

LEGAL NOTICE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
EAST HADDAM
May 8, 2013

Town Clerk, Debra H. Denette called the Special Town Meeting to order at 8:00 at the Town Meeting Hall, 492 Town Street, East Haddam. Approximately thirty (30) people were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First Selectman Mark Walter motioned to nominate Deb Denette as Moderator. Edward Blaschik seconded the motion. Additional nominations were solicited, none were offered. Laurie Alt motioned to close nominations, Mr. Walter seconded the motion. The motion closing nomination carried unanimously via voice vote. The Town Clerk called for a vote appointing Deb Denette to serve as Moderator, the motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

The Moderator briefly defined the rules of conduct and presented the call of the meeting. Craig Mansfield motioned to accept the call as presented, Jim Ventres seconded the motion. The motion accepting the call as presented carried unanimously via voice vote.

The Moderator presented item #1:

Item 1: To consider and discuss (but not to vote on) the Town Budget for the 2013-2014 fiscal year in the amount of \$28,700,076 as recommended by the Board of Finance.

All those persons qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of East Haddam, Connecticut, are hereby further notified that pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam have removed the above item on the call of this Special Town Meeting for submission to the voters of the Town of East Haddam who are qualified to vote at Town meetings for "yes" or "no" vote by voting machine on the following question:

Shall the Town of East Haddam budget of \$28,700,076, as recommended by the Board of Finance for fiscal year 2013-2014 be approved?

Mrs. Denette solicited comments and/or questions regarding the budget. Mr. Blaschik raised several questions concerning the drawdown of the fund balance and what capital projects would be undertaken with the proposed budget. Finance Director, Cindy Varricchio responded.

Mr. Blaschik motioned that the legislative body herein assembled remove \$620,000 from the \$28,700,076 proposed budget to be voted at referendum. Susan Link seconded the motion.

The Moderator explained that at town meeting the amount of the budget can be lowered, but cannot be increased. She emphasized that the vote would be on accepting the amendment and not on the budget itself. Mrs. Link stated that she felt that there was room for improvement in the budget, but did not feel that \$620,000 could be removed. Mr. Walter spoke against the amendment.

The Moderator stated that she had a motion and a second that the legislative body herein assembled remove \$620,000 from the \$28,700,076 proposed budget to be voted on at referendum. The motion failed overwhelmingly. One yeah was recorded.

The Town Clerk advised that the referendum shall be conducted at the Old Town Hall and that Absentee Ballots are anticipated to be available on Monday, May 13th.

Item 2 Mr. Mansfield motioned, Emmett Lyman seconded that the legislative body herein assembled vote on the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen that the polls shall be open at six o'clock a.m. to conduct the referendum on May 21, 2013.

Registrar of Voters Laurie Alt suggested that the noon start is sufficient. She further noted that absentee ballots will be available for those not able to be accommodated from the noon to eight timeframe. One lady encouraged the earlier start time.

There being no additional discussion, the Moderator advised that she had a motion and a second that the legislative body herein assembled direct that the polls shall be opened at 6:00 a.m. on May 21st to conduct the referendum. The motion failed overwhelmingly. One yeah was recorded.

Item #3 Kathy Klinck motioned, Denise Gable seconded that the legislative body herein assembled act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, pursuant to the power granted by the State of Connecticut, Office of Policy and Management under section 4-66g(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes (the Small Town Economic Assistance Program Act), the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of East Haddam make an application to the State for \$200,000 in order to undertake the Old Town Hall and Grange Building Project and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town of East Haddam:

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by section 4-66g(d) of the Connecticut General Statutes (STEAP).
2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by the Town of East Haddam in an amount not to exceed \$200,000 is hereby approved (revenue account 79-431510—G1302 and expense account 79-541750-G1302) and that Mark B. Walter, the First Selectman is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with The State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of East Haddam.

Mr. Walter described the nature of the improvements to be undertaken; Mr. Blaschik commented that there are more pressing capital projects that could be undertaken. Mr. Walter responded that the project was driven by the need to gain handicapped access to the Grange Hall.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator reiterated that she had a motion and a second that the legislative body herein assembled accept a STEAP grant in the amount not to exceed \$200,000 as noted above. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote with Mr. Blaschik abstaining.

Item 4: Bruce Dutch motioned, Ms. Klinck seconded that the legislative body herein assembled act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Section 157 of Public Act No. 12-2 of the June 12, 2012 Special Session of the Connecticut General Assembly (the "Act") established a program, known as the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) program, to facilitate loan financing for clean energy improvements to commercial properties by utilizing a state or local assessment mechanism to provide security for repayment of the loans; and

WHEREAS, the Act authorizes the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority (the "Authority"), a public instrumentality and political subdivision of the State charged with implementing the C-PACE program on behalf of the State, to enter into a written agreement with participating municipalities pursuant to which the municipality may agree to assess, collect, remit and assign, benefit assessments to the Authority in return for energy improvements for benefited property owners within the municipality and for costs reasonably incurred by the municipality in performing such duties; and

WHEREAS, the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") Agreement (the "C-PACE Agreement") between the Town of East Haddam and the Authority, as attached hereto, constitutes the written agreement authorized by the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

(a) that we, the Board of Selectmen, constituting the legislative body of the Town of East Haddam, hereby approves the C-PACE Agreement, and

(b) that Mark B. Walter is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver the C-PACE Agreement, substantially in the form attached to this Resolution, for the purposes provided therein, together with such other documents as he or she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to evidence, secure and otherwise complete the C-PACE Agreement.

Mr. Walter explained the purpose of the C-Pace agreement and noted that the Town will receive a small stipend of \$500 annually to offset administrative costs. The additional administrative burden will fall upon the Town Clerk and Tax Collector and both have agreed to take on the tasks.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator noted that she had a motion and a second that the legislative body herein assembled authorize the C-Pace Agreement between the Town of East Haddam and the Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority as discussed herein. The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 5 Mr. Lyman motioned, Mr. Dutch Seconded that the legislative body herein assembled act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Board of Selectmen:

RESOLVED: That the Resident State Trooper Ordinance adopted by Town Meeting, November 21, 1961 and amended at Town Meeting, October 28, 1987, is hereby amended to follows:

Voted, that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter into such agreements and contracts with the [DELETE: Commissioner of State Police so that a Resident State Trooper] [ADD: Commissioner of the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection so that Resident State Trooper(s)] be appointed to serve the town of East Haddam and that the First Selectman be authorized to sign such agreements and contracts on behalf of the town. (Town Meeting, November 21, 1961)

[DELETE: Voted, to authorize the board of Selectmen to enter into such agreements and contracts with the Commissioner of Public Safety so that a second Resident State Trooper be appointed to serve the town of East Haddam and that the First Selectman be authorized to sign such agreements and contract on behalf of the town. (Special Town Meeting October 28, 1987)]

Mr. Walter defined the planned changes to law enforcement in town. He noted that the resident state trooper costs go down significantly with the reduction of a trooper, effectuating the ability to obtain more coverage by regular officers. He noted that the resources that go with the resident state trooper are not compromised as long as one is retained.

There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a vote on the motion. The motion adopting the ordinance amendment carried unanimously via voice vote.

