she is thinking about the Avon Police Department and East Granby Library and the hard time that they are going through and thoughts and prayers to all of them. She extended good luck to students returning to school. She shared that the Avon Lions are sponsoring a Hometown Heroes recognition on September 11th following the Avon Volunteer Fire Department's 9/11 ceremony; the event proceeds will go back to the Avon Police Department and Avon Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Indomenico thanked Mr. Polhamus for his statement and echoed his sentiment. He also noted the passing of Caroline LaMonica; he met her a few years ago while campaigning, she invited him into her home, and she shared great stories about her time in Avon and she will definitely be missed by the community.

Mr. Polhamus asked the Town Manager to share how impactful Caroline LaMonica was in Avon. The Town Manager noted that she lived her entire life in Avon; her father was the caretaker for the estate off Montevideo Road and shared stories about the different visitors; she was a very unusual person in terms of the level of the commitment to the community; her first official position with the Town was in 1962 as Registrar of Voter, in 1965 she became supernumerary in the Avon Police Department and in 1968 she resigned that position when she was appointed as Town Clerk; in 2007 she retired as Town Clerk but continued to serve as Clerk to the Town Council until 2015 or so; she was recognized in 1986 by the Secretary of the State's Office as Connecticut Town Clerk of the Year; she received several community recognitions through the years; she knew everything there was to know about Avon; she was Acting Town Manager while prior Town Manager Phil Schenck was activated for Desert Storm; she had a great long life and leaves a legacy of service that cannot be matched. Mr. Polhamus noted that looking at the agenda tonight there are several items that Caroline LaMonica had a big impact on; his first conversation with her was when he asked her to stay on as our liaison to the seniors and she said she would happily do so and told him how she was responsible for building the Senior Center; he noted the construction at Building #2 on Town Hall campus for the vault addition and as Caroline LaMonica spent a lot of time in the Town Clerk's Office we are kicking around the idea of a commemoration at the vault with a memorial plaque for Caroline LaMonica, a great way to remember her impact here.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

14/15-20 Old Farms Road Phase 1 – North/South Section – State Project No. L004-0001

a) Review, Discuss, and Approval: Project Referendum Mailer

Mr. Polhamus noted that Council has received a copy of the updated mailer. The Town Manager added that the FAQ supplement will be posted on the Town's web site. Council requested the addition of a note in the mailer to reference where the FAQ supplement can be found. The Town Manager thanked the Assistant Town Manager and Town Engineer for all the time spent putting the mailer together.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the Project Referendum Mailer with the amendment to the wording with respect to the FAQ supplement.

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

b) **To consider and act upon a resolution, to recommend an appropriation, entitled: “Resolution Appropriating \$5,459,458 Of Grant Funding For Costs Related To The Relocation And Reconstruction Of A Section Of Old Farms Road In The Town Of Avon”**

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

RESOLVED: That the resolution entitled “Resolution Appropriating \$5,459,458 Of Grant Funding For Costs Related To The Relocation And Reconstruction Of A Section Of Old Farms Road In The Town Of Avon,” a copy of which is attached hereto, is hereby referred to the Board of Finance for review and recommendation for approval by the legal voters of the Town at a Special Town Meeting adjourned to a Referendum vote.

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

c) **Schedule Public Hearing-Avon Old Farms School-Land Exchange**

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 October 6, 2022 meeting to consider to adopt an Agreement with The Avon Old Farms School for the acquisition of real property and permanent easements, and to abandon portions of the existing Old Farms Road, in support of the realignment of Old Farms Road as depicted on the following map: “PROPOSED RIGHT OF WAY AND EASEMENT PLAN. REALIGNMENT OF OLD FARMS ROAD, AVON, CONNECTICUT, scale 1”=100’ by Fuss & O’Neill dated August 2022.”

