

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
September 19, 2012
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter; Emmett Lyman
Selectmen Absent: John Blaschik
Also Present: C. Behilo; J. Ventres; S. Wheeler

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Walter suggested moving Agenda items 8B (Main Street Investment Fund Grant – Application Resolution) and 7B (Three Bridges Road Bridge Discussion) up on the agenda, following the Approval of Minutes, to accommodate Mr. Ventres. Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of September 5, 2012.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 5, 2012 as written. Unanimous aye.

8B. New Business – Main Street Investment Fund Grant – Application Resolution: Mr. Ventres distributed materials on the Moodus Center Sidewalk & Lighting Improvements project. He reviewed the materials with the Selectmen and advised that he has completed an application for a grant from the CT Main Street Investment Fund for the proposed \$636,250.00 project. Mr. Ventres reported that the grant is for Phase II of the Sidewalk & Lighting Improvements project and encompasses extending the sidewalks on Falls Road, Plains Road, and work in the area of the Plains Road Extension/Moodus Green. He stated that the grant amount requested is \$500,000.00.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectmen

1. Authorize submission of the funding application, *Moodus Center Sidewalk & Lighting Improvements, East Haddam*, under the Main Street Investment Fund Program referenced in Section 78 and 79 of the PA 11-1;
2. Identifies First Selectman, Mark B. Walter, as an individual authorized to sign the Main Street Investment Fund application and administer the project. Such application is attached to and made a part of this record.

Unanimous aye.

7B. Unfinished Business – Three Bridges Road Bridge Discussion: Mr. Ventres informed the Selectmen that the site of the walking bridge is being surveyed. He advised that, when the survey is completed, he will be researching pre-fabricated options for a replacement walking bridge.

Mr. Ventres departed the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

4. Correspondence:

A. Letter from DEEP Regarding Sunrise Resort: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets, dated September 11, 2012, from CT DEEP Deputy Commissioner Whalen responding to his correspondence of August 29th. He noted that Deputy Commissioner's letter stated that they are in the "...process of evaluating which buildings on the property can be demolished in the fall" and that "...some constraints include the presence of hazardous materials in some buildings ... and the amount of funds we have available for demolition".

5. First Selectmen's Report:

Mr. Walter reported that a former East Haddam Constable, Richard Roberts, had died and that calling hours would be held in Middletown on September 20th.

A. Company #2 Fire House Discussion: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to an engineering report, submitted by Richard J. Marnicki, P.E., on the condition of Company #2 Fire House. He stated that the report includes estimates of approximately \$226,000.00 for repairs to the site and building, exclusive of needed repairs to the foundation. He also noted that the report included a quote of \$655,908 to \$760,000 to construct a new firehouse.

6. Citizen's Concerns: There were no citizen's concerns raised at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Proposal to Exempt Class I Renewables from Building Permit Fees: There was no update on this agenda item.

B. Three Bridges Road Bridge Discussion: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above in these minutes.

C. Tax Exempt Handicapped Vehicles: There was no update on this agenda item.

D. Internet Usage Policy Discussion: There was no update on this agenda item.

8. New Business

A. Transfer Station MSW, Bulky Waste and Hauling Contract Discussion: Mr. Walter reported that his research found that CRRA was the only alternative available to the Town and that he did not feel that was a favorable option.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve three two-year contracts for Municipal Bulky Waste Disposal Services, Municipal Waste and Recyclables Hauling Services and Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Services with Willimantic Waste paper Co., Inc. and send the multi-year contracts to the Board of Finance, then to Town Meeting for approval. Unanimous aye.

B. Main Street Investment Fund Grant – Application Resolution: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on above in these minutes.

C. Bid Award – 2012 Wood Chipper: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to a Memo in their meeting packets from the Public Works Administrator, dated September 19, 2012, recommending that Newtown Power Equipment be awarded the bid for the 2012 Wood Chipper pending approval of funding from the Board of Finance and potentially Town Meeting.

Mr. Walter advised that the Town’s wood chipper suffered significant wear and tear as a result of extensive use during the storm clean-ups last year. He stated that the Town has been refunded approximate \$119,000 from FEMA for the storm clean-up and he expects to receive one additional payment. He noted that he hopes to use the FEMA funds to pay for the wood chipper and a generator for the Town Offices.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to award the bid for the 2012 Wood Chipper to Newtown Power Equipment Inc. in the amount of \$43,440.00 pending approval of funding from the Board of Finance and potentially Town Meeting. Unanimous aye.

D. Volunteer of the Month (September & October): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to a letter in the meeting packets from Gerry Porto, dated August 16, 2012, recommending two Volunteers of the Month. Ms. Porto recommended Barbara Boynton and Jane Lewis for their help with the library gardens.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to name Barbara Boynton as Volunteer of the Month for September 2012 and Jane Lewis as Volunteer of the Month for October 2012. Unanimous aye.

E. Commission Appointment (HDC): This agenda item was tabled in lieu of receipt of written notification from the Historic District Commission.

F. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to an amended tax refund and two additional tax refunds.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to amend the motion made by the Board of Selectmen on September 5, 2012 and change the tax refund issued to Thomas Dargenio from \$45.87 to \$47.84. Unanimous aye.

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

- \$331.88 to DCFS Trust
- \$ 90.43 to Toyota Motor Credit Corp

Unanimous aye.

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

10. Selectmen’s Discussion: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to an email from Attorney John Bennett outlining the history of litigation over valuation of the Goodspeed Airport. He noted that the case was initiated by the owner of the Goodspeed Airport in 2003 because he felt the property had been incorrectly valued for tax purposes. Mr. Walter reported that the Town and the owner of the airport have agreed to a settlement of \$189,522.82 as a refund for overpayment of property taxes and that there will be a special meeting of the Board of Finance on September 20th to decide on which fund to make the payment from.

Mr. Walter also reported on the following items:

- The stove at the Senior Center had been replaced and they will be putting the old stove out for bid. He noted that there are several organizations that have expressed interest in the stove.
- The Middlesex County Revitalization Committee has processed approximately \$4M in loans.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary