Minutes of the November 20, 2018 Regular Meeting

Call to Order

Ed Bailey called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM. Ed Bailey, Bob Yamartino and Dave Burgess were present.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

Ed Bailey added item 8a, Proclamation regarding Merrill R. Adams and item 10a, Approval of Town Hall Employee Contract, Local 818 Council 4 AFSCME AFL-CIO.

Ed Bailey made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to approve the agenda, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meetings

A. November 5, 2018 Regular Meeting

Dave Burgess made a motion, seconded by Robert Yamartino, to approve minutes from the November 5, 2018 regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Health District - Update

Ed Bailey reiterated that the Health District will hopefully be up and running by the first of the year.
Update from Board of Education member Bob Yamartino regarding Board of Education

Bob Yamartino reported that Nancy Boyle served at her last meeting after nine years of service. Dr. Veronesi gave a presentation regarding the strategic visioning plan and it appears that there can be a one-track program with a choice of which type the student would be in.

Mr. Yamartino also mentioned that the Town of Durham will have a referendum on December 3rd or 4th, 2018 regarding Korn School. Mr. Bailey explained that if Durham agrees to purchase the property, Middlefield will receive about $142,000 over a period of several years to cover Middlefield’s outstanding bond debt. If the referendum doesn’t pass, the issue goes back to the Board of Education. Mr. Yamartino noted that the school district will realize considerable cost savings because the State is forgiving the amount that they had reimbursed if the building is still used for public use.

SOLARIZE Connecticut Press Release

Ed Bailey reported that there had been an article in the Town Times about the SOLARIZE Connecticut program. There were 27 signed contracts.

Executive Session for the purpose of interview of job applicant and for the purpose of discussion of strategy for collective bargaining

Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Ed Bailey, to enter into executive session for the purpose of interview of a job applicant and for the purpose of discussion of strategy for collective bargaining. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board returned from executive session and reconvened the regular meeting at 8:20 PM. No motions or votes were taken during executive session.

Appointment by the Board of Selectman of the Town Assessor

Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to appoint Christine A. Barta as Town Assessor, effective December 10, 2018 per terms and conditions agreed to with the First Selectman.

Dave Burgess felt that Ms. Barta is an excellent candidate based on her resume and her personality. Mr. Yamartino was very pleased that Ms. Barta will be joining the Town as an employee and looks forward to her many contributions to the Town.

Motion carried unanimously.
Approval of Town Hall Employee Contract, Local 818 Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to approve the Town Hall Employee Contract, Local 818 Council 4 AFSCME, AFL-CIO, July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021, with noted modifications: (1) Article 2, section 4; “People.” (2) Article 6, section 4: change “weeks” to “week.” (3) Article 22, section 2: Grade 1, step 5 to be increased to $18.88; (4) Article 23, section 1: insert “Full time” after the first word in the paragraph. Motion carried unanimously.

Proclamation regarding Merrill R. Adams

Ed Bailey read the proclamation into the record: Be it known that the citizens of Middlefield and Rockfall hereby recognize and applaud Merrill R. Adams for her contributions to our community; and whereas, Merrill R. Adams is recognized for her decades of involvement in our community, including advocating for the founding of our Regional School District, serving 12 years as a member of the Board of Education and as a founder of the Coginchaug Valley Educational Foundation; and whereas, Merrill R. Adams has given a considerable amount of her time and energy in the civic affairs of Middlefield, Rockfall and Durham for the betterment of future generations; and whereas, Merrill R. Adams’ leadership, passion, dedication and volunteerism is an outstanding example of citizenship to our community, our state and our country; and so now, therefore, I declare this day, the 17th day of November, 2018 as Merrill R. Adams Day! Signed, Edward P. Bailey, First Selectman.

Mr. Bailey explained that he had not received the information for this until late on Friday and apologized for not having the other selectmen sign the proclamation as well. The proclamation was presented at the annual Durham-Middlefield Night at the Elk’s Club on Saturday.

Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to adopt a proclamation regarding Merrill R. Adams as per attached and read into the record. Motion carried unanimously.

Set Agenda for the Annual Town Meeting, December 3rd, 2018

Ed Bailey explained that, according to the Town Charter, the Annual Meeting is set for December 3, 2018 and he has been asked to postpone the meeting by one week. Mr. Bailey plans to adjourn the regular Board of Selectmen meeting on December 3rd at 7:00 PM for the Town Meeting and they will then adjourn the meeting until the following Monday. Mr. Yamartino stated that he will call into the meeting on December 3, 2018 as he will be out of town.
Mr. Burgess asked what the reason for the postponement was and Mr. Bailey explained that they needed a bit more time to get organized to elect a person to replace Nancy Boyle on the Board of Education.

*Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to approve the agenda for the 2018 Annual Town Meeting (as per attached) for December 3, 2018. Motion carried unanimously.*

Mr. Bailey also stated that he has been notified by the Town Clerk that the Board is behind on approving the Annual Reports. Annual Reports are prepared for the years ending June 30, 2010, June 30, 2011 and June 30, 2012. These will be scanned and put on the website.

