

RECEIVED

By Darlene Brady at 12:27 pm, Jan 04, 2023



Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting

December 22, 2022
2:30 P.M.

The minutes reflect motions and a summary of the discussion. Refer to the attached link for the recording of the meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MJOx8lijHYQ>

Present: Jean Speck, Rufus deRham and Glenn Sanchez.

Also, present: Melissa Cherniske, Lynn Harrington, Donna Hayes, Jared Kuczenski, Ed Matson, Rick Osborne, Michael Perkins and Lynn Worthington.

Call to order:

Jean Speck called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

Purchase of left-over granite for Phase II:

Jean Speck made a motion to decline the offer to purchase the unused granite curbing from Phase I. Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Parks and Rec playground recommendation:

Jean Speck made the following motion:

Pending approval by Planning and Zoning under CGS 8-24g, the Board of Selectmen authorizes the Town to enter into a contract with Creative Recreation LLC for the purchase and installation of a playground in accordance with the bid package received December 9, 2022, for \$100,000 by the Town of Kent and recommended by the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Rufus deRham seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Maureen Brady resolution:

Jean Speck:

- The second-floor meeting was dedicated to Maureen prior to COVID, but the room is no longer communal space, it has been turned into office space.
- Jean and Glenn will work on a list of room, benches or trees that have been dedicated.
- Go back to Robert's Rules and come back to the BoS with two new motions.

Rufus deRham:

- Suggested dedicating one wall in Town Hall to honor people.
- What is the criteria for dedication?

Public works recommendation of hire:

Jean Speck made the following motion:

To hire Scott Benedict to fill the open fulltime Highway CDL Maintainer position effective January 9, 2023 with a starting rate of \$30.65 per hour with \$0.50 increases every six

months until he is paid the job rate, provided his performance is satisfactory and contingent upon successful results from a pre-employment physical including a drug and alcohol test.

Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Capital Plan:

Jean Speck:

- Reviewed the proposed Capital Plan.
- Will confirm the timeline.
- Keep on the agenda.

Salary Review:

Jean Speck:

- Social Security COLA = 8.7% and Federal Employee Cola = 4.6%
- Rate of inflation = 10.7%
- Keep coming up with disparities, not commonalities.
- Should BoS continue with across the board increases due to lack of any other method?
- Hire a consultant to do another deep dive?
- The last two years have certainly been unprecedented.

Glenn Sanchez:

- The employees need to be heard.
- It is going to take a lot of time.
- We need to meet with people and have them tell us what they do and how their position has changed since the Management Review.

Rufus deRham:

- We should have done this months ago.
- Salary and department budgets should be two separate discussions.
- If we have quality people that we want to keep, maybe an across-the-board increase or cost of living is not necessarily fair to everybody.

Public Comment:

Lynn Worthington asked about Streetscape. Jean Speck reminded her this is a Special Meeting and only items on the agenda can be discussed.

Adjourn:

Rufus deRham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. Glenn Sanchez seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Joyce Kearns

Joyce Kearns

Administrative Assistant

These are draft minutes and the Board of Selectmen at the subsequent meeting may make corrections. Please refer to subsequent meeting minutes for possible corrections and approval of these minutes.



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Special Meeting Agenda
December 22, 2022 @ 2:30 P.M.

Join Zoom Meeting:	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87151279199
Meeting ID:	871 5127 9199
One tap mobile:	+13052241968,,87151279199# US

Supporting documentation for this meeting: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1r7tPDRmm-aGQOyc-hvWNb_aH6mXEsWi

1. Call to order.
2. Purchase of left-over granite for Phase II.
3. Parks and Rec playground recommendation.
4. Maureen Brady resolution.
5. Public works recommendation of hire.
6. Capital Plan.
7. Salary Review.
8. Public Comment.
9. Adjourn.



Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>

Memo - Playground Recommendation

1 message

Kent Park & Recreation <ParkandRec@townofkentct.org>

Wed, Dec 21, 2022 at 10:26 AM

To: Jean Speck <firstselectman@townofkentct.org>

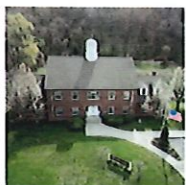
Cc: Joyce Kearns <adminassist@townofkentct.org>, Julia Neff <julia.a.neff@gmail.com>, Michael Perkins <mike.c.perkins@gmail.com>, Kate Symonds <Katessymonds@gmail.com>, Blythe Everett <blythe.everett@marvelwood.org>, Elizabeth Bernard <Ebernard1120@gmail.com>, Diane Impastato <dragan2000@aol.com>, Diane Impastato <dianeimpastato@gmail.com>, John <johnnieg1004@yahoo.com>, Abigail Smith Hanby <ahappysmith@gmail.com>, Rufus DeRham <Rufuspderham@townofkentct.org>

First Selectman Speck -

After carefully reviewing all proposals received for the Kent Commons Park Playground Project, the Town of Kent Park & Recreation Commission has voted unanimously and is excited to recommend to the Board of Selectman the proposal submitted by Creative Recreation LLC, a division of Miracle Playgrounds. We ask that this matter be added to the agenda for the upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting on Thursday, December 22, at 2:30p so we can continue to move forward with this process in a timely fashion.

