

Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1/2
July 17, 2019
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Also Present: A. Blaschik; E. Blaschik; K. Blaschik; L. D'Aquila; R. Dill; A. Donner; D. Faipler (EH News); C. Quinn; 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 noted that he would like to add the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission ("IWWC") to agenda item 8D. Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the Agenda as amended. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of June 19, 2019

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 19, 2019, as written. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Lyman commented on the Apollo Moon mission that happened 50 years ago today.

4. Correspondence

Mr. Lyman called the board's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets from the East Haddam Free Public Library and Reading Room Association. He noted that the letter expressed the Association's request that the Town take over operation and ownership of the library per the court's stipulation agreement of April 22, 2019. He noted the Association's request will be discussed at a public hearing and then go before a Town Meeting for a vote. In response to a request from Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman agreed to provide the Selectmen with a copy of the court's stipulation agreement.

5. First Selectmen's Report

Mr. Lyman recognized Ms. D'Aquila who reported that the Ambulance's mutual aid rate for the month of June was 7.8%, which is within acceptable limits, and that the average response time has decreased from 10-13 minutes to 4 minutes. She also stated that use of paid staff has declined slightly and noted several scheduled training classes. Ms. D'Aquila responded to several questions from the Selectmen. Ms. Link recommended tracking, for 1-year, the Association's cost of paid staff used to achieve the reduction in the mutual aid calls.

Ms. D'Aquila and Mr. Lyman discussed an accident where the Town owned ambulance hit a deer and Ms. D'Aquila noted the repairs to the vehicle could take up to three weeks.

Mr. Lyman reported on the following items:

- Public Works Director Lunt informed him that speed calming “hollows” collect water and sand and drain poorly and that she does not have the staff to maintain them. She advised that it is her opinion that they do not work well on rural roads, especially straight-a-ways. Mr. Lyman stated that it is his preference to use more stops signs on streets such as Hungerford Road.
- Foxtown Road Bridge was scheduled to open at the end of this month; however, there were a few delays having to do with load rating issues and the precast concrete arches not meeting the concrete permeability specifications. Consequently, the opening may be delayed while a resolution to the situation is investigated.
- CT DOT advised that a section of Mt. Parnassus Road, between Bogue Lane and Shanaghan Road, will be closed on August 13th and 14th to replace a pipe under the road. Mr. Lyman discussed the proposed detour route.
- The Town has received a number of responses to its RFQ/RFP for the design, construction administration and inspection of the replacement of the Neptune Avenue Bridge which will be opened on July 18th at 2:00 p.m.
- The Town’s posting for an additional police officer will close on July 18th at 4:00 p.m. In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman stated that three applications have been submitted.
- Mr. Lyman noted that he is working with the Building Official on reviewing the current Building Department fees. He stated that he anticipates some revisions will be made and expects that a list of the proposed new fees will be given to the Selectmen in August for their review. There was a brief discussion regarding why the changes are necessary.

In response to an inquiry from Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman stated that he spoke with the Public Works Director about repairs to Beebe Road and she informed him that she plans to initiate that project as soon as she has sufficient staff to do so. There was a brief discussion regarding Public Works’ staffing levels during the summer months. Mr. Lyman confirmed that the road crew is currently working on the gravel portion of Wickham Road.

A. Responses to Previous Meeting Questions: There was no additional information provided regarding any previous meeting questions.

6. Citizen’s Concerns: The following citizen’s concern was discussed at the meeting.

- In response to an inquiry by Mr. R. Dill, Mr. Lyman stated he would follow-up with Ms. Lunt regarding the frequency of mowing the sides of Town roads.

7. Unfinished Business

A. East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee Update: Mr. Lyman reported that the Village Revitalization Committee continues to work on the draft RFP and that they are moving forward with the one response to the RFQ. He noted that he expects the timeline noted in the RFQ will be extended.

- B. Transfer Station Committee Final Report Discussion & Solid Waste Facility Ordinance: Mr. Lyman noted that staffing limitations, due to union contract stipulated time-off, and the decision to station one person at the scale all day when the Transfer Station is open to the public, prevents the Town's ability to change the traffic flow. He noted that that receipts from paid bulky waste have doubled as a result of the on-going monitoring of the scale; however, it generally leaves only one individual to monitor the rest of the facility. There was a brief discussion regarding the amount of paid time-off.

