

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
January 4, 2017
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: S. Link; E. Lyman; E. Malavasi

Also Present: E. Blaschik; C. Caron; C. Dickinson; T. Dickinson; R. Dill; A. Gamble; C. Gelston; T. Gelston; C. Riling; 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: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of December 7, 2016.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 7, 2016 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.
5. First Selectmen's Report
 - A. Department of Public Health Town Hall Forum Report – Proposed Legislation: Mr. Lyman reported that he had attended the Department of Public Health's Town Hall Forum on the proposed legislation to regionalize the state's health districts. He stated that the Health Commissioner is very much in favor of the legislation; however, Representative Ziobron had advised Mr. Lyman that there is not much support for it among the state's law-makers. Mr. Lyman reiterated his concern about the potential cost if the state's health districts are regionalized.
 - B. John Blaschik Send Off: Mr. Lyman reported that he had attended the event held in honor of Mr. Blaschik's leaving to join the Trappist Monks in Virginia. He stated that the proclamation regarding Mr. Blaschik's long standing services to the Town was appreciated.
 - C. Shared Services Report – December: Mr. Lyman and the Selectmen reviewed the December Shared Services Report. Ms. Link commented that the fact that the Town was not issued a management letter from the auditors for the 2nd year in row is an excellent result.

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

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Shagbark Solar Project Discussion: Mr. Lyman reported that Shagbark has secured a new financial backer for their solar project and they still expect the project to be completed on time.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Malavasi, Mr. Lyman confirmed that there is no impact to the EverSource dates.

- B. Goodspeed Airport Scenic Easement: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to copy of a letter to Mr. Mellon, c/o Attorney Hudson, dated December 19, 2016, in their meeting packets. He advised that the letter suggested Mr. Mellon consider awarding the scenic easement to the Town rather than the state. He noted, that he did not expect Mr. Mellon would take the Town up on its offer, however, they did want to give him the option.

8. New Business:

- A. Grant Acceptance – Neglected Cemeteries: Mr. Lyman provided some background on this agenda item and stated he would like to table it until the acceptance language is finalized. In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman and Ms. Zemienieski noted that this grant was approved for submission by the Board of Finance during last year's round of funding but due to the first come-first serve nature of the grant by the time board approval was received all allotted funding was expended. This year the Finance Director submitted this grant as soon as it was released based off the previous year's approval and we were one of the first towns to receive funding. Mr. Lyman confirmed that no matching funds were required as part of the grant award.

- B. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (MOBC, REC, BOFC, HDC):

Municipal Office Building Committee

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email in their meeting packets from Vincent Garofalo noting his resignation as a regular member of the Municipal Office Building Committee and the MOBC minutes noting the change in status of Al Howat.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Vincent Garofalo as a regular member of the Municipal Office Building Committee. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to change the status of Allan Howat from alternate member to regular member on the Municipal Office Building Committee. Unanimous aye.

Recreation Commission

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email and an application in their meeting packets from Tiffany Quinn noting a recommendation for appointment to the Recreation Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to appoint Patrick Laffan as a regular member to fill a vacancy on the Recreation Commission with a term to expire July 1, 2019. Unanimous aye.

Board of Fire Commissioners

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to the November minutes of the Board of Fire Commissioners recommending a reappointment on the Board of Fire Commissioners.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to reappoint Bruce Dutch for a second three-year term to expire January 1, 2020 as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners. Unanimous aye.

Historic District Commission

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to the December minutes of the Historic District Commission noting a number of recommendations for overdue reappointments.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to reappoint Will Brady to a 5-year regular member term to expire November 20, 2018, Joseph Zirlis to a 5-year regular member term to expire November 20, 2019, Christian Miller to a 5-year regular member term to expire November 20, 2020, David Nelson to a 5-year regular member term to expire November 20, 2021, Pamela Rubenbauer to a three-year alternate member term to expire November 20, 2018 and Karl Stofko to two consecutive three-year alternate member terms to expire November 20, 2019 on the Historic District Commission. Unanimous aye.

C. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to one tax refund.

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

- \$309.76 to Alicia Brindisa.
- Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: In response to a question from Mr. Gelston, Mr. Lyman advised that Ron Turner had coordinated the project to replace the Welcome To East Haddam signs and that a grant from Consumer Union paid for the new signs. Mr. Gelston stated that the new signs look very nice.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. Public Information Meeting – Foxtown Road Bridge Replacement (January 11, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. – Town Meeting Hall): Mr. Lyman reminded the Selectmen and attendees of the Public Information Meeting scheduled for January 11th at the Grange Hall.
- B. Public Information Meeting – Municipal Office Conversion (January 12, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. – Grange Hall): Mr. Lyman reminded the Selectmen and attendees of the Public Information Meeting scheduled for January 12th at the Grange Hall.

The Selectmen discussed dates for their 2017-18 budget workshop sessions.

- 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 7:27 p.m. Unanimous aye

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Link, Secretary