

Board of Selectmen  
Town Office Annex  
May 13, 2013  
Special Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter; Emmett Lyman; John Blaschik  
Selectmen Absent: None  
Also Present: C. Mansfield; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of May 1, 2013:

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 1, 2013 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: No correspondence was discussed at this time in the meeting.

A. Board of Assessment Appeals – Spring 2013 Final Report: Mr. Walter clarified a statement made at the last Board of Selectmen meeting by Mr. Edward Blaschik that the review of the appeals resulted in an approximate \$2M reduction to the Town's grand list. He noted that the reduction was actually \$931,730. He also noted that he asked the Assessor, Loreta Zdanys to attend the next Board of Finance meeting and report on how the revaluation process went.

5. First Selectmen's Report: Mr. Walter asked Mr. Blaschik if he would sit on the interview committee for the Senior Center Director position. Mr. Blaschik agreed to be part of that committee.

6. Citizen's Concerns: There were no citizen's concerns voiced at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business:

A. Tax and Business Incentive Program Application: There was no update on this agenda item.

B. Bid Award – Police Vehicle: Mr. Mansfield explained that at a Selectmen's meeting held on April 19 the bid for a police vehicle was awarded to Crowley Ford in the amount of \$27,758.00 but prior to the award letter being issued the State bid results were released and the same vehicle can be purchased from the State contractor, MHQ for \$26,936.90 which is a savings of \$821.10. Mr. Mansfield noted the he is recommending that the board rescind the motion to award the Police Vehicle to Crowley Ford and authorize Mr. Mansfield to purchase the police vehicle from the state bid contractor MHQ in the amount of \$26,936.90.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to rescind the April 19, 2013 Board of Selectmen motion to award the bid for one 2014 Ford Interceptor Police Utility AWD Vehicle to Crowley Ford, LLC in the amount of \$27,758.00 and to authorize Craig Mansfield to negotiate with the state bid contractor MHQ per their quote of \$26,936.90 for this vehicle. Unanimous aye.

## 8. New Business

A. Bid Waiver – River House Painting: Mr. Walter explained the time constraints due to the Swing Bridge Centennial and the lack of another location to hold the ceremony. He further explain that Parker Painting had the second to lowest quote for the painting of the Town Office Building (low contractor withdrew his quote) and did a fine job on the building. Parker Painting had the lowest quote for the Annex/Garage painting and will be starting that work this week. The painting for the Town Office Building and Annex/Garage were both under the bid threshold but the River House painting work was over the \$7,500 threshold. The River House will require construction repairs which will be completed by JPN Construction over the next couple of weeks. We would need to have the painting completed before the June 15 Swing Bridge Centennial.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to waive the bid process for the painting of the River House and authorize the First Selectman or Director of Facilities and Operations to negotiate with Parker Painting and Restoration per their quote of \$9,975.00 for this work. Unanimous aye.

B. Discussion of East Haddam Elementary School Building Renovation Committee Charge: Mr. Walter reported that there will be a joint meeting of the board of Selectmen and the Middle School Conversion Committee on May 23. At this meeting O & G will present their recommendation for the four building projects. He noted that their tentative plan was to sell Company #2, make minor renovations to Company #1, renovate the old middle school for town offices and use the Ray section to accommodate emergency services and perform the renovations to the elementary school. The board discussed the elevator and handicapped access to the old middle school building.

Mr. Walter noted that O & G representatives were redoing the estimates but the preliminary numbers were indicating a \$29M project. He explained that O & G was assuming all hazardous materials were present and planned on having them removed. Mr. Blaschik questioned how doing this was saving money. He noted that it looked as if we were spending at addition \$14M instead of the original \$13M. The board discussed bringing these projects to referendum in September. Mr. Walter stated that the Middle School project had been put on hold to create a 10-year capital plan to address all major projects.

C. Discussion of Municipal Building Committee Charge: Mr. Walter noted that this item was basically covered in the discussion of the Elementary School Building Renovation Committee Charge but added that he would send both charges to Mary Beth Iacobelli and Nancy Haslam for review. Mr. Mansfield asked that they be marked as draft.

D. State Police Contract (Resident Trooper): Mr. Walter presented the State Police Contract for our Resident Trooper that he recently received. He noted that the contract was the same as was signed two years ago with the exception of the town contracting for one Resident Trooper instead of two. Mr. Mansfield clarified that the East Haddam Police will need to sign a new Acknowledgement of Receipt for the Resident State Trooper Administration & Operations Manual.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, that Mark B. Walter, the First Selectman be and herewith authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of East Haddam with the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police for the services of one (1) Resident State Trooper for a Two-year period from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015.

E. Regional Agricultural Council: Mr. Walter informed the board about the RiverCOG discussions regarding the creation of a Regional Agricultural Council. He explained that the objectives of the Council were to support farming in the 17 municipalities and promote agriculture, friendly land use and municipal policies.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adopt the following resolution:

Be it resolved that on May 13, 2013, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam voted to participate in the proposed Regional Agricultural Council being formed with the assistance of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments.

Be it further resolved, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam appoint Jessica Stone as East Haddam's representative to the Regional Agricultural Council.

Unanimous aye.

F. Committee Appointment (FMC): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to an application from a resident to join the Farmer's Market Committee.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to appoint George Scrivener Sr. as a regular member for an initial one-year term to expire June 30, 2014 on the Farmers Market Committee. Unanimous aye.

G. Tax Refunds: There were no tax refunds to consider.

9. Public Comment: There was no public comment at the meeting.

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

A. Budget Referendum – May 21, 2013: Mr. Walter reminded the board that the Budget Referendum will be held at the Town Hall on May 21<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to adjourn the meeting at 2:44 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emmett Lyman, Secretary

Tape: None