

Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1/2
June 6, 2018
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: E. Lyman; S. Link; R. Smith

Also Present: B. Auld; E. Blaschik; C. Brownell; R. Casner; R. Dill; D. Faipler; V. Garofalo; C. Gelston; T. Gelston; I. Haines; J. Moreau; R. Morsch; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski, and other members of the public

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: Mr. Lyman stated that he would like to add a discussion of the Building Fees during the First Selectmen's Report, Agenda Item 5.

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of May 16, 2018

Mr. Smith stated that the first sentence in Agenda Item 4C should be revised to read "...*had recently dumped on Town property adjacent to his property...*".

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2018, as amended. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence

- A. Staff Appreciation Letters: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to letters in their meeting packets from Ron Turner, Director of East Haddam Facilities & Operations, dated May 17, 2018 and a note from the East Haddam Garden Club.

Mr. Lyman reviewed the letters and noted that Director Turner had forwarded a letter from the East Haddam Resident Trooper, complimenting "...*the custodial staff's outstanding work*" to Christopher Sennik and Sean Shea, the custodians at the Municipal Office Building. He further noted that he had received a note of thanks to the Town employees from the East Haddam Garden Club, "...*for their help in keeping the Gelston triangle beautiful*".

5. First Selectmen's Report

Mr. Lyman reported the following:

- The state legislature has reinstated the Town Aid for Roads and, as a result, the Town expects to receive approximately \$161,000.00 from the state for road work this year.
- The Town has hired John Sarnik (JD) as a full-time fire fighter/EMT.

- The Bone Mill Road bridge project had been on hold while the state adjusted its budget and is now back on track. The order to fabricate the bridge has been released and Mr. Lyman expects the bridge will be set in place this summer.

- A. East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee Update: Mr. Lyman reported that the East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee did not meet last month so there is no update on this agenda item. He called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email in their meeting packets regarding Mr. Smith's email exchange with CT DOT Commissioner Redeker regarding the status of the Swing Bridge.

Ms. Link requested the item be moved under Unfinished Business on the Board of Selectmen's agendas so that the Selectmen can receive regular updates on the work of this committee.

- B. Responses to Previous Meeting Questions: Mr. Lyman provided the following information on questions/comments raised at the last Board of Selectmen's meeting:

- The police reported that they had visited the site, adjacent to Mr. Dill's property, where tree stumps had been dumped and the area has been cleaned up. The police advised that they had given a verbal warning to the individual responsible but, since no tangible evidence remained, they did not issue a citation.
- Mr. Lyman spoke with Recreation Director Conroy regarding the Parks and Recreation Commission's plans for new playing fields. He reported that Director Conroy feels that additional playing fields are warranted; however, the only new field currently under consideration is the green space in the back of the Municipal Office Complex property. She further advised that the only work being done on this project is to make it viable for potential grant applications. There was a general discussion regarding the use of Nichols Field for Colchester's sports.
- Mr. Lyman spoke with the Selectmen of Old Lyme, Killingworth, and Durham regarding the state's horizontal sign program. He reported that although none of the towns are happy with the new signs, they did not want to participate in a consortium to discuss their concerns with the state.
- Mr. Lyman advised that he had not yet spoken with Public Works Director Lunt regarding new Speed signs being posted on Beebe Road.

6. Citizen's Concerns: The following citizens' concerns were brought up at the meeting:

- In response to a concern Mr. Gelston raised about the state's horizontal curve signs, Mr. Lyman agreed to request the state's circuit rider review and provide input on the need for and safety of the newly installed signs.
- Mr. Gelston noted that tree cutters tend to be less busy in the winter months and, as a result, reduce their prices. He suggested that, unless a tree represents a danger to the public, the Town negotiate with a contractor to remove dead trees between November and March.
- Mr. Morsch distributed copies of the recommendation page of the Transfer Station Committee's final report. He stated that during a recent visit to the Transfer Station, a resident complained to him about the Town closing off the back of the hopper to the public. He expressed frustration

with the delay in implementing the Committee's recommendations and noted that, since it is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen to set policy, it is not necessary to get the public's consensus on moving forward with the Committee's recommendations.

- Mr. Brownell reiterated his concern that Town staff is spending time on preparing the playing fields on the Municipal Office Complex site for potential grants. Mr. Dill agreed that any work done on the fields is premature since the Municipal Office Building Committee has not yet finished its work on the drainage for the site. Mr. Lyman stated he would discuss the matter with Mr. Ventres.
- In response to a concern raised by Mr. Brownell about speeding on Petticoat Lane and Hungerford Road, there was a general discussion regarding whose responsibility it is to address the issue. The Selectmen agreed that Mr. Lyman should ask the state's circuit rider for recommendations for controlling speeding on Town roads.

