

APPROVED  
**Candia's Virtual Selectmen's Public Session Minutes  
January 24th, 2022 at 7:00 pm**

Note: Individual roll call has been taken after each motion.

**7:00 pm** Chair Brock opened the Public Session Meeting followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance:** Chair Brien Brock, Selectmen Patrick Moran, Selectman Boyd Chivers, Selectman Sue Young and Town Administrator Andria Hansen

Absent: Selectman Russ Dann

**Approval of Minutes: Public & Non-Public Session Minutes for January 10th, 2022.** None noted.

**MOTION: Selectman Moran made a motion to accept the January 10th, 2022, Public & Non-Public Session minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Agricultural Commission - Recommendation:** Chair Brock stated the Conservation Commission has submitted recommendations for Heidi Bothwell as their 5<sup>th</sup> Alternate Position for a three-year term. See attached.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to approve Heidi Bothwell's appointment to the Agricultural Commission as an Alternate for a three-year term as of 1.24.2022. Seconded by Selectman Moran. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

Chair Brock stated the Agricultural Commission has submitted recommendations for Robin Vergato, June Petrin and Matthew Cobb to be reappointed as Full Members and Patti Davis as an Alternate Member, all for three-year terms. See attached.

**MOTION: Selectman Moran made a motion to reappointment Robin Vergato, June Petrin, Matthew Cobb as Full Members and Patti Davis as an Alternate Member on the Agricultural Commission for a three-year term as of 1.24.2022. Seconded by Selectman Young. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

Agricultural Commission Chair Cobb informed the Board that Candia's Farmers Market went very well last year, and it will continue again this year with the same schedule of one per month.

**Moderator Clark Thyng – Deliberative Session Updates:** Moderator Thyng informed the Board on the upcoming Deliberative Session scheduled on February 5th, 2022. At this point there will not be any Covid protocols including no social distancing. Facial masks will be available for anyone who wants to wear one. Telecasting will not be available for the public this year. He released updated information on legislation changes. Covid will not be considered an emergency circumstance under which the moderator can delay the election session, only the Governor, AG's Office and Secretary of State may do that. Political apparel will be allowed during the voting in March, as long as the apparel does not refer to anyone who will be on the ballots.

He described some of the legislations that may change and what could impact them at the voting session. He mentioned that the Board may want to think about the voting machines for the future. This year Bond issues have moved from two thirds to three fifths. They are looking to phase out all Accu-vote machines by year 2024. and the replacement voting machines costing \$6,000 each with an annual service charge of \$250 each.

Fire Chief Dean Young indicated that he is looking to have their ambulance running by tomorrow. They have been staffing the firehouse with their employees to see how many of them will be able to assist with running shifts for the ambulance, and at this point there are not enough people. They have reached out to qualified people that were recommended to them. They have received three applications for the ambulance and had a meeting about the process. He would like to have these applicants onboard right away and not have to wait two weeks. The application packets are almost complete with only a few things left to do. In the past they have brought people on before the application process is complete. Once the applicants are hired they will also need to learn how to drive the Ambulance.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion based on the recommendations from Fire Chief Young and for the individuals to be appointed members for Candia's Volunteer Fire Department which are Kyle Simard, Cadence Solsky and Alden Somerville. Seconded by Selectman Moran. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Recommendation on Warrant Article #2:** Town Administrator confirmed that they are looking to change the amounts on Warrant Article #2.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to approve Warrant Article #2 for the budgeted amount \$3,187,543, and the default budget of \$3,010,950. Seconded by Selectman Moran. Not all in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 3-1-0** Discussion opened. Selectman Young stated she opposes, and in her opinion, having a 6.11% increase without any warrant articles and this is not the year to do it. It is \$189,000 plus change and a 20% per thousand increase without any warrant articles. She thinks there is a warrant article that should have priority and that is without any school things. In her opinion, it is going to be very difficult for a lot of people and she would like it to be cut back. She is afraid they might go into a default budget.

