

Board of Selectmen
Town Office Annex
March 16, 2011
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter, Pete Govert, Emmett Lyman
Also Present: E. Blaschik, S. Mackinnon, N. Pincus, S. Wheeler, L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of March 2, 2011 and Special Meeting of March 14, 2011: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 2, 2011 as written. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Walter advised that the minutes for the Special Meeting of March 14, 2011 were not yet ready for review.

4. Correspondence: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of Bill No. 1196 in their meeting packets and stated, contrary to assurances by Senator Daily and the Riverhouse partners, the bill contained language regarding 2.7 acres of the Goodspeed property being included in the proposed land-swap. He noted that the Town has an easement on that property for the use of the boat launch. He advised that Senator Daily's office had informed him that the referenced language in Section 14 of the bill was included as a "placeholder". Mr. Walter further noted that Patch.com reported that Haddam's First Selectman DeStefano had strongly endorsed the land-swap deal.

There was a general discussion regarding the presentation made by the Riverhouse partners at a special meeting of the Economic Development Commission on March 10th. The Selectmen expressed concerns about the impact of the proposed project on the East Haddam Village businesses.

5. First Selectman's Report:

A. Green Committee – Food Bank Garden: Mr. Walter introduced Ms. Nancy Pincus who reported that the Victory Garden at the old Middle School was started two years ago to supply the Food Bank with fresh produce. She noted that the number of families the Food Bank was serving has increased and stated that she would like to double the size of the garden this year. In response to a question from Mr. Lyman, she confirmed that she has already identified where the underground lines were and they would not interfere with an expanded garden. Mr. Govert suggested she post a sign at the Food Bank and/or by the garden inviting volunteers to help with the gardening. There was a general discussion about the content, type, and location of the sign and Ms. Pincus advised that she would appreciate some volunteer help.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to allow Ms. Pincus to double the size of the Victory Garden at the old Middle School. Unanimous aye.

6. Citizen's Concerns: In response to a question raised by Mr. Mackinnon, Mr. Walter advised that the transfer of the open space parcels recently approved at referendum would take place after the final surveys and legal paperwork were completed.

7. Unfinished Business

A. 4-8 Middle School: There was no update on this agenda item.

B. Goodspeed Opera House Update: Mr. Blaschik advised that the new season at the Goodspeed Opera House begins April 15th and that the cast for the first show has arrived and was in rehearsals.

C. Old Middle School: Ms. Wheeler reported that the next Committee meeting was scheduled for March 28th.

D. Rotary Club Donation of Edgar D. Williams Park: Mr. Walter reported that the Rotary Club was working through the items that they needed to address to facilitate the transfer of the Park to the Town.

8. New Business:

A. First Supplemental Agreement Resolution – East Haddam Mobility Project: Mr. Walter advised that an agreement needed to be signed with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to complete the crosswalks and sidewalks for the East Haddam Mobility Project. The Selectmen discussed the history of the project.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Mark B. Walter, First Selectman, be, and hereby is authorized to sign the agreement entitled:

“First Supplemental Agreement to the Original Agreement dated March 11, 2003 between the State of Connecticut and the Town of East Haddam for the Development of Contract Plans, Specifications and Estimates for the Mobility Improvement Project.

Unanimous aye.

B. Call for Town Meeting: The Selectmen discussed the call to send various items to Town Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, 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 Meeting Hall on Town Street in the said Town of East Haddam at 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 29, 2011 for the following purposes, to wit:

Item 1: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of \$4,165.00 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency

Management and Homeland Security, entitled “FY 2011 Emergency Management Performance Grant”, as provided for in the 2010-2011 budget (revenue budget 746-431510 and expense budget 746-531510).

Item 2: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Mark B. Walter, First Selectman, be, and hereby is authorized to sign the agreement entitled:

“First Supplemental Agreement to the Original Agreement Dated March 29, 2010 between the State of Connecticut and the Town of East Haddam for the Construction, Inspection, and Maintenance of Resurfacing of Lake Shore Drive utilizing Federal Funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 Public Law 111-5 (hereinafter “Act”).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Meeting accepts a supplemental grant in the amount of \$22,622.00 under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Pavement Preservation Project Grant for the purpose of resurfacing of Lake Shore Drive, and to amend the 2010-2011 budget accordingly (revenue account 79-431510-G1005 and expense account 79-541750-G1005).

Item 3: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to transfer an amount not to exceed \$25,000 from the Contingency Fund (704-588701) to Animal Control Capital (847-574701) for the purpose of state code compliance improvements to the Animal Control facility.

Unanimous aye.

C. Volunteer of the Month: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to two Volunteer of the Month recommendations in their meeting packets. He advised that Deb Denette had recommended Cindy DiNino noting she “*selflessly donated her time and talent into the development of a project known as the Harvest House ... a soup kitchen that runs out of St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church*”.

Mr. Walter advised that Joanne Rocznik had nominated James O’Brien in an e-mail, dated March 16, 2011, stating that he “*has been active in the Knights for many years, he is on the Board of Trustees for the Historical Society and is a life member of that organization*”. He noted that Ms. Rocznik also referenced Mr. O’Brien’s involvement with the Senior Club and the Commission on Aging.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to name Cynthia DiNino as volunteer of the month for February 2011. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to name James O’Brien as volunteer of the month for March 2011. Unanimous aye.

D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to one tax refund.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to award a tax refund in the amount presented.

- \$366.50 to CAB East LLC.

Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: Ms. Zemienieski advised that the Town would appreciate new nominations for Volunteer of the Month. The Selectmen and audience discussed several potential nominees.

10. Selectmen's Discussion: In response to a question from Mr. Govert, Mr. Walter provided a status update on the meetings of the Financial Needs Roundtable. He advised that he expected them to wrap up their work in late April at which time he will establish a committee to develop a long-term capital budget plan. The Selectmen discussed how far out the committee should plan for. Mr. Walter suggested that it was difficult to plan too far beyond 10 years; however, Mr. Govert recommended considering developing a 20-year plan since that was the usual term for bonding large projects.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Unanimous aye.

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639B

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary