

Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Grange Hall  
December 17, 2014  
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: E. Lyman; E. Malavasi

Absent: M. Walter

Also Present: F. Anderson; R. Berryhill; E. Blaschik; L. Branscombe; W. Cross; J. Dill; R. Dill; C. Mansfield; M. McLaud Tonucci; J. Rocznia; J. Shea; C. Sullivan; J. Turner; M. Turner; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. Selectman Lyman called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of December 3, 2014 and Regular Meeting of December 3, 2014

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of December 3, 2014 as written. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 3, 2014 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence:
  - A. Robert DelGatto Suggestion Letter (12/1/14): Mr. Lyman read Mr. DelGatto's letter, dated December 1, 2014, suggesting a Town newsletter be created to foster pride in the community's history and current environment. Mr. DelGatto's letter noted, "*This 'pride' in the town could lift people's feeling for their town & create an atmosphere of repair & restoration which many of our neighborhoods need.*" Mr. Lyman stated that it is a good suggestion; however, due to time constraints, the Town's employees would not be able to take on the project.
  - B. Letter from Martha Tonucci (12/15/14) to Rotary Club Regarding Skate Park: Mr. Lyman read a letter signed by Ms. Tonucci, Mr. Tonucci and Ms. Trotochaud, dated December 15, 2014, and advised that the Town cannot take any action on the lighting situation at the Rotary Skate Park until the property is transferred to its ownership.
5. First Selectmen's Report:
  - A. Local Prevention Council Presentation - Colleen Sullivan: Mr. Lyman introduced Ms. Sullivan and Mr. Mansfield, members of the Local Prevention Council, and invited them to present to the meeting.

Ms. Sullivan provided information on the goals and objectives of the Local Prevention Council and she and Mr. Mansfield delivered a presentation on the findings of a multi-year survey of 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade East Haddam students regarding drug/alcohol use and risk perception. Ms. Sullivan responded to several questions from the audience.

6. Citizens' Concerns: Ms. Tonucci stated that she had written several letters to the Rotary Club regarding the impact of the new lighting at the Skate Park on her home and her neighbor's home. She advised that she had not received a response to her letters from the Rotary Club and, consequently, brought the issue to the attention of First Selectman Walter. She advised that Mr. Walter has been in contact with her and told her the Selectmen will do a site visit to the Park to observe the lighting.

Ms. Tonucci read the homeowners' response to Land Use Administrator Ventres' memo regarding that lighting which was discussed at the December 3, 2014 Board of Selectmen's regular meeting. She emphasized that, at a minimum, the lights could be timed to be turned off at 10 p.m. rather than at midnight.

Mr. Lyman reiterated that the Town could not take any action on the lighting until the Rotary Club transfers the property over to the Town. In response to a question from Ms. Branscombe, he stated that he believed the transfer would happen fairly soon. Ms. Zemienieski advised that the transfer paperwork is in process and that the quit claim deed is currently with the Town's attorney for review.

Mr. Turner was recognized by Mr. Lyman. Mr. Turner stated that he resides on Bogel Road and is concerned about the drainage of the pond located adjacent to Daniels Road. He noted that the Town had removed the remaining section of the collapsed beaver dam to alleviate flooding over the road; however, that action has resulted in accelerated draining of the pond. He stated that he is concerned about the loss of habitat for numerous birds and other animals and requested the Town put back in place a natural dam to prevent further drainage until CT DEEP can look into acceptable solutions that would avoid sacrificing the pond.

## 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: There was no new update on this agenda item.
- D. Emergency Communications Center Contract for Municipal Services Discussion: There was no new update on this agenda item.
- E. Agriculture Commission Discussion: Mr. Lyman advised that a Special Meeting will be held on December 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss this agenda item.

- F. Maple Avenue/Landing Hill Stop Sign Discussion: Ms. Zemienieski advised that Mr. Walter has asked Public Works Administrator Lunt to contact the CT DOT to request their opinion on the question of removing the stop signs from Maple Avenue and Landing Hill that were installed during the State's recent bridge work on Route 82.

8. New Business

- A. Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program Grant Resolution: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding this agenda item and noted that the Lower Connecticut River Valley Council of Governments (RiverCOG) is planning to submit a grant application for several projects that will benefit the towns in the RiverCOG. He advised that the participating towns must pass a resolution so that the RiverCOG can submit its application.

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

**Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program**

**Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization**

(To be certified by the City or Town Clerk)

Resolved, that the Legislative Body\* of the Town of East Haddam convened on December 17, 2014 and adopted a resolution by the vote of two (2) to zero (0) which endorsed the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposal(s) listed below, referenced in Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-124s, (2014 Supplement).

1. Regional Parcel Update Municipal Coordination and Inland Wetland Layer Project
2. The Lower CT River Region River COG Tourism and Transit Study and Marketing Plan
3. State-Regional Cooperative Aerial Flyover and Lidar Data Project

In addition, the Legislative Body\* has authorized Mark B. Walter, First Selectman to act on this endorsement by signing all necessary agreements and take all necessary actions related to this proposal to enter into a binding agreement with the Office of Policy and Management according to terms of the RPI grant program.

(\*NOTE: For the purposes of the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program, "legislative body" means the board of selectmen, town council, city council, board of alderman, board of directors, board of representatives or board of the mayor and burgesses of a municipality.)

Unanimous aye.

- B. Uniform Chart of Accounts (UCOA) Grant Resolution: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding this agenda item and

noted that the State is offering a grant for municipalities and Boards of Education (BOE) that are adopting the unified Chart of Accounts and upgrading their accounting system. Because both the Town and the BOE have done this, the Town is eligible for up to \$30,000 to offset related expenses. He stated that a resolution passed by the Boards of Education, Finance and Selectmen and Legislative Body (Town Meeting) is required to apply for this grant.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution and send to Town Meeting for approval:

**Uniform Chart of Accounts (UCOA)**  
**Resolution of Endorsement and Authorization**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam convened on December 17, 2014 adopted a resolution by the vote of two (2) to zero (0) which endorsed the Town's participation in the UCOA Conversion Grant Program (single entity) administered by the Office of Policy and Management in accordance with Sections 87 and 328 of Public Act 13-247. In addition, the Board of Selectmen has authorized Mark B. Walter, First Selectman of the Town of East Haddam to act on this endorsement by submitting a proposal and performing necessary administrative actions to enter into a binding agreement with the Office of Policy and Management according to the terms of the UCOA grant program. Such proposal is attached to and made a part of this record.

Unanimous aye.

- C. Call for Town Meeting: The Selectmen discussed the call to send the various items to Town Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the following call for Town Meeting:

The Electors and citizens of the Town of East Haddam, Connecticut qualified to vote in Town Meeting are hereby warned and notified that the Annual Town Meeting will be held in the Town Meeting Hall on Town Street in the said Town of East Haddam, at 8:00 p.m., Monday, December 29, 2014 for the following purposes, to wit:

**Item 1:** To consider and act upon the recommendation that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter into all necessary agreements with the Transportation Commissioner of the State of Connecticut for the receipt of State Aid for town highways in accordance with the General Statutes of Connecticut.

**Item 2:** To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Education, Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Legislative Body of the Town of East Haddam adopt a resolution which endorses the Town's participation in the UCOA conversion Grant Program (single

entity) administered by the Office of Policy and Management in accordance with Sections 87 and 328 of Public Act 13-247. In addition, the Legislative Body authorizes Mark B. Walter, First Selectman of the Town of East Haddam to act on this endorsement by submitting a proposal and performing necessary administrative actions to enter into a binding agreement with the Office of Policy and Management according to the terms of the UCOA grant program. Copies of such proposal are on file in the Town Clerk's Office during regular business hours.

Unanimous aye.

- D. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (BOFC): Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to an email recommending a reappointment in their meeting packets for the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Motion made by Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to reappoint George Scrivener for a second three-year term to expire January 1, 2018 as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Unanimous aye.

- E. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to one refund.

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

- \$585.62 to Daimler Trust

Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: Ms. Dill noted, for the record, that she first brought up her request for the removal of the stop signs at Maple Avenue and Landing Hill Road (Agenda Item 7F) at the October 29, 2014 Board of Selectmen meeting and, at that time, Selectmen Lyman and Malavasi supported her request.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Dill, Mr. Lyman provided him with the paperwork related to the RiverCOG's proposed grant application for its Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program.

Mr. Shea asked the Selectman to thank Mr. Walter for having the Volunteer of the Month recognition plaques displayed at the Grange. He also noted that he is in favor of having a walking tour map of the Town's historic graveyards created.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Rocznik, Mr. Mansfield advised that he spoke with representatives from O&G regarding the relocation of the Langdon Kihn mural and they are researching qualified firms for the work; however, before any quotes can be submitted, the mural must be appraised. Ms. Dill noted that Yale University may be a resource for the appraisal; Mr. Mansfield noted that he has reached out to Wesleyan University which has similarly qualified staff.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. Rail Corridor Study Stakeholders Workshop (January 22, 2015 from 4:00 – 5:30 pm):  
Mr. Lyman advised that a Stakeholders Workshop would be held at the Essex Town Hall on January 22<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the current study concerning the Valley Railroad State Park. He noted that the public is encouraged to attend.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Malavasi, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary