

**TOWN OF WILLINGTON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 3, 2021 7:00 PM**

First Selectwoman Wiecenski called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with 30+ residents in attendance at the Old Town Hall on 11 Common Road. She then read the call of the meeting and asked for nominations for a moderator.

Peter Tanaka moved to nominate Christine Psathas as moderator, seconded by Ralph Tulis.

Moderator called to a Vote:
All in favor, 0 No 0 Abstain
Motion passes

Ralph Tulis moved to forego the reading of the call again and to move to voting on items.

ITEM I was then moved for a vote by Peter Tanaka, seconded by Chris Demers:

To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize the appropriation of \$60,000 from the Open Space fund for the costs associated with the purchase of the Talmadge Estate Property of Mason Road, including the survey and legal fees.

Carol Jordan spoke on behalf of the Conservation Commission, who is very excited about the prospective purchase of the two parcels. She then presented a map and referenced a hand out that was distributed before the meeting began. The map shows the existing Talmadge Tract and Knowlton Parcel, town owned land and the parcel which are on the agenda. Ms. Jordan noted that all of this property is protected by open space easements from the State of Connecticut and UCONN forest and protects the Fenton River Watershed as well.

Ms. Jordan explained the benefits to the environment by keeping open space that is protected by the forest area, along with the Nipmuck Trail that is also protected by the Connecticut Forest & Park Association.

Another important factor is the amount of frontage that is on Mason Road; which is about 600+ acres abutting 2 unimproved roads; Mason and Daleville; making it very valuable resource for the town; adding that this purchase would be like fitting the last piece of a puzzle.

Ralph Tulis then asked the total amount of the purchase of the parcels. Ms. Jordan noted that item 1 is for \$60,000 and Item 2 is in the amount of \$101,000; which will cover the purchase price of \$125,000 for the parcel, and the remaining funds will cover the cost of the survey and legal fees.

Moderator called to a Vote:
All in favor, 0 No 0 Abstain
Motion passes

ITEM II was moved by Peter Tanaka, seconded by Chris Demers:

To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize appropriation of \$101,000 from the Reserve Fund to be used for the purchase of the Talmadge Estate property on Mason Road.

Moderator called for a Vote:
All in favor, 0 No 0 Abstain
Motion passes

ITEM III was moved for a vote called by Peter Tanaka, second by Chris Demers:
To see if the townspeople, on the recommendation of the Board of Finance, will authorize the appropriation of \$123,500 from the American Rescue Plan Fund for the purpose of Air Conditioning replacement at the Senior Center (\$35,000), Remote and hybrid meeting room electronic equipment (\$28,500), TOB basement cleaning and concrete (\$57,500) and TOB purifiers (\$2,500).

Chris Demers asked for clarification on the TOB basement. First Selectwoman Erika Wiczenski stated that the floor of the basement of the TOB is dirt and retains a lot of moisture. The air handler is in that area so we want to ensure that the area is dry and clean. We would like to potentially use it for storage, but unsure of how much moisture will still be down there as the foundation is stone.

Ralph Tulis cautioned that just pouring a concrete floor alone will not stop the moisture problem.

First Selectwoman Wiczenski noted that the main floor and crawl space will be concrete and we will also be adding a dehumidifier and will monitor things before storing anything down there. The entire dirt floor will be replaced by concrete in the basement.

Moderator called for a Vote:

All in favor, 0 No 0 Abstain

Motion passes

Peter Tanaka moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ralph Tulis at 7:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted:

Robin H. Campbell
Town Clerk

TOWN OF WILLINGTON, CT

Received for record Aug. 5, 2021

At 9:00am [Signature]
ATC