

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Grange Hall
December 3, 2014
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: M. Walter; E. Lyman; E. Malavasi

Also Present: P. Bandzes (CL&P); R. Berryhill; E. Blaschik; L. Branscombe; R. Casner; D. Chesson; W. Cross; D. Denette; J. Dill; R. Dill; J. Shea; C. Hnilicka; J. Roczniak; S. Sojka (CL&P); L. Stuhlman; K. Staehly; P. Tripputi; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Walter stated that he would like to add the recommendation of a new EDC Commissioner to agenda item 8.B.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 19, 2014

It was noted that the first sentence of the second paragraph under Agenda Item 7.F. should be deleted.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 19, 2014 as amended. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence:

- A. Letter from Edmund Gubbins Regarding Old Middle School Mural: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a letter from Mr. Gubbins, dated December 1, 2014, in their meeting packets. He advised that he had spoken with Mr. Gubbins and Mr. Casner about removing the mural from the Old Middle School and he is in support of the project; however, he stated he would like a more detailed plan and cost estimate before presenting the request to the Board of Finance. Ms. Roczniak advised that approximately \$3,000.00 has been donated toward the project.

The Selectmen discussed the potential impacts of leaving or removing the mural on any future plans for the Old Middle School. Mr. Walter stated he hoped the project could be completed through volunteer efforts but Mr. Casner advised that the relocation of the mural should be done by trained professionals. Mr. Walter advised that he would continue working with the informal group that has approached him about this project.

- B. Correspondence from Rotary Club and Martha Tonucci Regarding Skate Park: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding this agenda item. He noted that the Rotary is turning the Rotary Skating Park over to the

Town and that he asked Land Use Administrator Ventres to respond to the petition regarding the lighting at the park.

Mr. Walter advised that Mr. Ventres had reported that the Rotary's 2011 lighting replacements at the park "*met the goals of the Planning and Zoning Regulations and the Plan of Conservation and Development*". He further noted that Mr. Ventres had recommended planting a permanent buffer of evergreen trees to address the lighting issues.

Mr. Hnilicka stated that the Rotary has not yet flooded the skating pond and, if it is not flooded, it would jeopardize some rare plants that grow there. Ms. Denette advised that the Rotary would make a decision on flooding the pond at its December 4th meeting.

In response to a question from the public, Ms. Denette advised that the East Haddam Rotary Club announced that it is going to cease being a Rotary Club in East Haddam effective June 30, 2015. There has been dwindling membership over the past decade and it has become increasingly difficult to carry on as they should. In June of 1945 the Rotary Club of East Haddam was chartered and parented the Colchester Rotary Club, and established a subsidiary entity, East Haddam Scholarships Inc. The administrative management of two distinct organizations by their small group has facilitated discussions about the longevity of Rotary for quite some time. Going forward, they will be focusing their efforts on the services provided through East Haddam Scholarships, Inc. Any funds remaining in the Rotary accounts will be transferred to East Haddam Scholarships Inc. effective June 30, 2015.

Mr. Walter thanked the Rotary Club for all its work over the years.

5. First Selectmen's Report

- A. Clean Energy Committee Presentation: Mr. Walter introduced Ms. Bandzes and Ms. Sojka and advised that they would be giving a presentation on Connecticut's Clean Energy Communities program. He reported that the Town had previously signed the Clean Energy Communities Pledge

Ms. Bandzes advised that 119 Connecticut towns have signed the Clean Energy pledge. Ms. Sojka reviewed information about the program and responded to several questions. In response to a request from Ms. Zemienieski, Ms. Sojka agreed to provide information on appropriate goals/objectives for a Clean Energy Task Force.

In response to a question from the public, Ms. Bandzes advised that, at this time, the utilities have no plans to convert to LED streetlights.

- 6. Citizens' Concerns: There was a brief discussion regarding the removal of the Langdon Kihn mural from the Old Middle School and Mr. Walter stated that he would seek input on the project from an architectural firm.

