

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
March 15, 2017
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Also Present: E. Blaschik; C. Brownell; C. Dickinson; T. Dickinson; E. Dill; D. Dill; R. Dill; T. Gelston; M. Gillis; M. Gilroy; J. Moreau; K. O'Boyle; C. Riling; E. Schwartz; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Lyman called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of February 22, 2017 and Regular Meeting of March 1, 2017.

The Selectmen agreed to table the approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 22, 2017 and Regular Meeting of March 1, 2017 until Mr. Malavasi is present.

4. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.

5. First Selectman's Report: Mr. Lyman reported on the following items.
 - He has received several complaints regarding mailboxes that were damaged by snowplows during Tuesday's snowstorm. He emphasized that any damage done to residents' mailboxes by the snowplows was accidental.
 - Middlesex Hospital has informed him that the charge for the Paramedic contract will not increase next year.
 - He met with Director Parker to discuss the status of the senior meal program. In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman confirmed that, to date, no meals have been cut.
- A. Shared Services Report – March: Mr. Lyman reviewed several items on the March Shared Services Report.
- B. 2017-2018 Budget Update: Mr. Lyman reported that the Town's proposed budget was presented to the Board of Finance (BOF) and they will hold a meeting to discuss the budget at the Senior Center on Saturday, March 18th. He advised that the BOF has discussed the budget scheduled and has decided to delay the process approximately 3 weeks. They will be looking to hold the Public Hearing on May 10, Town Meeting on

May 24 and Referendum on June 6. Ms. Link requested he email her and Mr. Malavasi with the new meeting schedule.

6. Citizen's Concerns:

Ms. Dickinson commented on several changes to the senior meal program. In response to a question raised by Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Lyman advised that there is little to no overtime paid to non-emergency and non-Public Works staff and agreed to provide her with more specific information.

Mr. Lyman also agreed to research, and get back to Ms. Dickinson, on the following:

- The number of new businesses that have come to Town over the past eight years.
- The number of Town residents hired by those businesses.
- The number of those businesses that receive a tax abatement.

In response to a concern raised by Ms. Riling, Mr. Lyman advised that he received a letter from the Community Renewal Team (CRT) in September regarding potential changes to the senior meal program which he shared with Representative Ziobron. He noted that the letter provided very few details and agreed to give Ms. Riling a copy. Ms. Riling reiterated that she feels the Town can do a better job communicating with its citizens about such issues.

7. Unfinished Business:

- A. Shagbark Solar Project Discussion: There was no new update on this agenda item.
- B. Goodspeed Airport Scenic Easement: There was no new update on this agenda item. In response to a comment from Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman agreed that the item could be removed from the agenda since there is no further action for the Town to take on the proposed easement.
- C. Solid Waste Facility Ordinance Amendment Discussion: Mr. Lyman recognized Mr. Dill who reviewed the research he has done regarding putting together a detailed proposal for the Town, including establishing a Board of Appeals. Mr. Lyman confirmed that the Town's attorney would review the proposal and recommended amendment.

8. New Business:

- A. Call for Town Meeting: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the following call for a Town Meeting:

The Electors and citizens of the Town of East Haddam, Connecticut qualified to vote in Town Meeting are hereby warned and notified that a Special Town Meeting will be held in the Town Hall on Town Street in the said Town of East Haddam at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 for the following purposes, to wit:

Item 1: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer of an amount no to exceed \$104,000.00 from the Fire Department Reserve Fund (3320-10506-25020) to the Firehouse Renovations Building Project for the purpose of adding an additional bay with correspondence vehicle exhaust system.
Unanimous aye.

B. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (MOBC):

Municipal Office Building Committee

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to an email and applications in their meeting packets related to the Municipal Office Building Committee alternate member appointments.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to appoint Maryjane Malavasi and Charles Dickinson as alternate members of the Municipal Office Building Committee until completion of the project. Unanimous aye.

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

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to award the following tax refund in the amount presented.

- \$ 468.40 to JP Morgan Chase Bank NA.
Unanimous aye.

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

- Mr. Dickinson complimented the Public Works snowplow crew for its work clearing the roads after Tuesday's snowstorm.
- Ms. Dickinson commented that she is concerned about a conflict of interest if the Town shares the position of Economic Development Coordinator with the town of Haddam. Mr. Lyman stated that he believes collaboration by the two towns on economic development is the best approach and a shared position will save money.
- In response to a question raised by Ms. Dickinson regarding the 6-month operating expense for the new Municipal Offices Facility in the proposed 2017-2018 budget, Mr. Lyman stated that questions about the proposed budget should be raised at the Board of Finance budget meetings.
- In response to a question from Mr. Brownell, Mr. Lyman advised that the Board of Finance's March 18th meeting at the Senior Center will begin at 9:00 a.m.
- In response to a question from Mr. Gelston, Mr. Lyman confirmed that questions about the new Municipal Offices 6-month operating expense can be discussed at the Board of Finance's budget meetings.

- In response to a question from Mr. Gelston, Mr. Lyman confirmed that there are no plots available for sale in the Town-owned cemeteries; however, residents could still purchase plots from the public cemeteries.
- Ms. Riling expressed concern that non-religious residents may not want to be buried in the public cemeteries which are all religious affiliated.
- Ms. Riling expressed support for the proposed amendment to the Town's Solid Waste Ordinance and stated that she has observed several residents driving up to the top of the Transfer Station to dump bulky waste without paying. Mr. Lyman stated he will look into the issue.

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman advised that Senior Center Director Parker will attend the next Board of Selectmen's meeting to discuss his plans for the senior meals and answer any questions.

Mr. Lyman reiterated that the Board of Finance will hold a public meeting to discuss the 2017-2018 budget at the Senior Center at 9:00 a.m. on March 18th.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Link, Secretary