

Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1/2
June 20, 2018
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Also Present: E. Blaschik; W. Cross; D. Faipler (EHN); T. Gelston; K. Guidi; J. Moreau; I. Morsch; R. Morsch; Ron Rose; 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: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the Agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of June 6, 2018

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 6, 2018, as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.
5. First Selectmen's Report

Mr. Lyman reported the following:

- Eagle Environmental is conducting a Phase III inspection of the old Town Office Site and the results are expected to be received in a few weeks.
- CT Landmarks held a public meeting at the Grange on June 11th and Mr. Lyman stated that he felt the meeting was very poorly announced. He reported that CT Landmarks plans to begin renovations to the barn on the Palmer Warner property in mid-July and the projected cost is approximately \$500,000.00.
- The Church of Christ held a poverty walk at Johnsonville in May and approximately 2,000 people participated. Mr. Lyman noted that several Town roads had to be closed for the event. He noted that a similar event is scheduled for late-summer/early-fall with an even greater rate of participation expected.
- There is some question about who has jurisdiction over turning the East Haddam Free Public Library building over to the Town. The Town's lawyers and the State Attorney General's office have opined that the Probate Court has jurisdiction so it is currently back in their hands.
- The Bone Mill Road Bridge project is underway and it is anticipated that the bridge should be in place within approximately a month.

A. Responses to Previous Meeting Questions: Mr. Lyman noted that, just prior to the meeting, Public Works Director Lunt advised him that she would be unable to attend the meeting to address questions that were raised related to the removal of dead/diseased trees. He provided the following information on questions/comments raised at the last Board of Selectmen's meeting:

- All CT towns are facing the same excessive financial burden to trim back and/or remove the dead/diseased ash and oak trees. Mr. Lyman stated that he has received an estimate of approximately \$1M to remove all the Town's dead/diseased trees. He noted that the recommendation is to prioritize areas according to the level of damage, with a goal of working through 13 miles of road per year. He stated that Ms. Lunt suggested that it might be more cost-effective to hire additional staff and purchase equipment so the Town could do its own tree removal work; however, no decisions have been made to date on how to best address the problem.

Mr. Smith suggested changing the scope of some of the Public Works road projects currently planned and using the funds for tree removal.

- The Town has reached out to the State's Circuit Rider for input on the newly installed horizontal signs; however, Mr. Lyman does not know when the Circuit Rider will be available to meet with the Town representatives.
- He discussed concerns about increased speeding on Hungerford Road and Petticoat Lane after road improvements are made with Director Lunt who feels that the best solution would be for increased police patrols of those roads.
- The speed signs on Beebe Road belong to the Town; however, he noted that the state also installed some 20 MPH signs in some areas with exceptionally sharp curves.

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

- Mr. Morsch expressed his concern that little to no action has been taken on the Transfer Station Committee's recommendations. He stated that he feels the Board of Selectmen may not be meeting their fiduciary responsibility to the Town's residents in not acting on the recommendations. Mr. Lyman advised that the Town is discussing the trash bag system with its attorneys and updated Mr. Morsch on research he has done regarding several of the other of the Committee's recommendations.
- Ms. Morsch raised the issue of establishing an empty weight for many trucks to avoid re-weighing trucks on their way out and there was a general discussion regarding the pros and cons of her suggestion.
- Mr. Gelston repeated the suggestion that he made at a prior meeting for the Selectmen to establish a committee to implement the recommendations of the Transfer Station Committee. There was a general discussion regarding the current and an improved sticker system for the Transfer Station.
- Mr. Cross repeated his request for the financial analysis of in-sourcing the transfer of waste to the Willimantic site versus the current process.

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Horizontal Curve Safety Project Update: There was no substantive update on this agenda item.
- B. East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee Update: Mr. Lyman reported that the EHVRC next scheduled meeting is June 27th. Mr. Smith reported that he again invited a DOT representative to the next EHVRC meeting to discuss the state's plans for the swing bridge, traffic flow in the Village, etc., however, he has not heard back from the DOT.
- C. Transfer Station Committee Final Report Discussion & Solid Waste Facility Ordinance: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above under Citizens' Concerns. In response to a question raised by Mr. Smith, Mr. Lyman stated that it is his understanding that the private haulers have the option of contracting to haul their waste directly to the Essex or Willimantic sites. The Selectmen also discussed options for using the back of the hopper on Saturdays.

Mr. Lyman and Mr. Smith generally discussed the Town's Transfer Station sticker program.

