

Board of Selectmen  
Grange Hall  
March 21, 2012  
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter, John Blaschik, Emmett Lyman

Also Present: I. Bartolomei; E. Blaschik; F. Brumder; J. Conant; R. Smith; K. Thames

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Smith requested that item 10.A. - Haddam Land Swap Board of Selectmen Letter be moved up on the agenda. It was agreed to discuss that item under Agenda item 4 - Correspondence.

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of February 27, 2012, Special Meeting of March 5, 2012, and Regular Meeting of March 7, 2012.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to table approval on the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 27, 2012 and Special Meeting of March 5, 2012 until next meeting.  
Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 7, 2012 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: The Selectmen reviewed the updated draft of the Board of Selectmen's letter regarding the Haddam Land Swap. Several revisions were suggested and Mr. Lyman agreed to make the changes.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to send the revised letter to the agreed upon list of addressees. Unanimous aye.

5. First Selectmen's Report:

A. Three Bridges Road Discussion: At Mr. Walter's request, the attendees who had an interest in this agenda item introduced themselves to the Selectmen. Mr. Thames provided the Selectmen with a timeline from June of 1982 when the three bridges were washed out. There was a general discussion of recent problems with log-jams, pollution, late-night use of the area as a lovers-lane, and expense incurred by the residents fixing stone walls at the turn-around area. Mr. Thames stated that the residents' primary concern is privacy. He noted that cars regularly cruise the area at all times of day and night and that they have even had an incident of a stolen car being dumped in the area.

In response to a question from Mr. Blaschik, Mr. Thames advised that they would like to have the road discontinued and removed from GPS tracking. Ownership of the road was discussed and Mr. Thames stated the residents would like to build a footbridge at the site. Mr. Blaschik suggested that, if they pursue that option, they consider deeding the footbridge back to the Town to avoid bureaucratic complications.

Mr. Walter reported that Mr. Ventres had received an engineer's report advising that the abutment where the residents' want to build their footbridge would not be safe for vehicle traffic. The Town has asked the engineer to determine if the abutments are safe for use for a footbridge. He noted that Mr. Ventres did not recommend discontinuing the road entirely; however, it could be discontinued for vehicle travel and designated it as a recreational trail. Mr. Walter advised that the possibility of making it a vehicle bridge is very slim.

Mr. Lyman clarified that even if the road is discontinued, the physical road will still exist and many of the issues that the residents of Three Bridges Road are concerned about will not go away. He advised that the Town has no say over which roads are shown on GPS or Mapquest. There was a general discussion about vehicles trespassing on the property and Mr. Thames reviewed a map of the site with the Selectmen. Mr. Walter and Mr. Lyman agreed to participate in a site visit with the residents the following week; Mr. Blaschik stated he would be out of state that week. The Selectmen thanked the residents for coming to the meeting.

The Selectmen had an additional brief discussion about the best approach to resolving the concerns discussed with the Three Bridges Road residents.

6. Citizen's Concerns: There were no citizens concerns expressed at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

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

B. Old Middle School/Middle School Conversion Committee: There was no update on this agenda item.

C. Proposal to Exempt Class I Renewables from Building Permit Fees: Mr. Walter provided Mr. Blaschik with the background on this proposal. The Selectmen discussed exempting the cost of obtaining a permit for the electrical work on the installation of solar panels. It was agreed that any solar installation for the purpose of re-sale of the generated electricity would not be eligible for the exemption.

8. New Business

A. Bid Award – Portable Emergency Generator Public Works Garage: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a letter in their meeting packets from the Public Works Administrator, dated March 14, 2012, recommending that Norpro/Northeast Isuzu Engines be awarded the bid for the portable emergency generator.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to award the bid for the Portable Emergency Generator Public Works Garage to Norpro/Northeast Isuzu Engines in the amount of \$19,300.00. Unanimous aye.

B. Bid Award – Mowing: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets titled "2012 Mowing Bid Awards". He reviewed the recommendations and the Selectmen discussed several of the contractors. Mr. Walter noted that he was disappointed that the Town would have no local business do mowing this year.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to approve the mowing bid awards as presented. Unanimous aye. (A copy of the bid awards is attached to the minutes.)

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

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, 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 Monday, April 2, 2012 for the following purposes, to wit:

**Item 1:** To consider and act upon the following resolution upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance:

RESOLVED: That a 2008 Ford Wheelchair-Accessible Motor Vehicle for Services to Elderly and/or Disabled Persons Program is hereby accepted upon the terms and conditions set forth in an Agreement between the Town of East Haddam and the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, and that Mark B. Walter, First Selectman, is authorized to sign and execute agreements/contracts, along with all necessary agreement/contractual documents and certifications on behalf of the Town of East Haddam with the Department of Transportation of the State of Connecticut, and is authorized to affix the corporate seal of the municipality.  
Unanimous aye.

D. Volunteer of the Month (April): Mr. Walter noted that April is generally reserved for the nominations of student volunteers. He called the Selectmen's attention to a letter from Laura Truncali and Lisa Maciorowski, School Counselors at Nathan Hale-Ray High School, recommending Ashley Hobbs and Nicole Govert as Volunteers of the Month. The letter of recommendation advised that,

*"Nicole Govert ...is unselfish in her acts and dedicated to many causes ...[including] the school's Green Team ... Relay for Life ... Straight From the Heart ... Project Safe Halloween, cooking meals for those less fortunate on Thanksgiving and Christmas, and running an Easter Egg Hunt for local children."*

*"Ashley Hobbs is ...big-hearted, kind, yet a quiet leader ...and animal and environment lover ... contributes to the community throughout the year ... and participated in Relay for Life and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer ... Straight From the Heart ... the Green Team ... she volunteered for the McVesson Company, helping set-up a celebration for younger students, and then also participated the H<sub>2</sub>O For Life Campaign."*

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to name Ashley Hobbs and Nicole Govert as volunteers of the month for April 2012. Unanimous aye.

E. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to three tax refunds.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to award tax refunds in the amounts presented.

- \$116.91 to Susan or Krystal Purdell
  - \$ 16.02 to David C. Griesbach
  - \$ 9.60 to Cynthia Dinino
- Unanimous aye.

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

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

Mr. Walter advised that the United States Geological Survey (USGS) will discontinue operation of the river gauge in Middletown which is essential for accurate river floodstage crest and low-flow water-stage forecasts and warnings. There was a general discussion regarding the impact this action will have on allowing the Goodspeed to be prepared for flood events.

Mr. Walter advised that the Chatham Health District is going to begin rental housing registration for the purposes of establishing sanitary codes, providing for inspections and penalties for violations, and allowing the repeal of conflicting ordinances to provide for efficient data. In response to a request by Mr. Walter, Mr. Blaschik agreed to review the materials from the perspective of a Fire Marshal.

Mr. Walter reported that the Central Corridor Railway Coalition has asked the Town to sign a resolution in favor of helping the Palmer Rail Coalition which proposes to reestablish passenger rail service from Brattleboro, VT to New London, CT. The Selectmen reviewed a map of the proposed route.

A. Haddam Land Swap Board of Selectmen Letter: This item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is recorded above in these minutes under Agenda item 4 - Correspondence.

B. Board of Fire Commissioners/Fire Department Update of Outstanding Issues: There was no update on this agenda item.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Tape: 661A  
661B

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary

# 2012

## Mowing Bid Awards

<b><u>Langer Contractors LLC</u></b>			<b><u>Attention 2 Detail</u></b>	
Tater Hill Cemetery	\$55		Nichols Memorial	\$20
Ackley Cemetery	\$55		Nathan Hale Triangle	\$15
Mill Road Cemetery	\$50		Landing/Main Triangle	\$15
Millington Green/School	\$40		Edgar D. Williams Park	\$30
Moodus Green	\$30		Town Beach	\$50
Mt. Parnassus Cemetery	\$60		Town Office Complex	\$50
Nichols Field	\$70			
Town Meeting Hall/Grange	\$50		<b><u>Summit Landscape</u></b>	
Senior Center	\$60		Foxtown Cemetery	\$60
Former Middle School	\$175		2 <sup>nd</sup> Yard Cemetery	\$35
			North Plains Cemetery	\$35
			Bashan Lake Cemetery	\$60
			Chester Cemetery	\$35
			Millington Cemetery	\$100
			Acorn Drive Circle	\$20
			Mill Road Triangle	\$20

**Spring clean-up for all sites will be visually evaluated and awarded on an as need basis.**