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Horizontal Curve Safety Project Update: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on in the minutes above.
- B. Transfer Station Committee Final Report Discussion & Solid Waste Facility Ordinance: This item was discussed during the Citizen's Concerns portion of the meeting and is reported on in the minutes above. Mr. Lyman reported that Public Works Director Lunt is working on an improved traffic flow plan for the Transfer Station.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman confirmed that the recommendation to close the back of the hopper to the public had been implemented and he had also instructed the Transfer Station employees to be more diligent about checking for resident stickers and imposing charges for bulky waste. There was a general discussion regarding the status of the updates to the Transfer Station ordinance as well as the Citation ordinance and Review Board.

- C. Review Board Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman stated that he needs to get the input of Attorney Roberts regarding the proposed Citation/Review Board ordinance.
- D. Control of Animals Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman advised Attorney Roberts needs to review the draft Control of Animals ordinance.
- E. Trailer Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman confirmed that Attorney Roberts is reviewing the draft updates to the Town's Trailer ordinance.
- F. Crisis and Strategic Communications Plans Services: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to the proposal in their packets from Sullivan & LeShane to create a crisis communications plan and yearlong strategic communications plan. He stated that a second quote is being solicited from comparable firm.

Mr. Lyman stated that the Boards of Selectmen, Finance, and Education need to meet to discuss and agree on the goals/objectives for the plan and Ms. Link volunteered to organize a sub-committee for this purpose. She stated should would create a draft charge for the Selectmen's consideration.

8. New Business

- A. RFP Award – LEP & HBM Environmental Services Former Town Office Site: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s attention to the RFP results and Director of Operations recommendation for a contract award for the Environmental Service Project at the Former Town Office Site in their meeting packets, dated June 4, 2018.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept the recommendation of the Environmental Services Selection Committee and award the contract for LEP & HBM Environmental Services at the Former Town Office Site to Eagle Environmental, Inc. in the amount of \$22,465.00. Unanimous aye.

- B. Beer & Wine Approvals – Grange Hall & Rathbun Library:

Grange Hall

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s attention to an e-mail in their meeting packets from Recreation Director Lisa Conroy, dated May 25, 2018, requesting permission for a BYO/Beer and Wine event at the Grange Hall for a “Grange Film Series” on June 19, 2018 and for approximately 3 – 4 additional events on dates yet to be determined during the 2018 calendar year. He noted that this is an event that is sponsored by the East Haddam Parks & Recreation.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve BYO/beer & wine events at the Grange Hall for “The Grange Film Series” for June 19, 2018 and the balance of series events for the 2018 calendar year. Unanimous aye.

Rathbun Library

Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s attention to an email from Michael Gilroy, dated May 24, 2018, in their meeting packets. He advised that the Friends of Rathbun Library are hosting an adult program on Harriet Beecher Stowe on June 15th and would like to serve beer and wine.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve beer and wine service at the Rathbun Library for the “Harriet Beecher Stowe Program” on June 15, 2018. Unanimous aye.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman confirmed that the Town’s insurance covers both events.

- C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s attention to a letter and minutes from the Commission on Aging, noting a resignation and recommendation for reappointment to the COA.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Rosalie Hoffman from the Commission on Aging. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to reappoint John Pagnani as a regular member for a three-year term to expire June 30, 2021 on the Commission on Aging. Unanimous aye.

- D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s to four tax refunds.

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

- \$ 98.30 to Toyota Lease Trust,
- \$203.42 to Toyota Lease Trust,
- \$475.65 to Toyota Lease Trust, and
- \$192.87 to Toyota Lease Trust.

Unanimous aye.

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

- Mr. Gelston suggested the Selectmen create a sub-committee to address the recommendations presented in the Transfer Station Committee's final report and Mr. Morsch noted that two members of the Committee had offered to serve on such a sub-committee if one were formed. Mr. Dill encouraged the Selectmen to reread the Transfer Station ordinance.
- Mr. Moreau stated that it is his understanding that municipal employees work for the Town not the town's Commissions.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

In response to inquiries from Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman confirmed that he expected Public Works Director Lunt would attend the next Selectmen's meeting and could address her question about the paving work on Petticoat Lane. He also stated that he had not been able to do any further work on establishing a Charter Study Committee.

In response to a question raised by Mr. Smith, there was a general discussion regarding what would happen to the trees that will be cut down by the Town. Mr. Smith stated that the Town will need to develop a plan for the disposal of the trees.

In response to questions raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman provided additional information about the work on Beebe Road and the Selectmen discussed the project.

In response to Mr. Smith's recommendation that Town employees attend the state's Road Master seminars, Ms. Zemienieski stated that she believed the Public Works Director and other Public Works employees are already attending those seminars.

- A. Neighborhood Assistance Act Public Hearing – (June 13, 2018 – 7:00 pm – MOC Room #3):
Mr. Lyman reminded the Selectmen and the public of the scheduled Public Hearing. In response to questions raised by Mr. Smith, Ms. Zemienieski provided some clarification on the Neighborhood Assistance Act.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Link, Secretary