- D. Citation Hearing Procedure Discussion (Review Board Ordinance): Mr. Lyman reiterated that the Town's Citation and Review Board ordinance is currently under review by the Town's attorneys.
- E. Control of Animals Ordinance Discussion: There was no update on this agenda item.
- F. Trailer Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman reported that the Trailer ordinance is ready to move forward; however, he indicated that he would prefer to have all Selectmen present before taking such action.
- G. Crisis and Strategic Communications Plans Services: Mr. Lyman reported that Ms. Link is in the process of drafting a charge so a committee can be established for this project.
- H. 2018 Neighborhood Assistance Act Approvals: Mr. Lyman reported that a public hearing was held on the NAA proposals on June 13, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. He noted that the Goodspeed Opera House has applied for \$140,290.83 for energy efficiency upgrades, Town of East Haddam has applied for \$20,000 for the Open Space Trust Fund and CT Landmarks has applied for \$65,000.00 in funding for building renovations of the Palmer Warner Barn.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, to approve and forward to the State for their approval three (3) projects requesting funding by the Neighborhood Assistance Act for 2018. Mr. Smith agreed to second the motion if it could be amended to individual motions and votes. Mr. Lyman agreed to the requested motion amendment and withdrew his prior motion.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve and forward to the State for their approval the project requesting funding by the Neighborhood Assistance Act for 2018 from the Goodspeed Opera House. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve and forward to the State for their approval the project requesting funding by the Neighborhood Assistance Act for 2018 from the Town of East Haddam. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve and forward to the State for their approval the project requesting funding by the Neighborhood Assistance Act for 2018 from the Antiquarian & Landmarks Society, Inc. dba/CT Landmarks. Mr. Smith stated he has serious

concerns with the way CT Landmarks managed its fiduciary responsibility to their members. He noted several specific concerns related to the CT Landmarks barn project. He stated that he is not comfortable with the Town endorsing the project. Mr. Lyman commented that he was in agreement with Mr. Smith. Mr. Lyman called for a vote on the motion.

Approved: None. Opposed: Smith, Lyman. Motion failed.

8. New Business

- A. Change of Polling Location Ordinance Resolution: Mr. Lyman noted that this item looks to amend the East Haddam Code of Ordinances to designate the Municipal Office Complex Gymnasium as the polling location for the Town of East Haddam. He commented that the state requires that primaries be held in the same location as elections.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to amend the East Haddam Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26: Elections, Article IV: Location, § 26-4 to establish the Municipal Office Complex Gymnasium at 1 Plains Road, Moodus as the polling place for all elections held subsequent to the approval at Town Meeting, and hereby repeals any prior ordinance or resolution establishing a different location. Unanimous aye.

- B. Call for Town Meeting:

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the following call for 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, July 10, 2018 for the following purposes, to wit:

Item 1: To consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Board of Selectmen to amend the East Haddam Code of Ordinances, Chapter 26: Elections, Article IV: Location, § 26-4:

RESOLVED, that the Town Meeting hereby establish the Municipal Office Complex Gymnasium at 1 Plains Road, Moodus as the polling place for all elections held subsequent to this date, and hereby repeals any prior ordinance or resolution establishing a different location.

Unanimous aye.

- C. Volunteer of the Month (June): Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a Volunteer of the Month recommendation in their meeting packets.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to name Theodore Lambert as volunteer of the month for June 2018. Unanimous aye.

- D. Board/Commission/Committee Changes: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to an email from the Recreation Director, Lisa Conroy, noting a recommendation for reappointment to the Recreation Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to reappoint Margy Roberts as a regular member for a three-year term to expire July 1, 2021 on the Recreation Commission. Unanimous aye.

It should be noted the members Walter Parkus and Mary Colpoys do not wish to renew their terms on the Recreation Commission.

E. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's to two tax refunds.

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

- \$ 74.34 to Toyota Lease Trust, and
- \$276.93 to Vault Trust

Unanimous aye.

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

- Mr. Rose thanked Mr. Lyman for coming out to investigate the sign situation at his location but stated that even though several of the horizontal road signs by his house have been removed, there is still a strong reflection from the remaining signs. Mr. Lyman stated he would come out again to check out the remaining signs.
- In response to a question raised by Ms. Guidi, Mr. Lyman noted that he will revisit the issue of the status of the remaining horizontal signs in her neighborhood after the upcoming gubernatorial election.
- In response to a question raised by Mr. Cross, Mr. Lyman confirmed that the new polling location (the new gymnasium), is fully handicapped accessible.
- In response to a question raised by Ms. Morsch, Mr. Lyman confirmed that the Town is not spending any funds on the CT Landmark barn renovation project.

10. Selectmen's Discussion: There was no additional Selectmen's discussion at the meeting.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Emmett Lyman, First Selectman