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

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

Paul Melanson, Chief of Police, provided a brief presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Tom Kline, Senior Network Administrator, Avon Public Schools, and John Zematis, Police Records Manager, were also in attendance. The Town Manager recognized Mr. Kline and Mr. Zematis who have been along for the entire ride thus far for this project. He noted that the direction we have been heading is a complete tie in with the State of Connecticut, an extension of their system which means we wouldn’t be building out the WFSB tower site and we would be co-locating on the Troop H tower which reduces the number of sites we have to maintain and build out from a capital perspective. He added that by going onto the State’s system there are incentives we can access; there will also be annual recurring operating cost; it is a very complicated system; and the State has a robust monitoring service for these types of systems. He noted that we are approaching the school solution differently; it now becomes independent from the overall system; each school is going to be fitted out with a repeater, a much less expensive radio goes out on the playground that calls into the school and there is a repeater that connects to the overall system; that coverage is still a function of the overall backbone; it is a more economic approach to the solution. Mr. Kline added that the Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) system is a commercial grade

system that businesses, hotels, and other schools in the State are using; it is compatible with the radios that the Avon Police Department, Avon Volunteer Fire Department, and Public Works have today; once those services move to the new P-25 system, all existing radio hardware will get transferred to the schools and increase their capacity of the number of units. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Kline responded that now if there is an emergency, each school is an island with the radio system, they can talk point to point between two radios and a deficiency they have is the signal not making it from portable to portable; this would require the addition of an antenna on the school roof; it would be a digital system so the repeaters would link together over our fiber connectivity and then tie in with the Dispatch Center. He noted that right now there is an administrative channel that works on a repeater in the center of town and is shared with Public Works and is part of the coverage problems we have covering the Town. Ms. Ausiello commented that this would increase our safety net at the schools. Mr. Kline noted that it will be more commonplace equipment so easier to get and we can get that project done and the schools will start seeing the benefit of that even before the P-25 system is done. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Mr. Kline responded that a booster at Roaring Brook School would still be needed so we can bid that out separately and get it done sooner. Chief Melanson commented that cell phone coverage in the schools is not great sometimes so having a robust functional communication system as far as a radio is critical for teachers and staff at the schools; it reiterated to him the importance of trying to move forward on some of this quickly; communications is the number one thing that always goes wrong in any critical incident, you saw it in Uvalde and everywhere you go; the importance of this project can't be understated in moving forward with it. The Town Manager noted that we continue to work with SBA to assist them in preparing the application to the CT Siting Council; we are waiting for more cost estimates from Motorola; and Chief Melanson is having discussions with the State Commissioner's Office about any assistance they may be able to provide, particularly with the site on Huckleberry. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Chief Melanson responded that we are discussing with the State Commissioner's Office who will be responsible for improvements/upgrades needed at a later time; if they are our towers they are our responsibility; the benefit of going onto the State system is that we would only be required to upgrade two of the towers rather than three and the State also has radio technicians available who are monitoring the system. Mr. Polhamus noted the estimated savings of \$400,000 over five years, however the equipment will need to get updated every ten years or so. Chief Melanson noted that by incorporating the State's system into this we should get much better pricing in the future. Mr. Kline commented that the maintenance agreement is broken out into service personnel, having parts on hand, doing actual break fits, and the other part is keeping software up to date. Town Council's general consensus is to proceed with Option A and expressed thanks to all who are working on this.

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

a) Connectivity Plan Project: Director of Planning & Community Development

Hiram Peck, Director of Planning and Community Development, provided a brief overview regarding this project. He noted that Chapter 10 of the Plan of Conservation and Development talks about transportation and discussed the potential to stitch together the rest of the community that are not connected by bike paths, the trail, sidewalks, or easily accessible by pedestrians who want to get from one side of Town to the other; Appendix D provides details regarding recommendations for bicycle planning and design in Town; a Request for Proposals (RFP) has

been put together for development of a Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan for the Town which will help connect areas of Town that do not currently have easy or direct access to the trail, sidewalks, walking paths, etc.; the RFP will involve a community overview, community interaction including community meetings, Complete Streets Project, POCD data, and why people are using these transportation methods; and a community survey will be conducted. He added there are probably two or three firms that will apply and have the experience with this type of work. Council thanked Mr. Peck for the overview. Mr. Weber noted that RFP scope is very thorough, thank you for putting it together, and anticipates that the majority of Avon would be in favor of this and eager to see what the public response is going forward. Mr. Peck is hopeful that this proposal will have more positive aspects and impact. Chairman Polhamus echoed Mr. Weber's comments. He added that this is a road map for us to create a more bike friendly community. Council gave consensus to move forward with issuance of the RFP. Mr. Peck noted that he would hope to have the RFP out in September and get started before the end of the year.

