



**Town of Ridgefield
Board of Selectpersons Meeting
Minutes**

UNAPPROVED

January 7, 2026 at 6:30pm

Town Hall Annex – 66 Prospect Street, Ridgefield, CT

Please note – these minutes are not verbatim.

Present: Sean Connelly, Maureen Kozlark, Barbara Manners (via telephone), Rudy Marconi, Geoffrey Morris

Absent: None

Rudy Marconi called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

1. Public Comment

2. Appointments and Reappointments

- a. **Historic District Commission** – The candidates introduced themselves and described their interest and participation on the committee. The committee answered BOS questions regarding disagreements and preservation. The committee explained that alternates participate as much as full members. The committee discussion seeks unanimity on issues. Applications are considered individually while also evaluating community impact. Precedence is not a true issue because no two properties are identical. The committee's philosophical approach to policy and preservation focuses on flexibility, but no charter or bylaws are explicitly stated.
 - i. **Mark Blandford**
 - ii. **Kam Daughters**
 - iii. **Harriet Hanlon**

Maureen Kozlark motioned to appoint Mark Blandford, Kam Daughters, and Harriet Hanlon to the Historic District Commission. Geoffrey Morris seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

- b. **Ridgefield Housing Authority** – Rudy Marconi stated that the current committee finance person submitted comments supporting the appointment of this candidate. The candidate introduced himself sharing that he is a lifelong resident of Ridgefield having grown up here and now raising his own family here. He enjoys giving back to the community that has given so much to his family. He serves as a volunteer with the fire department and as his son's

school basketball coach. His finance education and project experience at Harvard and his work for the mayor of Bridgeport have shaped his views on the importance of dignified housing for all. He would like to share that experience here at home. The BOS asked about balancing multiple commitments and Housing Authority history.

i. **Indra Sen**

Sean Connelly motioned to appoint Indra Sen to the Ridgefield Housing Authority. Maureen Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

- c. **Conservation Commission** – The commission chair discussed recent commission activities and candidate involvement. The BOS asked about the chestnut project and any other significant projects on the horizon.
 - i. **Matt Sharp (full)**
 - ii. **Jana Hogan (alternate to full)**
 - iii. **Tony Markert (alternate)**

Maureen Kozlark motioned to appoint Matt Sharp and Jana Hogan as full members, and Tony Markert as an alternate member. Sean Connelly seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Sean Connelly motioned to adjourn the BOS meeting to a public hearing at 7:30pm. Seconded by Maureen Kozlark. Motion carried 5-0.

Barbara Manners left during the public hearing.

The BOS meeting continued at 8:35 pm.

3. Senior Tax Committee

The BOS discussed the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed senior tax credits. While they appreciate the challenges seniors face, they also recognize that any tax credits mean shifting the burden of the town's expenses to the rest of the community. Any credit for seniors means a revenue deficit for the town. The BOS was in support of a means test for any credit but some also oppose repealing any existing non-means tested credit. The Senior Tax Committee proposed two entirely new tax credits and adjustments to two existing tax credits. The BOS was in agreement to; maintain the existing non-means tested income credit at the current amount, establish the new supplemental means-tested tax credit tied to income levels with a maximum of \$85,000, and raise the income maximum to \$85,000 for the existing Elderly Deferment Program. The BOS also considered indexing the programs to the mil rate and adding language to the ordinance to adjust the credits periodically. Draft ordinance will be prepared for the public hearing.

No action taken.

4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. **November 19, 2025 Public Hearing**

Sean Connelly motioned to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2025 Public Hearing as presented. Maureen Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 3-0-1 (Manners absent, Morris abstained).

b. December 3, 2025 Public Hearing

Maureen Kozlark and Sean Connelly submitted corrections.

Maureen Kozlark motioned to approve the December 3, 2025 Public Hearing minutes, as amended. Geoffrey Morris seconded.

Motion carried 3-0-1 (Manners absent, Connelly abstained).

c. December 10, 2025 Fire Commission Meeting

Sean Connelly corrected one item regarding response time tracking.

Geoffrey Morris motioned to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2025 Fire Commission Meeting, as amended. Sean Connelly seconded. Motion carried 4-0 (Manners absent).

d. December 10, 2025 BOS Meeting

Sean Connelly motioned to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2025 Board of Selectpersons Meeting, as presented. Geoffrey Morris seconded. Motion carried 4-0 (Manners absent).

e. December 13, 2025 Public Hearing

Maureen Kozlark submitted one correction.

Sean Connelly motioned to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2025 Public Hearing minutes. Maureen Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 4-0 (Manners absent).

5. Selectpersons Report

The BOS reviewed a request for ADA compliance funding from Lounsbury House.

Rudy Marconi shared a report on 145 High Ridge Road. No action needed from Ridgefield. DEEP will be handling next steps.

Rudy Marconi asked the BOS to submit interview questions for Saturday's interview session.

Various department heads have been discussing the budget. The BOS will receive the first draft next week.

The Boys and Girls Club opened in Danbury.

Rudy Marconi is meeting with the BOF to discuss short and long-term financial needs for the town.

Sean Connelly motioned to adjourn the Board of Selectpersons meeting at 9:51 pm. Maureen Kozlark seconded. Motion carried 4-0 (Manners absent).