*Robert Yamartino made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to approve the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting for December 10, 2018 at 7:00 PM, per the attached. Motion carried unanimously.*

Appointments

1. Correction to Previous Appointment of June 19, 2018 Zoning Board of Appeals
   a. Michael Skelps - Term 05/01/2015 to 04/30/2020 Alt (Correction to term)

*Ed Bailey made a motion, seconded by Dave Burgess, to correct the previous appointment made on June 19, 2018 to the Zoning Board of Appeals for Michael Skelps - Term 05/01/2015 to 04/30/2020 Alt. Motion carried unanimously.*

Selectman’s Report

Ed Bailey reported that the town is moving forward with a new payroll company and are fully operational with the new accounting system. They also received delivery of the new senior bus today, but it still needs to be registered. The old bus is owned by both towns and Mr. Bailey needs to talk to Laura Francis regarding the disposition of it. The chief of the Fire Department will talk to Durham’s Fire Chief to see if the departments have any interest in the bus. Unfortunately, the bus is only suitable for transporting adults. Unless there is an entity from one of the two towns that has a need for the bus, it will be put on the market. It is only 16, 17 years old with 60,000 miles and Mr. Bailey felt it would be worth at least $5,000. Senior centers were suggested as possibly needing a bus of this type. Mr. Bailey described all of the amenities on the new bus.

Mr. Bailey also explained that the use of the bus is governed by the rules of the grant from the FTA, but does become property of the town after five years. The State DOT has a lien on the bus for five years. The bus driver does have to have an F endorsement on their license to carry passengers.
Bob Yamartino reported that he took a look at the new energy plan that eliminates net metering and mentioned that the State of Nevada lost 90 percent of its solar energy jobs when they did something similar to what Connecticut is doing. He feels that the public and the environment will also be worse off. Mr. Yamartino will write up a draft resolution for the Board of Selectmen to send to the State legislators. Dave Burgess commented that he read up on this issue as well and agrees with Mr. Yamartino. Ed Bailey agreed to ask the River COG to endorse the resolution as well. Mr. Yamartino will forward a draft to the Selectmen and they will discuss it at the next meeting.

Adjournment

Dave Burgess made a motion, seconded by Bob Yamartino, to adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debi Waz

Debi Waz
Alwaz First
TOWN of MIDDLEFIELD, CONNECTICUT

PROCLAMATION

Be it known that the Citizens of Middlefield and Rockfall hereby recognize and applaud Merrill R. Adams, for her contributions to our Community; and

Whereas, Merrill R. Adams is recognized for her decades of involvement in our Community, including advocating for the founding of our Regional School District, serving twelve years as a member of the Board of Education and as a founder of the Coginchaug Valley Educational Foundation; and

Whereas, Merrill R. Adams has given a considerable amount of her time and energy in the civic affairs of Middlefield, Rockfall and Durham for the betterment of future generations; and

Whereas, Merrill R. Adams’s leadership, passion, dedication and volunteerism is an outstanding example of citizenship to our Community, our State, and our Country; and so

Now, Therefore, I declare this day, the 17th day of November, two-thousand and eighteen as Merrill R. Adams Day!

Edward P. Bailey, First Selectman
TOWN of MIDDLEFIELD, CONNECTICUT

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD
December 3rd, 2018

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in a Town Meeting of the Town of Middlefield, will be held in Meeting Room #2 at the Middlefield Community center, 405 Main Street, in said Town of Middlefield, Connecticut, at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, December 3rd, 2018 for the following purposes to wit:

1. To adjourn the Annual Town Meeting to Monday, December 10th, 2018

At this meeting any and all citizens may appear and be heard, and written communications will be received.

Meeting agenda approved by the Board of Selectmen of Middlefield, Connecticut this 20th day of November 2018.

Edward P. Bailey
First Selectman
Town of Middlefield, CT

393 Jackson Hill Road, Middlefield, CT 06455  Phone 860.349.7114  Fax 860.349.7115
TOWN of MIDDLEFIELD, CONNECTICUT

Office of the First Selectman

LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

NOTICE is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Middlefield will be held in Meeting Room#2 of the Middlefield Community Center, 405 Main Street, in said Town of Middlefield, Connecticut, on Monday, December 10th, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. for the following purposes to wit:

2. To elect a member to serve on the Regional School District 13, Board of Education for the vacated term; July 1st, 2017 to June 30th, 2020.

At this meeting any and all citizens may appear and be heard, and written communications will be received.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available at the Town Clerks Office and on the Town’s Web Site.

Meeting agenda approved by the Board of Selectmen of Middlefield, Connecticut this 20th day of November 2018.

Board of Selectman

Edward P. Bailey

Robert Yamartino

David Burgess