Mr. Lyman stated that he feels changing the flow of traffic, before implementing other modifications to improve visibility, would necessitate one of the staff to monitor incoming traffic. He also noted that it is not an opportune time to make the change since seasonal residents are here for the summer and are already unfamiliar with the movement through the Transfer Station. In response to an inquiry from Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman stated he will revisit the plan after Labor Day.

- C. Citation Hearing Procedure Ordinance Discussion: Discussion of this agenda item was postponed.
- D. Control of Animals Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Lyman advised that, at this time, a second Public Hearing for the Control of Animals ordinance needs to be scheduled. He is looking at the potential of September 5 if all presenters are available.
- E. Cemetery Committee Discussion: There was no new update on this agenda item.

8. New Business

- A. Resident State Trooper Contract: Mr. Lyman called the board's attention to a copy of the updated Resident State Trooper Contract in the meeting packet. He noted that it is a 2-year contract and that there had been some minor corrections and language changes; however, it is essentially the same contract as the previous one. He noted that Mr. Smith had reviewed the contract and is comfortable with approving it.

In response to a question raised by Ms. Link, Mr. Lyman advised that supervision of the Resident State Trooper lies with the state. He also confirmed that CT statutes dictate that multiple towns cannot share a Resident State Trooper.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, that Emmett J. Lyman, First Selectman, be and herewith is authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of East Haddam with the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police, for the services of one (1) Resident State Trooper, for a two-year period, from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2021. Unanimous aye.

- B. Transfer Station Waste Agreement: Mr. Lyman called the board's attention to a recommendation from Public Works Director Lunt that the Town continue its contract with Willimantic Waste. He noted that the prices quoted for the contract are at, or below, what was discussed with Willimantic Waste last spring. He stated that Mr. Smith had requested that the Selectmen postpone a decision on the contract until their next meeting so that the Town can clarify what, if any, adjustments would be made if the market for recyclables improves. The Selectmen agreed to Mr. Smith's request.
- C. Request for Beer Service-Nichols Field Disc Golf Awards: Mr. Lyman advised that the Professional Disk Golf Association will be holding a tournament at the Nichols Field disc golf

course. He stated the tournament will be sponsored by Steady Habits Brewery who would like to serve beer at the event. He noted that he informed Steady Habits that they would need to comply with insurance requirements and any applicable state statutes. Mr. Lyman advised that he had spoken with the Office of the State Liquor Commission who informed him of the state requirements and, as far as Mr. Lyman could determine, Steady Habits is currently not able to demonstrate compliance with them. There was a general discussion regarding this request.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to approve beer service at Nichols Field by Steady Habits Brewing Company at an awards celebration on Saturday, August 10, 2019, contingent upon the hosts providing appropriate insurance coverages and, if necessary, state liquor permit approvals. Unanimous aye.

- D. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (EDC, IWWC): Mr. Lyman called the board's attention to materials in the meeting packets regarding changes in the membership of the Economic Development Commission and Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

Economic Development Commission

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to accept the resignation of Irene Haines from the Economic Development Commission. Unanimous aye.

It should be noted that Ms. Haines has been hired as the Town's Economic Development Administrator.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to change the status of Michael Robidoux from alternate member to regular member filling a vacant position with a term expiration of June 30, 2021 on the Economic Development Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to appoint Jessica Stone as an alternate member of the Economic Development Commission for a vacant five-year term to expire June 30, 2020. Unanimous aye.

Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to reappoint Randolph Dill and Jennifer Burton-Reeve as regular members for two-year terms to expire July 1, 2020 on the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Lyman, seconded by Ms. Link, to reappoint Brian Goff, Daniel Jahne and Mary Augustiny as regular members for two-year terms to expire July 1, 2021 on the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission. Unanimous aye.

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

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

- \$996.93 to Toyota Lease Trust.
- Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: There was no public comment at the meeting:

10. Selectmen's Discussion

- A. Plan of Conservation and Development Public Hearing (July 23, 2019 @ 8:00pm – MOC): Mr. Lyman advised the board and the members of the public present that there would be a Public Hearing regarding the Town's revised Plan of Conservation and Development on July 23rd at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office Complex.

He noted that a special Board of Selectman's meeting will be scheduled to approve the call for Town Meeting for this item as well as two other items.

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 7:58 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Link, Secretary