b) Senior Center Additions/Renovations Project: Director of Recreation & Parks and the Architect

Ruth Checko, Director of Recreation and Parks, and Richard Kenyon, Architect, provided a brief presentation regarding this project. Ms. Checko also provided highlights regarding other suggested projects for ARPA funding: Senior Center Restroom Renovations Project – best window for this renovation would be to start the first week in January 2023 and the Senior Center Cosmetic Improvements Project – replacing carpet, ceiling tiles, and lighting fixtures. Ms. Checko commented that the proposed Senior Center Additions/Renovations Project includes a large multi-purpose room. Mr. Kenyon noted the Senior Center was built in 1988, existing building is about 8,500 square feet and the addition would be just under 2,500 square feet with a separate entrance for different functions, the multi-purpose room would accommodate between 60 and 140 people depending on the activity and would be ADA compliant and energy efficient. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Kenyon responded that the size of the multi-purpose room would be approximately 1,200 to 1,400 square feet with a ceiling height of 10 feet at the edges to 16 feet in the center. Ms. Checko emphasized the importance of and operational value that would come with this addition; she has a dynamic, young Program Specialist who has the challenge of where to run programs that would reach demographics not currently included, i.e., preschool programs and light adult education classes. She noted that winter is a challenge with gyms being used for basketball; this multi-purpose room would free up other spaces for other community groups; that came to fruition recently with travel basketball looking for gym space. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, Ms. Checko responded that in our public place ordinance we have a pecking order of priority based on school buildings – school first, then recreation, with town buildings – town first, then civic groups/non-profits, residents on down; the Board of Education has their own policy and the Town has the public place policy which has the priorities, class codes, and fees; pecking order is pretty much the same in both policies. Council asked to see these policies. Ms. Ausiello expressed concern about having two places (Countryside Park and this multi-purpose room) that are very similar. Ms. Checko responded that if we had the opportunity to build a community center, we would be competing with too many private gyms; we don't have the space or resources to build a community room with multiple rooms; the multi-purpose room would be the happy medium; she would not have the staff to manage a larger facility; and this has been in the capital improvement plan for many years. She noted that Countryside Park is much smaller than the proposed multi-purpose room and it has regular civic group use which prohibits us from

running an 8-week program there. Mr. Weber agreed that there is a need for the space but is the need greater than what we would be proposing and not to think small minded; he was thinking bigger. Mrs. Maguire always liked this idea; it is a revenue source and provides a need for a niche group and could be rented or used for meetings in an area of Town that is central; it is a great coming together spot; there would be a lot of programs there; the storage idea is great; and takes some pressure off the Sycamore Hills recreation area. Ms. Checko commented that regarding the space size, we are ready for this and eventually someday we may be ready for bigger, but this space will never go to waste. Mr. Indomenico commented that it is a big nut for a room the size of the Selectmen's Chamber; maybe there are more affordable ways to increase storage and get a bigger room. Ms. Checko responded that we are paying \$2,000 a year in storage at a rental facility here in Town. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that the Avon Free Public Library is not consistently used by Recreation and Parks; their by-laws state that Library programming is a priority, and no one can rent the room for an extended program. Ms. Ausiello is concerned about the size of the proposed multi-purpose room. Chairman Polhamus agreed. Chairman Polhamus clarified that there are some cost savings to doing the project as an addition versus a stand alone building somewhere; at the same time there is something nice about preserving the Senior Center as something for the seniors. Mr. Kenyon responded that is why there would be a separate entrance and there would be enough parking. Ms. Checko noted the proposed viewing area for toddler programs.

The Council gave consensus to move forward with the Senior Center Restroom Renovations Project (\$135,000 plus 10% contingency) and the Senior Center Cosmetic Improvements Project (\$66,000) for approval at their October 6th meeting. Council requested more information regarding the multi-purpose room including data related the revenue stream, the lack of use issues by any group, Town and Board of Education facility use policies, and the Program Specialist's facility use growth analysis. Council thanked Ms. Checko and Mr. Kenyon for the presentation.