Attached please find a detailed letter regarding this request and please note that all documentation received from Creative Recreation will be forwarded to you in a separate e-mail for inclusion as supporting documentation for the aforementioned meeting. As discussed I will also send over our proposal comparison spreadsheet so the Board can get a full understanding of why the Commission is fully recommending Creative Recreation.

Thank you so much for your attention to this matter and I look forward to speaking with you tomorrow!

**Jared Kuczenski**

Director of Parks & Rec, Town of Kent, Connecticut

860.927.1003 | parkandrec@townofkentct.org | www.townofkentct.org

41 Kent Green Boulevard

PO Box 678

Kent, CT | 06757



Create your own email signature

**Memo #2 RE Playground Selection.pdf**

180K



Kent Park & Recreation

P.O. Box 678
41 Kent Green Boulevard
Kent, CT 06757
parkandrec@townofkentct.org
ph: 860-927-1003
fax: 860-927-1313

December 20, 2022

ATTN: First Selectman Jean Speck
Town of Kent, CT Board of Selectmen
41 Kent Green Boulevard
Kent, CT 06757

To all selectmen of the Town of Kent, CT Board of Selectmen:

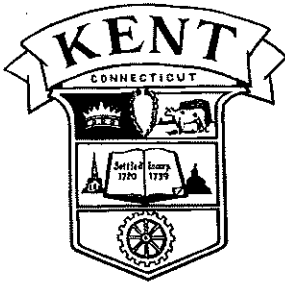
As you all know, the playground currently located at Kent Commons Park is in need of replacement. It is old and dated, but more importantly lacks amenities that make it particularly attractive or interesting to even the youngest of children. In its current condition the playground does not draw people out to our park and it is part of the mission of the Kent Park & Recreation Commission to bring our parks back to life and make them a place our residents have reasons to visit regularly.

Currently having \$100,000 in capital funds set aside for a new playground at Kent Commons Park, the Kent Park & Recreation Commission recently decided to request proposals for a new and modern playground including all design, site prep and installation. We received back four sealed proposals which were opened by myself and First Selectman Jean Speck at noon on December 9, 2022. We received a fifth proposal but it was rejected as it came in well after the submission deadline/bid opening.

After reviewing the four proposals received, the Kent Commons Park Playground Subcommittee – consisting of Park & Recreation Commissioner John Grant, P&R Alternate Commissioner Elizabeth Bernard, and Director of Park & Recreation Jared Kuczenski – recommended that the Kent Park & Recreation Commission choose between two proposals: one submitted by Creative Playthings and one from Creative Recreation. After closer inspection of those two proposals by the committee as a whole, and checking references, the Kent Park & Recreation Commission unanimously recommends that the Town of Kent Board of Selectman authorize the signing of a contract with Creative Recreation, a division of Miracle Playgrounds, at a cost of \$100,000 for their entire turnkey proposal. This proposal can be viewed digitally at the link below and the entire Creative Recreation submission will be forwarded to you as a separate document/file.

<http://ddeck.io/639c8f6e1ebdab487f9e29e2>

Although we received a number of strong proposals, is the belief of the Commission that the proposal submitted by Creative Recreation most adequately suits the needs of our resident: it has a small sized play area for younger children, a two-bay swing set with a specialized ADA swing, and a large and exciting play area for older children which reaches up to 10 feet high. There are multiple climbing apparatuses designed for older children and plenty of fun elements for the little ones including an electronic panel for making music. Their proposal also includes a semi-shaded picnic table and a bench which will all be in the play area so parents can enjoy watching their children play without having to go over to the pavilion.



Kent Park & Recreation

P.O. Box 678

41 Kent Green Boulevard

Kent, CT 06757

parkandrec@townofkentct.org

ph: 860-927-1003

fax: 860-927-1313

Furthermore, and perhaps most importantly, this playground is different in almost all ways from the other playgrounds in town (including the large playground at the Kent Center School), which should make it a real reason for people to come out to Kent Commons Park specifically. It is also worth noting that this proposal conforms to all CPSC, ASTM, IPEMA and ADA standards, which certify that is safely made and designed.

With that said, I will make myself available at the next Board of Selectmen meeting to present this further and answer any questions the Board may have. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. The Park & Recreation Commission looks forward to working with you further to continue to improve our Town of Kent parks!

Respectfully,

Jared Kuczenski

Director of Park & Recreation

TOWN OF KENT RESOLUTION DEDICATING KENT TOWN HALL TO MAUREEN BRADY

The undersigned hereby certifies that they are the duly elected Town Clerk of the Town of Kent, which municipality is organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut (the "Municipality"). The undersigned further certifies that the following is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the of Board of Selectmen of Kent duly called and held on the 1st day of December, 2022, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting throughout.

