

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

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

Also Present: E. Blaschik; M. Knittel; P. Lacy; C. Mansfield; J. Moreau; C. Varricchio; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of February 12, 2015; Special Meeting of February 14, 2015; Special Meeting of February 17, 2015; Regular Meeting of February 18, 2015; Special Meeting of March 2, 2015.

Mr. Walter noted the following revisions to the listed minutes:

- Special Meeting Minutes of February 17, 2015: page 2, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph under Agenda Item C (Emergency Management), change "\$21M" to "\$2.1M".
- Regular Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2015: page 9, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph under Agenda Item 9 (Public Comment), change "Board of Finance" to "First Selectman".

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 12, 2015 as written. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 14, 2015 as written. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 17, 2015 as amended. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2015 as amended. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of March 2, 2015 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence:

- A. Siting Council Notice - 194 Mt. Parnassus Road Telecommunications Facility: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of letter from the Connecticut Siting Council, dated February 20, 2015, advising that Petition No. 1130 "...*would not have a*

*substantial adverse environmental effect, and .... would not require a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need...*” provided the project met a number of listed conditions.

5. First Selectmen’s Report:

Mr. Walter reported that he met with several representatives from the State Police. He stated that the State Police recommended that members of the Town’s fire department attend a training on how to handle bomb threats. He further advised that State Police reviewed the Town’s crime statistics noting that burglaries are going down (18 reported in 2014); calls for service are increasing, and traffic accidents have remained steady. There was a general discussion regarding the Town’s experience with traffic accidents and it was noted that DUI’s violations have decreased.

A. Technology Discussion – Mark Knittel: Mr. Walter introduced Mr. Knittel, Director of Technology for the Town and the Board of Education. Mr. Knittel distributed a document titled “Retention Overview” and discussed his department’s computer back-up and retention policies. He advised that student information and Munis, the accounting software used by the Town and the Board of Education, are hosted by a vendor who manages the back-up and retention of those records. In response to questions raised by Mr. Malavasi, he discussed disaster recovery procedures and the security of the Town’s servers.

6. Citizens’ Concerns: In response to a question raised by Mr. Lacy, Mr. Walter confirmed that the Town will plow the lake associations’ roads next winter. Mr. Walter noted that many of the roads need to be upgraded to facilitate continued plowing and there was a general discussion regarding the options available for the assessment of the cost of such upgrades.

In response to a question from Mr. Moreau, Mr. Mansfield provided a definition for “service calls” as discussed under Agenda item 5. First Selectmen’s Report.

Mr. Blaschik asked about plans to break the ice on the Connecticut River and expressed his concern about flooding if it is not broken up. Mr. Walter stated he would follow-up with the State to see what can be done.

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: Mr. Ventres reported that the Wetlands Commission denied the owner’s application and, consequently, Planning & Zoning (P&Z) did not take any action on the application. He advised that Attorney Roberts will review the Wetlands Commission’s and P&Z’s minutes related to this issue, conduct a title search and review the maps and field notes to assist the Town in drafting an official opinion to close out this agenda item.

- C. Wool Road Discussion: Mr. Walter advised that the property owner's attorney stated he has several concerns regarding the agreement. He stated he would reach out to the attorney to discuss those concerns.
- D. Emergency Communications Center Contract for Municipal Services Discussion: There was no new update on this Agenda item.
- E. Transient Dock Facility Bid Discussion: Mr. Walter reported that he has asked Docko Inc. to put the quotes for the vendors alternate proposals in writing and he will follow-up with them on that request.

## 8. New Business

- A. Fair Housing Resolution: Mr. Walter explained that in order for the Town to apply for any Small Cities grants it must have a fair housing policy in place which is updated each year and stated that the Board of Selectmen needs to adopt a resolution for fair housing. He advised that the Town is currently working on a Small Cities grant application on behalf of the East Haddam Senior Housing Corporation for Phase II of the Oak Grove renovations.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adopt the fair housing resolution as presented. Unanimous aye. (A copy of the resolution is attached to the minutes.)

- B. Savitsky Lease Approval – Shugrue Property: Mr. Walter reported that the lease for the Shugrue property was written, reviewed and amended by Jim Ventres and Attorney Robert Poliner. He stated that Attorney Poliner advised that the lease would need the approval of the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen prior to signature.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to authorize Mark B. Walter, First Selectman to enter into an agreement titled "TERMINATION OF LEASE DATED JULY 16, 2007 BETWEEN ALEXANDER AND DEBORAH SAVITSKY, TENANT, AND ANN M. SHUGRUE AND ANN C. SHUGRUE, LANDLORD AND CO-OWNER, AND CREATION OF A NEW LEASE BETWEEN ALEXANDER SAVITSKY (TENANT) AND THE TOWN OF EAST HADDAM (TOWN) SUCCESSOR IN TITLE TO ANN M. SHUGRUE AND ANN C. SHUGRUE" on behalf of the Town of East Haddam upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Lease Agreement.  
Unanimous aye.

- C. O & G Contract Discussion: Mr. Walter noted that several members of the Municipal Facilities Building Advisory Group were in attendance at the meeting and he provided background information on this Agenda Item. Messers. Mansfield, Ventres and Blaschik expressed concern regarding O & G's estimates for the project. Mr. Mansfield noted that the estimates provided by Silver & Petrucelli and an independent estimator were fairly

similar and significantly lower than those provided by O & G. Mr. Walter noted that the contract with O & G is complete and the consensus was to not extend it.

D. Board, Commission, Committee Changes (OPSP, AGC):

Open Space Committee

Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a letter from Tiffany Quinn, Recreation Director, requesting the appointment of a Recreation Commission member to the Open Space Committee.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to appoint Mary Colpoys as a member of the Open Space Committee representing the Recreation Commission replacing Brad Parker. Unanimous aye.

Agriculture Commission

Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to three emails in their meeting packets noting resignations from the Agriculture Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to accept, with regret, the resignations of Linda Stuhlman as a regular member and Dennie Burak and Roxanne Berryhill as alternate members on the Agriculture Commission. Unanimous aye.

E. Volunteer of the Month (November & December); Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to two Volunteer of the Month recommendations received.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to name James Curtin as volunteer of the month for November 2014. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to name Kathryn O'Boyle as volunteer of the month for December 2014. Unanimous aye.

F. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to four tax refunds.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to award tax refunds in the amounts as presented.

- \$ 34.44 to Rochelle A. Surprenant,
- \$615.11 to Theodore cone Payable to Robert Cone,
- \$102.09 to Jennifer Griswold, and
- \$405.75 to Sheila Doherty.

Unanimous aye.

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

## 10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. Rail Corridor Study – Stakeholders Workshop (March 17, 2015): Mr. Walter encouraged interested parties to attend the March 17<sup>th</sup> Rail Corridor Stakeholder's Workshop. Mr. Lyman and Mr. Malavasi stated that they hope to attend the meeting.
- B. Town Meeting/Referendum (March 12, 2015 & March 24, 2015): Mr. Walter noted the scheduled Town Meeting/Referendum dates.

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 8:07 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary

### **FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION TOWN OF EAST HADDAM**

Whereas, All persons are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, Connecticut Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression be given equal access to all housing-related opportunities, including rental and home ownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, The Town of East Haddam is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Town of East Haddam hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing

and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the chief executive officer of the Town of East Haddam or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of East Haddam and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

Adopted by the **Town of East Haddam** Board of Selectmen on March 4, 2015

Mark B. Walter  
First Selectman