The Town Manager noted other potential APRA projects: possible State funding for the Fiber Network is still in process; the Assistant Town Manager is working with the Avon Clean Energy Commission regarding a study; and funding for the Food Pantry and Fuel Bank.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council move agenda item 22/23-10 Capital Region Council of Governments-Presentation by Executive Director up to the first item under New Business.

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

22/23-09 Review, Discuss and Amend Public Place Regulations, Section II, Application Procedures (Chapter 41 of the Town Code of Ordinances)

Ruth Checko, Director of Recreation and Parks, reported that the Public Place Regulations were last updated in 2019. She noted that they would like to add a third deadline of April 1st for athletic leagues looking for summer field use; it will not put the Recreation and Parks Department of Public Works in a position where we do not have the capacity to accommodate a league with a request that comes in later. Mrs. Maguire asked if April 1st is too early. Ms. Checko responded she didn't believe so; most leagues are looking ahead to their season with registrations, etc. Mr. Indomenico

inquired about how this regulation works with the Field Administration and Use Manual; we're using what other outside organizations request for usage to determine how we figure out what a season is however the Manual doesn't read that way. He noted that the Manual reads that fields are mowed twice a week during the applicable season and fields are painted weekly during the sporting seasons. He asked who decides what the season is. Ms. Checko responded that historically we have requests from soccer, fall baseball, and lacrosse by August 1st; by April 1st we know who wants to use our fields for the summer. She noted that the purpose of the Manual was to consistently provide who is responsible for when provided to every league/organization. She added that at Sperry Park and sometimes Buckingham Park, we prep the fields on Friday for the weekend but are touched up over the weekend by Avon Little League. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that if fields are not used for baseball in the summer they are still mowed. There was discussion regarding the deadline date; the suggestion was made to change it to April 15th. Ms. Checko noted that the Recreation and Parks Committee recommended the date of April 1st. Mr. Indomenico added that there should be a way to try and avoid what happened this past year. He noted that if someone is denied or revoked a permit, they can appeal to the Town Council. The Town Manager commented that if a request comes in after the deadline, you look at what Buildings and Grounds with Public Works has for other maintenance work, and we try to work it out. Mrs. Maguire requested an increased level of communication to reach out to the leagues/organizations that normally use the fields in the summer as well as through the Town's web site. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Checko responded that applications may be submitted by August 1st for fall use, by February 1st for spring use, and we would be adding a deadline for summer use. She could work with April 15th and is sure it would have little impact on Public Works; they receive a field use schedule after approved permits are finalized. Mr. Weber noted that seeing that it is far enough away, and we have had an in-depth discussion tonight he is not feeling entirely comfortable putting a stamp on this quite yet; he is willing to move forward with it but worth a further look after the Recreation and Parks Committee has a chance to review our feedback.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the proposed amendment in the Public Place Regulations as presented with the exception of changing the deadline date to April 15th.

Mmes: Ausiello, Maguire, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor. Mr. Indomenico opposed. Motion passed: 4-1-0.

22/23-10 Capitol Region Council of Governments-Presentation by Executive Director

Matt Hart, Executive Director, Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) provided a brief presentation. He thanked the Town Manager and the Assistant Town Manager for their active involvement with CRCOG. He noted Dick Hines who was a very active member for CRCOG for a few decades. He noted that CRCOG is one of nine Councils of Government in the State, the largest, and serve 38 municipalities in the Greater Hartford region; a population of approximately 1 million residents and an area of about 1,000 square miles; there are 30 employees that do a lot of good work; we serve as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and responsible for administering federal transportation dollars; serve as the regional planning agency, operate a regional purchasing coalition, have a public safety and management division, and serve as a content expert in transportation and planning. He noted current initiatives: submitted applications to the State under Regional Performance Incentive Program for animal control, assessment,

