

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
October 5, 2016
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: E. Lyman; E. Malavasi Absent: S. Link
Also Present: E. Blaschik; L. Branscombe; C. Dickinson; T. Dickinson; D. Dill; E. Dill; J. Santacroce; R. Smith; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Lyman called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Lyman advised that, in consideration of Mr. Santacroce's time, he would like to move item 7.B. Middlesex Hospital Paramedic Services Grant Application Agreement, up on the agenda to follow the approval of the minutes.

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of September 21, 2016.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2016 as written. Unanimous aye.

- 8.B. Middlesex Hospital Paramedic Services Grant Application Agreement: Mr. Lyman introduced Mr. Jim Santacroce, Paramedic and Manager of Middlesex Hospital's Emergency Medical Services. Mr. Santacroce advised that Connecticut towns are obligated by law to provide first responder, ambulance, and paramedic services and that the rates for the ambulance and paramedic services are set by the State of Connecticut. He stated that Connecticut has imposed additional taxes on not-for-profit hospitals and, as a result, the management of Middlesex Hospital reviewed and made changes to some of their fees, including ones related to some of the community services it provides.

Mr. Santacroce noted that the per-capita fee the hospital is charging the Town of East Haddam for paramedic support will have no impact whatsoever on the financial obligation of most of the residents of East Haddam for ambulance and paramedic services. He noted, however, that if the Town did not participate in a contract with Middlesex Hospital for paramedic support, Medicare patients would be billed and held responsible for a substantial portion of any ambulance/paramedic services they receive unlike their previous experience.

Mr. Santacroce stated that Middlesex Hospital had and continues to work with the RiverCOG's Paramedic Committee to structure a reasonable cost-sharing agreement and to look for ways to manage the cost to municipalities. He responded to questions from the attendees and Selectmen. Some of the attendees expressed concern that the cost of the

contract is covered by taxes, which everyone pays, but only a small portion of the population benefits from the agreement. It was noted that the portion of the population that would be negatively impacted by not signing a contract for paramedic services is the most vulnerable both physically and financially.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Branscombe, Mr. Lyman confirmed that the Town had signed a contract for the first year, however, it is a year-by-year contract and either party can terminate the agreement with 90-days' notice. He noted that the RiverCOG strongly recommended that municipalities enter into a contract with Middlesex Hospital for paramedic support.

4. Correspondence: Mr. Lyman reported that he had received correspondence regarding a horizontal curve treatment program that will cause signage to be installed on sections of several of East Haddam roads. He stated that an informational meeting regarding the program will be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 26th in the Grange and noted that program will be paid for with federal funds.
5. First Selectmen's Report
 - A. Board of Assessment Appeals – Fall 2016 Final Report: Mr. Lyman introduced Edward Blaschik, Chairperson of the Board of Assessment Appeals, who reported that the Board had received 11 automobile appeals and acted on 10 of them. He advised that the grand list was reduced by \$17,920.00 as a result of the Board's decisions.
 - B. FEMA NIMS Training Fact Sheet: Mr. Lyman called Mr. Malavasi's attention to a document in their meeting packets regarding FEMA's National Incident Management System (NIMS). Mr. Lyman advised that he had completed a number of the courses and had reviewed the information in case Hurricane Matthew came up the east coast. Mr. Malavasi noted that he had also attended a course that provided a general overview of NIMS.
6. Citizen's Concerns: Ms. Dickinson asked if the Leo's petting zoo, which had been approved by Mr. Lyman, would have personal animals in it or animals provided by an insured organization. Mr. Lyman stated that he believed the animals were going to be provided by an organization; however, he was not 100% certain.
7. Unfinished Business
 - A. Shagbark Solar Project Discussion: Mr. Lyman called Mr. Malavasi's attention to a document in their meeting packets outlining the expenses incurred, to date, by the Town's Building Department for the Shagbark Virtual Net Metering Project, which total \$1,550.00. He further stated that Shagbark's contract stipulates the project must be completed by June 10, 2017.
 - B. Middlesex Hospital Paramedic Services Grant Application Agreement: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on in the minutes above.

8. New Business:

- A. East Haddam Police Department Private Duty Form Amendment: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to the agreement for "Hiring Police Officer for Private Duty" form in their meeting packets. He noted that changes had been made to the form and it must be approved the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen reviewed the form. In response to a question raised by Mr. Malavasi, it was noted that the overtime rates were contractual.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the changes to the form as presented conditional on any forms submitted to the EastHaddamOT.gmail.com account be transferred to the policeovertime@easthaddam.org account. Unanimous aye.

- B. Bid Award – Reappraisal & Revaluation of Real Property: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding the Assessor's recommendation for a revaluation company. Mr. Lyman reviewed the bids received and the pros and cons of the companies submitting the bids. He noted that Assessor Zdanys and the committee reviewing the bids recommended Vision Government Solutions as their choice for the 2017 revaluation.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to award the bid for the Reappraisal & Revaluation of Real Property to Vision Government Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$195,000.00. Unanimous aye.

- C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (EHSCIP): Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to an application in their meeting packets from Gregory Grinsfelder for membership in the Schools Capital Improvements Building Committee.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to appoint Gregory Grinsfelder as a member of the East Haddam Schools Capital Improvements Building Committee. Unanimous aye.

- D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to nine tax refunds.

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

- \$ 30.52 to Peter Albrycht,
- \$ 76.31 to Nathaniel Barrett,
- \$151.45 to Casey M. Carle,
- \$ 65.15 to Cameron Keir,
- \$ 26.71 to Mary L. Knuth,
- \$ 48.72 to Dean Pelletti,
- \$188.72 to Joseph I. Smith
- \$ 61.64 to Kathleen L. Willey, and
- \$601.93 to Ralph Parady.

Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: The following public comments were made at the meeting:

- In response to an inquiry from Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Lyman advised that he would research the Banner Lodge issue and inform her of his findings; however, he stated that the Planning and Zoning Commissioners are elected officials and the Selectmen have no authority over them. He requested Ms. Dickinson provide him with the details of her concerns so that he can appropriately research any problems.
- Mr. Smith noted that several buildings on the Banner property are in serious disrepair and Mr. Lyman stated he would conduct a site visit to the property.

10. Selectmen's Discussion: Mr. Malavasi noted that he would not be able to attend the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 p.m. Unanimous aye

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Link, Secretary