WHEREAS, Maureen Brady has served The Town of Kent for over forty years in multiple roles across Kent's municipal government; and

WHEREAS, in 1985 she made history by becoming the first-ever woman elected to the highest elected office in Kent – that of First Selectman - making national headlines in The New York Times and Vanity Fair, and international headlines as far away as Ireland and New Zealand about "The Town Run by Women" as at the time, in addition to Mrs. Brady, the roles of Tax Collector, Selectman, Postmaster, Judge of Probate, the local newspaper editor, and State Representative were all held by women; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership as First Selectman, she protected the health and safety of our community and was a staunch fiscal steward in many ways including:

- Partnering with KVFD Fire Chief Bob Soule to develop Kent's first Local Emergency Operations Plan;
- Contracting with Torrington Area Health Department for all public health related needs, a successful regional partnership that continues to this day;
- Working with Planning & Zoning Chair Griggs Irving to fend off a potentially disastrous attempt by Union Carbide to relocate their headquarters from New York City to a parcel of land in North Kent;
- Secured grant funding for many municipal projects, saving taxpayers millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, she was a never-ending builder of relationships and partnerships, leveraging the Selectman's Advisory Committee – made up of a broad constituency from all corners of the community – to come together and collaborate on ideas and issues as an 'early alert' think tank to address many issues of the broader Kent community; and

WHEREAS, of her many large projects, possibly her most emblematic project she brought to completion was her leadership role in the building of the current Town Hall. Recognizing the increasing number of municipal staff had outgrown the space at what is now known as the 'old town hall' (located on South Main Street), Maureen ensured the creation of a building committee, and continued the early work of her predecessor Bob Ward, negotiating with Gordon Casey to change his initial land offer on the Kent Green of one acre to two acres. She worked with the community to gain approval of the offer and in 1989, she oversaw the move from the old building to the newly built brick building that is our Town Hall today; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Board of Selectman dedicate the Kent Town Hall, located at 41 Kent Green Boulevard, to Maureen Brady to honor her lifelong commitment to the well-being and thoughtful stewardship of our community, her leadership in the pioneering days of women in leadership roles is an inspiration to all people of the town, and her visionary role in creating a new, enduring home for Kent's municipal government.

Given under my hand as Town Clerk of Kent this 1st day of December, 2022.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

DRAFT



To: Board of Selectmen

From: Rick Osborne

Date: December 21, 2022

Subject: Recommendation of hire for a CDL Maintainer

Seven applications for the Highway CDL Maintainer were received and four of them were contacted for interviews. At this time, I would like to make the following recommendation to the Board of Selectmen:

To hire Scott Benedict to fill the open fulltime Highway CDL Maintainer position effective January 9, 2023 with a starting rate of \$30.65 per hour with \$0.50 increases every six months until he is paid the job rate, provided his performance is satisfactory and contingent upon successful results from a pre-employment physical including a drug and alcohol test.

Thank you for considering the recommendation.

FIVE YEAR
TOTALS**PROPOSED FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN**

INFORMATIONAL USE

	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
BD OF EDUCATION										
KCS Roof	266,000	50,000			393,202	393,202	393,202	393,202	393,202	393,202
Sidewalk / Paving	136,235	136,235	136,235							
Boilers				156,334	156,334	156,334	-			
BOE SUBTOTAL	402,235	186,235	136,235	156,334	549,536	549,536	393,202	393,202	393,202	393,202
1,430,575										
DPW										
Bridges	-	196,883	183,117	300,000	800,000	700,000	600,000	-	100,000	100,000
Buildings & Improvements	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50,000	-	-
Equipment	-	-	-	-	140,000	-	-	130,000	-	-
Fleet	290,000	150,000	250,000	-	260,000	260,000	260,000	65,000	-	70,000
Roads	-	511,883	433,117	250,000	-	-	-	600,000	-	-
DPW SUBTOTAL	290,000	858,766	866,234	550,000	1,200,000	960,000	860,000	845,000	100,000	170,000
3,765,000										
KVFD										
Communications Upgrade	-	-	-	125,000	125,000					
* Engine # 2					225,000	225,000	225,000	225,000		
Rescue # 8	225,000		200,000	200,000	300,000					
KVFD SUBTOTAL	225,000	-	200,000	325,000	650,000	225,000	225,000	225,000	-	-
1,400,000										
Land Use										
Zoning Regulations	-	-	-			15,000	30,000			
POCD		-	-	-				45,000	5,000	-
LU SUBTOTAL	-	-	-	-	-	15,000	30,000	45,000	5,000	-
0										
PARK AND REC										
Emery Park	100,000		-	25,000	25,000	35,000				
Kent Commons (basketball)					100,000	-	-	-		
Kent Commons (splash pad)	-	-	-	-	250,000					

[illegible]

	REVALUATION									
	Reval	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	30,000	40,000	-	-
100,000	REVAL SUBTOTAL	50,000	-	-	-	50,000	30,000	40,000	-	-

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