building inspection, and economic development to create regional departments and supplement services provided by our Towns; bipartisan infrastructure law of which Connecticut shall receive \$6 billion, some discretionary and CROG will play a significant role in helping our Towns prepare and submit very competitive applications for that funding, one program is Safe Streets for All; waste management with the closure of the MIRA plant; economic development strategy and focused on workforce development and attract and retain talent and businesses; and a project to close the remaining gaps in our region (Simsbury, Bloomfield, Hartford, and East Hartford) in the East Coast Greenway Study. He distributed a summary guide for elected officials and annual benefits statement to Council members. He noted that they have four primary committees: Policy Board, Transportation Committee, Municipal Services, and Regional Planning Commission. He concluded by stating that they are here to serve the Town and its residents. Council thanked Mr. Hart for his presentation. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Hart responded that the federal transportation funding is a five-year program, Safe Streets for All application is due September 15th for roughly \$25 million in projects with a turnaround time of the end of the calendar year. The Town Manager noted that CROG is the best COG in the State; there is a way for everybody to get involved.

22/23-11 Information Technology Position

The Town Manager reported that we currently have a third party vendor for IT services and our Library Director handles that contractual relationship and we have a 25-hour week part-time IT position in the Police Department that has recently become vacant due to a retirement. He noted there is a real opportunity to fill the position in the Police Department and increase our IT capability townwide; the recommendation is to create a new full-time IT position. He added that funding for this position will come from the part-time IT position in the Police Department as well as two positions budgeted in Building #2, full-time Assistant Town Clerk and part-time Tax Collector that do not need to be filled at this time. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, the Town Manager responded that the Library Director currently spends a few hours per week to troubleshoot IT issues that this new position would be doing. The Town Manager noted that the Library Director will continue to be the overall IT staff contact. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, the Town Manager responded that a vendor cost savings will depend on if vendor services are no longer needed. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, the Town Manager responded that would leave one and a half positions in the Town Clerk's Office. Mrs. Maguire agreed that the new IT position is a great idea. Council gave consensus to move forward with filling the Information Technology Position as discussed.

22/23-12 Contract Extension: Snow Removal & Ice Control Services

The Town Manager noted there is a net reduction in the contract cost of about \$22,000 as we will be pulling a few properties that Public Works will absorb; year over year there is a 5% increase.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council award a contract extension to CRS Landscape and Excavation LLC of Simsbury, CT in an amount not to exceed \$173,173.00 for snow removal and ice control services for the 2022-23 winter season.

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

22/23-13 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (Avon Police Department Representative)

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Chief Paul Melanson to the Youth Services Advisory Board (Avon Police Department Representative), to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

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

22/23-14 Appointment: North Central EMS Committee

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Chief Paul Melanson to the North Central EMS Committee, to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

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

22/23-15 Appointment: CROG Public Safety Council

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Chief Paul Melanson to the CROG Public Safety Council, to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

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

22/23-16 Appointment: Town Council Representative-Senior Citizens

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 22/23-16 Appointment: Town Council Representative-Senior Citizens to the October 6, 2022 meeting.

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

IX. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: The Town Manager reported that regarding the Avon Zoning Regulations RFP, we did not receive any proposals; we may not have budgeted enough funds for this item. He noted that with the AVFD Master Plan we received a draft report, staff met with CGR to discuss, and they will work towards a final report which shall be presented to Council at the October meeting; it will serve as a very comprehensive planning document for us going forward.

Misc. B: Construction Update: The Town Manager noted that Library Courtyard Restoration work shall begin next spring; Town Clerk's Vault Addition work has begun; we continue to work with Avon Little League; and with Road Improvements the Pine Grove School parking was recently completed. He will ask the Director of Public Works to provide an overview on Pavement Management during his capital budget presentation. Mr. Indomenico asked if there was any thought about making Countryside Park larger. Chairman Polhamus responded that there is no more room.