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Blight Ordinance Discussion: There was no new update on this agenda item.
- B. A.P. Gates Road/Warner Road Drainage Discussion: There was no new update on this agenda item.
- C. Wocl Road Discussion: Mr. Walter reported that the road sign has been installed. He stated that he has requested feedback on assuming ownership of the road from the Town's land use attorney.

In response to a question from Mr. Malavasi, Mr. Walter stated that he did not believe that the Public Works Department had sanded the road after last week's snowstorm because it has never been on the list to be treated.

- D. Emergency Communications Center Contract for Municipal Services Discussion: Mr. Walter reported that the Town's Communications team had toured the Montville facility and that he has requested a final proposal from Valley Shore. He further stated that he will be meeting with the Town's attorney to review the KX contract. He noted that he also sent a letter to the state in support of completing the Mount Parnassus tower.
- E. Agriculture Commission Discussion: The Selectmen agreed to schedule a special meeting to discuss the candidates who had submitted applications for the new Agriculture Commission.
- F. Maple Avenue/Landing Hill Stop Sign Discussion: Mr. Walter stated that he has asked Public Works Director Lunt to set up a meeting with the State Department of Transportation to discuss this issue.

8. New Business

- A. 2014 Homeland Security Memorandum Agreement Resolution: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding this agenda item and noted that it is the standard resolution the Town adopts regarding Homeland Security grants it receives.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town of East Haddam may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Mark B. Walter as the First Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on

behalf of the Town of East Haddam and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Unanimous aye.

- B. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (IWWC, WPCA, EDC): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets concerning membership changes to several Boards and Commissions. He noted that Mr. Fred Meyers term had expired on the WPCA and would not be renewed.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to reappoint Randolph Dill and Jennifer Burton-Reeve as regular members for two-year terms to expire June 30, 2016 on the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to reappoint Richard Fiala as a regular member of the Water Pollution Control Authority for a five-year term to expire June 30, 2018. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to appoint Edward Blaschik as a regular member of the Water Pollution Control Authority for a five-year term to expire June 30, 2018. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to appoint Kevin Staehly as an alternate member of the Economic Development Commission for a vacant five-year term to expire June 30, 2015. Unanimous aye.

- C. Volunteer of the Month (October): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a Volunteer of the Month nomination received from Ms. Maryjane Malavasi. Ms. Malavasi recommended Barbara Davis for her active involvement on the East Haddam Lions Club. Ms. Malavasi's recommendation noted that, *"Barbara is a founding member of the East Haddam Community Club [and] has worked hard for the club and community... she has received numerous awards [including] the Progressive Melvin Jones Award ... the highest award given by Lions International..."*.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to name Barbara Davis as Volunteer of the Month for October 2014. Unanimous aye.

- D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to one refund.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to award a tax refund in the amount as presented.

- \$508.06 to Peterson DL Trust
Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: Mr. Shea expressed his concern that the Volunteer of the Month Award plaques are not publicly displayed and suggested suspending the awards until they can be. Mr. Walter stated he will make it a priority to find a suitable location to hang the plaques.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Dill, Mr. Walter advised that the Homeland Security resolution relates to grants funds received for the Region 3 Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security that the Town must authorize the region to spend. Mr. Lyman provided her with a copy of the Homeland Security Department's Memorandum of Agreement.

In response to a question presented by Mr. Shea, Mr. Walter stated that he is in support of razing the Ray portion of the old Middle School and repurposing the original Nathan Hale school building.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. 2015 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to the list of 2015 Board of Selectmen's meeting schedule.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the following dates as the meeting schedule for the Board of Selectmen for the 2015 calendar year: January 7 & 15, February 4 & 18, March 4 & 18, April 1 & 15, May 6 & 20, June 3 & 17, July 1 & 15, August 5 & 19, September 2 & 16, October 7 & 21, November 4 & 18, December 2 & 16, and January 6 & 20, 2016. All meetings will be held at 7:00pm in the Grange Hall. Unanimous aye.

- B. Chamber of Commerce Meeting (December 18, 2014 @8:00 am – Grange Hall): Mr. Walter advised that, due to a schedule conflict, he would not be able to attend the December 18th Chamber of Commerce meeting. Mr. Lyman stated he would attend the meeting.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary