

Board of Selectmen Meeting  
Grange Hall  
February 4, 2015  
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: M. Walter; E. Lyman. Absent: E. Malavasi  
Also Present: D. Barlow; E. Blaschik; R. Casner; J. Dill; R. Dill; L. Gardner; M. Gillis; M. Gilroy; C. Jackson; B. Kiley; J. Roczniak; E. Schwartz; J. Shea; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:00 pm 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: Special Meeting of January 21, 2015

Mr. Lyman noted that, since the January 21<sup>st</sup> Board of Selectmen's meeting started at 8:00 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m. due to the meeting with the Business Association held prior to the Selectmen's meeting, the minutes should be amended to read "Special Meeting Minutes".

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 21, 2015 as amended. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence:

Mr. Walter advised that he had received an email from Randy Miller, dated February 1, 2015, thanking him for his participation on the Lake and Watershed Management Plan Stakeholders meeting on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Walter provided additional information regarding the meeting.

5. First Selectmen's Report:

Mr. Walter reported that on January 30<sup>th</sup> he, Linda Zemienieski and Dawn Snow had attended our insurance company, CIRMA's annual meeting. He stated that Ms. Zemienieski had attended a breakout session on the Freedom of Information Act and he and Ms. Snow attended the session on accident reporting and Workers' Compensation fraud. He noted that the Town received an award for reducing its Workers' Comp claims by over 50%.

- A. Library System Update: Mr. Walter introduced Mr. Gilroy, Director of the East Haddam Library System, and asked him to provide an update on recent changes to the Town's libraries. Mr. Gilroy introduced several members of the Library's Board of Trustees present at the meeting and reported that, on January 20<sup>th</sup>, the East Haddam Free Public Library became a member of LION, putting both of the Town's libraries on the same system. He also reported that on February 8<sup>th</sup> the Friends of the East Haddam Public Library and the Friends of the Rathbun Free Memorial Library will host an event at the Grange Hall in celebration of our librarians. Ms. Schwartz noted that the two Friends groups are discussing the logistics of merging into a single entity. Mr. Walter thanked Mr. Gilroy for his report and provided information on recent physical upgrades to the facilities.

Mr. Walter advised the attendees that the East Haddam Business Association had provided him with a supply of “Local Business Strong” wristbands and they were available at the meeting. He also stated that several copies of the Town’s Annual Report were also available at the meeting.

6. Citizens’ Concerns: In response to a question raised by Ms. Rocznia, Mr. Walter advised that Mr. Gilroy is working on getting an appraisal of the mural in the Old Middle School and several other items at the libraries and town. He agreed to check to see if funds are included in the proposed budget for moving the mural to a different location.

Mr. Shea stated that he liked the wristbands but feels that future versions should have the Town’s name on them.

## 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.

## 8. New Business

- A. Transient Dock Facility Bid Discussion: Mr. Walter advised that the Town had previously been awarded a grant of \$45,000, with a Town match of \$15,000, to construct a small dock on the CT River at Lumberyard Road. He stated that the Town expended approximately \$13,000-\$15,000 on engineering, design and construction administration services and that approximately \$45,000 is left for construction/materials. He reported that the Town put the project out to bid but all bids came in over the budgeted amount. He further reported that Keith Neilson, P.E., Docko Inc., had advised him that he believes the project should cost approximately \$45,000.00 to complete and recommended the Town not accept the bids submitted.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to reject all bids received for the Transient Dock Facility project and negotiate a solution with various dock vendors to complete the project. Unanimous aye.

- B. Gift Acceptance: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to a letter from Library Director, Michael Gilroy regarding a donation for the cupola repair and noted that the Rathbun Library received a donation of \$5,000.00 and the donor wishes to remain anonymous. He stated that the gift now needs to proceed through the acceptance process.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to accept a gift for the Rathbun Library in the amount of \$5,000 for the repair of the cupola and send acceptance of said donation to the Board of Finance and then to Town Meeting for approval. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Walter advised that Michael Gilroy has already sent a thank you note for the gift on behalf of the Town of East Haddam.

- C. Bid Award – Heating Oil & Diesel: Mr. Walter explained that fuel prices were released from the Town’s current vendor and the Town could lock in at a fixed rate of approximately \$2.2749/gallon for fuel oil and \$2.2929/gallon for diesel. He stated that the Town is currently paying \$3.2035/gallon for fuel oil and \$3.2052/gallon for diesel and that the new pricing would represent a savings of approximately \$400,000 for the Town and Board of Education over the two year period.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to waive the bid process, finalize prices and authorize the First Selectman to enter into agreements on behalf of the Town with East River Energy, for #2 heating oil at \$2.2749/gallon and diesel fuel at \$2.2929/gallon for a two year period from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017, and send approval of the two-year contract to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting. Unanimous aye.

- D. Tax Refunds: There were no tax refunds for the Selectmen’s consideration.

9. Public Comment: In response to a question raised by Mr. Shea, Mr. Walter reiterated that the East Haddam Business Association had provided the “Local Business Strong” wristbands.

#### 10. Selectmen’s Discussion

Mr. Lyman noted that the osprey nesting platform off the swing bridge has been completed. There was a general discussion regarding barge traffic on the river and it was noted that the ice breaker is working on the lower river and has not yet made its way up to East Haddam.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary