

# Town of Willington

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Board of Selectmen  
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## BOARD OF SELECTMEN

**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Hybrid; TOB, Downstairs Conference Room & Virtual Meeting**

**January 2, 2024**  
**6:00 PM**

*\*Minutes are not official until approved at the next regular meeting*

First Selectman Tanaka called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with the following in attendance:  
Selectman Clark in person and residents in person and via Zoom.

### Pledge of Allegiance

### Approval of Minutes

First Selectman Tanaka moved to add item under new business to discuss revaluation under new business.

Moved Old Business Fire Department discussion after Correspondence.

Selectman Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 18th, 2023, regular meeting.

Seconded by First Selectman Tanaka

2 Yes (Clark, Tanaka) 0 No. Motion carried.

### Present to Speak

Fire Chief Schneider to discuss abatement ordinance amendment.

### Correspondence

No Correspondence.

### Old Business

#### **A. Volunteer Firefighter Dept. Personnel Tax Abatement Ordinance Amendment**

CT PA 21-89 passed in 2021 changing abatement maximum from \$1,000 to up to \$2,000 and any member with over 25 years in department eligible for abatement whether they're making their response numbers or not. Member only gets up to what they owe and does not erase any previous tax debt. Fire Chief Schneider stated that having the abatement helps recruit new members.

**First Selectman Tanaka Moved To see if the townspeople, will authorize the amendment to Town Ordinance concerning the abatement for Volunteer Firefighters to comply with CT Public Act 21-83.**

**Seconded by Selectman Clark**  
**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion Carried**

**First Selectman's Status Report**

Shannon & Selectman Tanaka acclimating to new positions. First Selectman Tanaka taking training and meeting with other town officials. Meetings with Mansfield and Tolland coming up in the next couple weeks. First Selectman Tanaka in discussion with CSP regarding the missing woman, CSP to update soon, investigation ongoing. Looking into Animal Control Facilities, truck rarely used, needs to be repaired and detailed due to non-use. Working with Public Works to make sure it's getting used. First Selectman Tanaka looking into putting a committee together for Tricentennial in 3 years. Using money from cannabis dispensary to fund the Tricentennial is a possibility.

**Public Works**

Things done at Public Works:

- Clean up from Storm.
- Chipped brush around Town.
- Sanded Ice spots around Town.
- Washed Trucks.
- Cleaned catch basins off around Town.
- Dug out water ways.
- Work on carports- moved from behind the school to behind the town garage.
- Picked up wood around Town that was cut down from our contractor removing hazardous trees.
- Fixed some gravel roads that got washed out.

**New Business**

**A. Call Town meeting for Street Sweeper for Public Works**

**First Selectman Tanaka Moved to move Street Sweeper to Town Meeting To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize the appropriation of \$74,178 from the Capital Reserve Fund to 04-4051 for a used 2012 ELGIN Street Sweeper from Chadwick-Barrow.**

**Seconded by Selectman Clark**  
**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion Carried**

**B. Call Town Meeting for Center School Plumbing- Town Meeting- \$20,000**

**First Selectman Tanaka Moved to move Center School Plumbing To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize the appropriation of \$20,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund to Account #04-4049 CES Plumbing Projects, for Plumbing at Center School. Seconded by Selectman Clark**

**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion Carried**

**A. Fire Department requesting funds for station placement study.**

**First Selectman moved to table discussion. Seconded by Selectman Clark**

**B. Town of Willington is due for a Revaluation in 2024. Board of Finance recommends that the Board of Selectman call a Town Meeting to appropriate \$74,500 from the Reserve Fund to Account number 04-4052 for the 2024 Revaluation.**

**First Selectman Tanaka Moved To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize the appropriation of \$74,500 from the Reserve Fund to 04-4052 for the 2024 Revaluation.**

**Seconded by Selectman Clark**

**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion Carried**

**C. Volunteer Fire Department Personnel Tax Abatement Ordinance Amendment**

**Town Meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, January 23, 2024**

**D. BOF Officer Selection**

In accordance with CGS 7-342 should the board of finance be unable to elect a position for vice chair or secretary, it falls to the BOS.

**First Selectman Tanaka moves to name Jeff Prusak to BOF Vice Chair until they have re-elections in November 2025.**

**Seconded by Selectman Clark**

**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion Carried**

**Present to Speak**

First Selectman Tanaka restated that public participation is encouraged, speakers are limited by appropriateness, staying on topic, and maintaining decorum. Time may be limited to maintain progress.

**Good & Welfare**

**A. Mobile Food Share will be here at the TOB, Wednesday, January 3 from 11:00 am - 11:30am. Residents will need to park and bring their own bags. Mobile Food Share is for any resident in CT.**

- B. If anyone is looking to make charitable contributions the **Willington Fuel bank** is in serious need of funds in order to be able to assist our residents outside of any federal or state funding. Donations can be sent to the Town Office Building marked Fuel Bank. NOTE: We are accepting applications through the Human Services department for the energy assistance program, we start with federal programs which are open and accepting applications.
- C. Bread share will start at 10 am starting 1/3/24 Bread share will continue weekly, and we will still be open for one hour Food share will continue at 11 am every other week. Please adjust your calendars so not to miss the event. Just a reminder Bread Share is for Willington Residents only.

**Selectman Tanaka moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 PM.**

**Selectman Clark seconded the motion.**

**2 Yes (Clark & Tanaka) 0 No. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Shannon Rittner  
Recording Secretary  
Town of Willington

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WILLINGTON, CT.

2024 JAN -3 P 3:04

  
TOWN CLERK