

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
May 4, 2016
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: S. Link; E. Malavasi
Selectmen Absent: M. Walter
Also Present: E. Blaschik; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. Selectman Link called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 6, 2016 and Special Meeting of April 19, 2016.

Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to table the minutes of both meetings. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence:

- A. Board of Assessment Appeals – Spring 2016 Final Report: Ms. Link recognized Mr. Blaschik, Chairperson of the Board of Assessment Appeals who reported that the Board approved 12 of the 19 appeals received, resulting in an adjustment to the Grand List of (\$434,300.00). Mr. Blaschik noted that all of the appeals were on real property and that this was the first time in over 20 years that the Board had received no personal property or auto appeals.
- B. Press Release – East Haddam Swing Bridge: Ms. Link called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a joint press release in their meeting packets, from Rep. Ziobron and First Selectman Walter, regarding construction work on the Swing Bridge. It was noted that the emergency repairs will result in periodic lane closures and the bridge will only open on demand, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., from April 18 until June 30 and will require a two-hour notice from boaters. The press release further noted that the schedule will not be impacted after 3:00 p.m. or on weekends and that work is scheduled to be completed before July 1st.

There was a general discussion regarding the normal schedule for opening the bridge and Ms. Zemienieski advised that Mr. Walter will be meeting with representatives from the Connecticut Department of Transportation, the Coast Guard, and the Goodspeed Theater to discuss possible modifications to the normal schedule for openings.

5. First Selectmen's Report: There was no update to this agenda item.

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

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Blight Ordinance Discussion: The Selectmen discussed the Public Hearing on the proposed Blight Ordinance. Since none of the Selectmen were able to attend the Hearing, Ms. Zemienieski advised that their meeting packets contain a disk with an audio recording of the Hearing as well as written minutes provided by the Town Clerk. She stated that, after the Selectmen have reviewed those materials, they should discuss next steps at one of their future regular meetings.

8. New Business:

- A. Gift Acceptance – Heritage Park Lighting Project: Ms. Link called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a donation check in their meeting packets.

Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to accept a gift from Robert Knakal for the Town of East Haddam in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Heritage Lighting Project and send acceptance of said donation to the Board of Finance and then to Town Meeting for approval. There was a brief discussion regarding the donation and, in response to a question from Mr. Malavasi, Ms. Zemienieski advised that Mr. Knakal has made donations to the Town on several previous occasions. Unanimous aye.

- B. Beer & Wine Service – Grange Hall (Park & Rec Film Series): Ms. Link called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email in their meeting packet from Tiffany Quinn, dated April 28, 2016, requesting approval to "*offer BYOB to adults attending the film showing(s)*" at the Grange.

Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve BYOB beer & wine events at the Grange Hall for "Microlights Cinema Film Showings" for the balance of the 2016 calendar year. Unanimous aye.

- C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (REC): Ms. Link called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packet related to a resignation from the Recreation Commission and the reappointment of several Commissioners.

Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Edward Smith, IV from the Recreation Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to reappoint Walter Parkus, Mary Colpoys and Margie Roberts as a regular members on the Recreation Commission with terms to expire July 1, 2018. Unanimous aye.

- D. Tax Refunds: There were no tax refunds considered at the meeting.

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

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

A. Budget Referendum (May 17, 2016 – Town Meeting Hall): Ms. Link advised that the Budget Referendum hours have been extended to 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. There was a brief discussion regarding the additional expense that will be incurred by extending the hours.

B. Board of Selectmen Meeting of May 18, 2016 – Time Change: Ms. Link advised that, prior to the next regular Board of Selectmen's meeting, a representative from the Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority will present, to the East Haddam Business Association and other interested individuals, information on how to reduce their utility bills and, consequently, the Selectmen will begin their meeting at 7:30 p.m. rather than 7:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Ms. Link, seconded by Mr. Malavasi to adjourn the meeting at 7:48 p.m. Unanimous aye

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Link, Secretary