XI. ADJOURN

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

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

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk

RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$5,459,458 OF GRANT FUNDING
FOR COSTS RELATED TO THE RELOCATION AND
RECONSTRUCTION OF A SECTION OF OLD FARMS ROAD IN THE
TOWN OF AVON

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The sum of \$5,459,458 is appropriated for the relocation, construction, reconstruction of, and improvement to, Old Farms Road, located in the Town of Avon, Connecticut (the "Town"), by relocating the section of Old Farms Road from the intersection with Thompson Road, through the intersection of Old Farms and Scoville Roads, to a point on the existing Old Farms Road approximately (+/-) 1,700 feet north of the intersection of Old Farms and Scoville Roads, for the purpose of improving safety for vehicle, bicycle and pedestrian traffic; improving through traffic operations; providing a safe alternative to Routes 4 and 44 to reduce congestion and improve cross-town mobility; and providing other incidental environmental and safety improvements and enhancements, by undertaking certain improvements, including but not limited to: (i) entering into any agreements or covenants with Avon Old Farms School for the acquisition, or temporary use, of all or portions of parcels, located at 355 Old Farms Road, 500 Old Farms Road, 575 Old Farms Road, 625 Old Farms Road and 28 Scoville Road, with the specifics of the acquisitions and temporary uses to be determined by mutual agreement of the Town and the Avon Old Farms School; (ii) the installation of intersection improvements at the intersection of Old Farms and Scoville Roads; (iii) the installation of intersection improvements at the intersection of Old Farms and Thompson Roads; (iv) the installation of a bikeway along Scoville and Old Farms Roads; (v) related remediation, pavement, curbs, drainage and catch basin or culvert replacements, milling and overlay, micropaving, chipsealing and cracksealing, and other improvements; and for (vi) construction related costs, which are inclusive of, but not limited to, inspection (collectively, the "Project"), said appropriation to be inclusive of any and all State, Federal and other grants-in-aid thereof.

Section 2. The Town Manager or his designee is hereby authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to apply for and accept any and all Federal and State loans and/or other grants-in-aid of the Project and is further authorized to expend said funds in accordance with the terms hereof and in connection therewith, to contract in the name of the Town with engineers, contractors and others.

Section 3. The Town Manager is hereby authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to enter into any other agreements, instruments, documents and certificates, for the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this resolution.

Section 4. The Town hereby authorizes the preparation, printing and dissemination of concise explanatory texts or other printed material with respect to the appropriation for the Project in accordance with Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The Town & Public Safety Communication System Replacement Project

Update for Town Council

September 1, 2022

1

Background

- In January 2022, the Town Council approved a lease amendment with SBA Communications for the Huckleberry Hill tower site. Note that we anticipate SBA will make its application to the CT Siting Council in the coming months.
- Since that time, staff have worked with Motorola and the State to determine a system design, site configuration and coverage standard that will achieve our public safety coverage objectives and remain cost effective.

2

Background

- Town requested pricing for two options.
- Both options will have the following characteristics:
 - 3 sites – Talcott Mtn./WFSB, Landfill, Ridgewood
 - DMR system for Avon Public Schools
- We continue to work with Motorola to further refine the project particulars and the capital costs associated with these options.

3

Option A – State System

- Full integration of Town's system and infrastructure with the State's network.
- Avon's additions to the state system would enhance coverage in Avon and surrounding areas.
- State would manage most of the daily operations of the system.
- Town would be required to build and maintain two town-owned sites.
- Town's coverage will benefit from other state system sites in the area.

4

Option B – Campus System

- Independent Town-owned communication system that would tie into the state's network.
- Town responsible for all daily operations and management of system.
- Town responsible for all maintenance functions outside warranty period.
- Town would be required to build and maintain three Town-owned sites.
- Town's system coverage would be based on the Town's three sites only.

5

Recommendation: Option A

- Lower capital and operating cost
 - Estimate savings of approximately \$400K over five years by selecting Option A - fewer Town sites to construct/maintain; lower cost for maintenance and service
- Provides the Town with opportunities to benefit from future state funding.
- State will assume day to day monitoring of the equipment.
- Avon users will benefit from the state's current and future infrastructure in the surrounding area.
- Positive experience from other municipalities that have moved to the state system.

6

Recommendation: Purchase & Install DMR System

- Staff recommend moving forward with the purchase and installation of a Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) System for the Avon Public Schools at this time.
- While this is a component of the larger project, it can be implemented as a stand alone system and is ready to be purchased and installed at this time.
- Plan to run a competitive RFP process this fall. Request funding through ARPA.