

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

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

Also Present: B. Auld; A. Blaschik; E. Blaschik; K. Blaschik; J. Bonola; C. Brownell; W. Cross; S. Daigle; T. Dickinson; D. Dill; R. Dill; C. Gelston; T. Gelston; M. Gilroy; A. Mosig; K. Mosig; J. Ventres; 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: Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to approve the Agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of April 18, 2018

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 18, 2018 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence

- A. DOT Letter – Replacement of Bridge No. 02510, Route 82 over Strongs Brook: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets from the Transportation Principal Engineer, State of CT Department of Transportation, Bureau of Engineering and Construction, dated, April 20, 2018, advising that the department is developing plans to replace Bridge No. 02510 over Strongs Brook on Route 82. The Selectmen discussed this item and several other state bridge projects currently underway in Town.
- B. Resident Letter – Rathbun Library Historical Room: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to copies of correspondence in their meeting packets related to a letter sent to Library Director Gilroy by Alyssa Dill expressing her concern about the condition of the Town's historical documents stored at the Rathbun Library. Mr. Lyman recognized Director Gilroy who reported that the library has received two National Endowment for the Humanities grants which have allowed the library to make improvements to its preservation of historical documents and which address many of Ms. Dill's concerns.

Mr. Lyman reported that he had also received a copy of a letter from the Town Manager of East Hampton thanking the East Haddam Volunteer Fire Department for their recent assistance in extinguishing a fire in his town. Mr. Lyman noted the importance of the mutual aid that East Haddam and the surrounding towns provide to each other.

5. First Selectmen's Report

- A. Responses to Previous Meeting Questions: Mr. Lyman provided follow-up information raised by Mr. Smith. He stated that Consumer's Union is a 501(c)3 organization and, as such, is exempt from paying property taxes; he noted, however, that based on the assessed value of the organization's property, the property tax that would be imposed on a for-profit organization

would be \$104,473.00. He stated that Consumer's Union regularly makes an annual gift of \$25,000.00 to Town organizations as a donation.

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

- In response to a question raised by Mr. E. Blaschik, Mr. Lyman advised that the state is projecting that work will begin on Bridge No. 02510 in the spring of 2021. There was a general discussion regarding the slow progress and perceived poor management of the current work on two bridges on Route 82.
- In response to questions raised by Mr. Gelston, Mr. Lyman advised that the current work on the two bridges on Route 82 is projected to be completed in the fall and noted that the project is approximately 100 days behind schedule due to a delay caused by Eversource. He also advised that the Municipal Facilities Complex is currently in compliance with all ADA requirements with the exception of the front sidewalk which will be repaired by, and at the expense of, the contractor.
- Ms. Dickinson stated that she did not think the handicapped parking spots were in compliance with ADA requirements and Mr. Blaschik said he would bring her concern to the attention of the Building Committee.

7. Unfinished Business

- A. Horizontal Curve Safety Project Update: Mr. Lyman reported that he had spoken with the District 2 Manager who informed him that the Town could move forward with "justifiable" corrections to the horizontal signs the state had erected around Town but that the state would be coming back for a final inspection. He distributed copies of a note and photos he received from a resident on Honey Hill Road commenting on the poor placement of some of the signs. Mr. Lyman reviewed his site visits and his plans to make corrections to signs that he considers hazardous in several areas.
- B. Fire Rescue Boat Contract Award Discussion: Fire Chief Auld reported that he had received two proposal options from the same company for the fire rescue boat that were much higher than budgeted; however, based on the authority provided to him by the Selectmen at the previous meeting he entered into negotiations with the sole bidder and a second qualified company. The sole bidder provided a letter to him stating they would be unable to provide a product that would fall within the allotted budget. He was able to procure a quote from a suitable vendor that came in within budget. He stated that Atlantic Outboard, Inc. quoted \$48,544.96 for a 2018 Robalo R180 powered with an Evinrude Etec 115 with trailer and Darley Fire Equipment quoted \$12,152.80 for the marine fire pump leaving approximately \$4,000.00 for additional components such as lettering and radios.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to accept the recommendation of Fire Chief Brian Auld and award the contract for the Fire Rescue Boat, fire pump and associated items to Atlantic Outboard, Darley Fire Equipment and selected vendors for miscellaneous items for an amount not to exceed the budgeted amount of \$65,000.00. Unanimous aye.

- C. 1986 Seagrave Pumper Fire Apparatus Gift Acceptance Discussion: Mr. Lyman recognized Fire Chief Auld who stated that the 1986 Seagrave Pumper was traded to the Eastern Connecticut Fire School in 2013 in exchange for classes for the fire department. He advised that the Fire School is

temporarily closing and has offered to return the truck to East Haddam for no cost. Chief Auld advised that he had the truck checked out mechanically by mechanic Joe Bonola who confirmed that the equipment was in very good condition. Chief Auld stated that the pumper would be used for public relations events and not for fire suppression.

There was a general discussion regarding accepting the gift and, in response to questions from the Selectmen, Chief Auld advised that the Seagrave Pumper would be stored in the bay where he normally parks his vehicle and Ms. Zemienieski agreed to get a quote on the additional insurance premium for the pumper prior to the Board of Finance voting on the gift's acceptance. Chief Auld agreed to establish a special fund to pay for any additional expenses related to maintaining the pumper. In response to a concern raised by Mr. Smith, Chief Auld assured the Selectmen that the firefighters would not neglect any of their regular duties by working on the pumper.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept a gift of a 1986 Seagrave Pumper Fire Apparatus valued at \$5,000.00 from the Eastern Connecticut Fire School and send acceptance of said gift to the Board of Finance and then to Town Meeting for approval. Unanimous aye.