Selectman Chivers explained about the two amounts of the operating budget and the cost of living raises and the Town Administrator numbers. He asked her which other items she would want to forfeit. Selectman Young added that everyone's budget went up and the Town Office expense was level funded along with the Town Administrator in it. Therefore, she cannot attribute it to the 5% Cola raises and the hiring of a Town Administrator. Discussion ended.

**Additional Warrant Article - Recommendation by Selectman Chivers:** Selectman Chivers stated the Tanglewood - Crowley Road Subdivision in the Town of Chester composes of a 60-lot subdivision and the only access is across to Crowley Road in the Town of Candia. The greatest obstacle to this project is that Crowley Road is a scenic road. Under the subdivision regulations, the developer would be required to upgrade access to Crowley Road to our arterial road standards. Crowley Road is a Scenic Road, and it would be difficult to meet those standards and in order to meet them, the only remedy now is for the Developer to go to the Planning Board and ask for a waiver of the arterial road standards. Selectman Chivers came up with a Warrant Article for the people who will be affected by this, to see if they are in favor of affirming the scenic roads status

of Crowley Road that was voted in 2003. After consulting with a Lawyer, he was informed that it would not be necessary, as the status stands until rescinded by the Town. He asked the Board for that Warrant Article not to be considered, and to have a substitute of it, and asked the Board to accept the following motion. There was an addition discussion if it is the Boards place to take a position on.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers motioned that this Board declare its opposition to any request for a waiver of Candia Subdivision Regulations requiring Crowley Road to be upgraded to arterial road standards and that our representative to the Planning Board maintain that position on our behalf. Seconded by Selectman Moran.** Discussion Opened. Selectman Young stated that she is voting no. It does not mean she will not support what is trying to be done, but she thinks that it is not the Boards business to interfere. **Not all in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 3-1-0.**

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Town Hall – Maintenance Technician:** Town Administrator Hansen mentioned about having a Maintenance person for the Town Hall building. There was a discussion about raising the budget line for the building maintenance due to the building that needs some work/repairs done. Selectman Brock stated that he has no problem with finding someone in town to do the work needed. Town Administrator Hansen will keep him updated.

**Solid Waste Report:** See attached report.

The Board had a discussion about renewing the contract with Total Notice LLC to do title searches for the Tax Collector.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to approve the contract with Total Notice LLC to do all the title searches required by our Tax Collector. Seconded by Selectman Moran. All were in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

**Board to authorize the payments of payroll and payables.** Selectman Chivers announced the payroll for the week ending January 20th was \$23,308.54 for week ending January 27th was \$22,696.29. Payables for week ending January 20th was \$39,188.96 for week ending January 27th was \$34,701.42 for a combined total of \$119,895.21.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to approve accounts payable and payroll checks for a total of \$119,895.21. Seconded by Selectman Moran All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

The Board had a conversation if they should continue to use Zoom. Kevin Caughlin (resident) stated that covid has changed the world and everyone is using a Zoom environment. If people have an option they will most likely use zoom and not attend the meeting. It is a risk especially for the elderly who are concerned about their health.

**MOTION: Selectman Young made a motion to continue to use Zoom for their meetings. Seconded by Selectman Moran. Not all in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 3-1-0.**

### **Calendar:**

- The Deliberative Session is scheduled for Saturday, February 5<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am at the CYAA
- The next Board of Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14th, 2022

Chair Brock announced that the Police Department's Open House went very well on Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were over 50 people who attended the event, and everyone had positive comments.

Selectman Young stated that the sign-ups with the Town Clerk for the filing period of elected offices ends Friday, January 28th @ 5:00pm.

Chair Brock stated the Board Members had a contract to sign for Town Administrator Hansen's position that was modified to reflect the Town of Candia.

**MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to approve the contract dated December 2021 for the Town Administrator. Seconded by Selectman Young. All in favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

**Public Input:** None noted.

**8:01pm MOTION: Selectman Chivers made a motion to adjourn the Public Meeting. Seconded by Selectmen Moran. All in Favor. Motion carried by a vote of 4-0-0.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Chandonnet, Recording Secretary