- D. Transfer Station Committee Final Report Discussion & Solid Waste Facility Ordinance: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding Mr. Dill's proposal for amendments to the Solid Waste ordinance and establishing a citation review board as well as the Transfer Station Committee's final report. He reviewed the recommendations of the Transfer Station Committee and Ms. Link expressed her frustration that the process to implement some of the recommendations was slow in moving forward. She requested that a motion to increase the Bulky Waste Fee be considered at the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Link and Mr. Smith agreed to provide their comments on the Committee's list of recommendations before their next meeting.
- E. Review Board Ordinance Discussion – Mr. Lyman noted that the town of Mansfield appears to have a well-thought out citation and review board process. He suggested the Town consider modeling its process after Mansfield's.
- F. Control of Animals Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a draft Control of Animals Ordinance in their meeting packets. There was a general discussion regarding the draft and the Selectmen agreed to provide feedback prior to sending the draft to the Town's attorney for review.
- G. Trailer Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a marked up version of the Town's Trailers Ordinance and they agreed to review the proposed changes and provide their feedback prior to sending the revisions to the Town's attorney for review.

## 8. New Business

- A. RFQ/RFP Award – Plan of Conservation and Development: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of the RFQ/RFP results for the Update to the Plan of Conservation and Development in their meeting packets.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept the recommendation of the Planning and Zoning Commission and award the contract for the Update of the Plan of Conservation and Development to Milone & MacBroom, Inc. in the amount of \$25,000 for Phase

I and \$24,000 for Phase II. Phase II would be dependent on the successful approval of the 2018-2019 budget. Unanimous aye.

- B. RFQ Award – Foxtown Road Bridge Consulting Engineer-Inspection Services: Mr. Lyman explained that this is part of the Federal Local Bridge Program; he noted that the Town had proceeded through the RFQ process for a consulting engineer to provide Inspections Services which had generated four responses. Mr. Lyman advised that a selection committee was formed and all four companies were shortlisted and interviewed. He stated that the committee made a recommendation to the state to hire Wengell, McDonnell & Costello, Inc. (“WMC”). The state reviewed the recommendation and concurred with the Town’s recommendation and authorized it to go forward with WMC. Mr. Smith expressed some concern that the improvements to the bridge will result in an increase in speeding and accidents.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to accept the recommendation of the Foxtown Road Bridge Committee and authorize them to finalize prices and negotiate with Wengell, McDonnell & Costello, Inc. for the Foxtown Road Bridge Replacement Consulting Engineer for Inspection Services. Unanimous aye.

- C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes: There were no Board/Commission/Committee changes discussed at the meeting.
- D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Lyman called the Selectmen’s to one tax refund.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Smith, to award one tax refund in the amount presented:

- \$900.00 to Stephen and Margarete Martin.

Unanimous aye.

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

- Mr. Cross inquired about how the Transfer Station would differ from the current program and there was a general discussion about what changes could be made.
- Ms. Dickinson stated that she felt consistent use of the scale at the Transfer Station could be implemented immediately. She also inquired about the status of the audio/visual system in the new Municipal Facilities building and Mr. Blaschik advised that the Building Committee is still meeting twice a month and is working through the punch-list for the building.
- Mr. Gelston stated he feels Public Works needs to develop a well-thought out site/traffic plan for the Transfer Station in order to effectively implement several of the Transfer Station Committee’s recommendations, especially the scale and sticker management programs. He also stated that he feels the Town should get professional guidance, such as a traffic engineer, when removing/relocating any of the horizontal road signs installed by the state.
- Mr. Dill stated the Town needs to formalize the Transfer Station’s authority to oversee the proposed sticker and other proposed programs at the site.
- Mr. Auld suggested implementing a “light weight” system for some vehicles that will frequent the upper level of the Transfer Station.

- Ms. Dill noted that the tax refund approved earlier in the meeting did not result from an error in the Tax Department and also asked if the Town Clerk would be compensated for the additional responsibilities of issuing Transfer Station stickers.
- Mr. Brownell expressed concern with the public dumping bulky trash on the roadside if the fee at the Transfer Station fee is increased. He also noted that the public survey for the Plan of Conservation and Development has been sent out and will be posted on the Town's website this Friday.
- In response to a question raised by Ms. Gelston, Mr. Ventres advised that the base questions on the Plan of Conservation and Development were identical to earlier surveys and that the consultants had been provided with copies of the earlier surveys prior to drafting the current survey.

#### 10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. Budget Referendum – Town Meeting Hall (May 8, 2018 – 6:00am to 8:00pm): Mr. Lyman reminded the Selectmen and the public of the scheduled Budget Referendum.
- B. Municipal Office Complex Grand Opening Celebration (May 12, 2018 – 10:00am to 12:00pm): Mr. Lyman invited the Selectmen and the public to the formal Grand Opening celebration for the Municipal Office Complex on May 12<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Link requested that the Village Revitalization Committee be added as an agenda item for future meetings. Ms. Zemienieski agreed to email the Selectmen with a copy of the Committee's current charge.

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 8:45 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Link, Secretary