

Board of Selectmen
Grange Hall
January 16, 2013
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter; Emmett Lyman; John Blaschik

Selectmen Absent: none

Also Present: D. Angersola, J. Angersola; H. Ballek; T. Houle; C. Iannelli; S. Wheeler

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda: Mr. Walter recommended amending the agenda to move item 8.A. – New Business – Bid Waiver - Fire Marshal Vehicle, up for discussion following Agenda item 5A. Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of January 2, 2013: Mr. Walter advised that the first sentence of the 2nd paragraph under Agenda Item 4.A., Correspondence – Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Grant Announcement, should be revised to read as follows:

“Mr. Walter noted that purchase of the two properties would complete the \$5M open space bond authorization.”

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 2, 2013 as amended. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: Mr. Walter distributed copies of an article from FenderBender.com regarding an innovative design for the auto paint booth at Eddie’s Auto Body in East Haddam. He also distributed a copy of a proposal developed by CCM’s Task Force on Gun Violence Control. Mr. Walter noted that he agreed with some parts of the proposal but felt that other recommendations went too far.
5. First Selectmen’s Report: Mr. Walter reported that, earlier in the day, he had attended a Council of Small Towns meeting where Gov. Malloy spoke. He advised that the Governor noted that the State’s \$1B deficit could result in reductions in aid to cities and towns. Mr. Walter noted that towns could expect a potential 10% reduction in aid from the state which would mean a loss of approximately \$400,000.00 for East Haddam.

A. East Haddam Early Childhood Council Presentation – Cindy Praisner: Mr. Walter introduced Cindy Praisner and invited her to address the Selectmen. Ms. Praisner thanked the Selectmen for the opportunity to present the Early Childhood Council’s Progress Update and 2013-14 Budget Request to them. She distributed copies of the Council’s Annual Report and recapped it’s 2012-13 accomplishments. She reported that 2013-14 will be the final year of a 5-year grant from the United Way and their contribution for the year is scheduled to be reduced by \$2500. Consequently, the Council is requesting \$6000.00 each from the Board of Education and the Town; this would be an increase of \$1000.00 over both of their 2011-12 contribution.

8A. New Business: Bid Waiver – Fire Marshal Vehicle: Mr. Walter introduced Fire Marshal Angersola and called the Selectmen’s attention to materials in their meeting packets with information on the proposed vehicle Mr. Angersola is recommending the Fire Department purchase. Mr. Angersola reviewed the information in the packet and noted that Valenti Ford’s quote of \$37,760 includes

\$11,910.00 to install a specialized Step-n-Cube van body. He stated that the quote includes a municipal discount of \$9,950.00.

Mr. Angersola stated that vehicle will allow Fire Department staff to conduct private interviews and have investigative tools available on-site which will allow East Haddam's Fire Department staff to conduct fire investigations independent of the State Fire Marshal.

Mr. Walter informed the Selectmen that the balance of the Fire Department's reserve fund is approximately \$590,000.00 which can cover the cost of this vehicle as well as a proposed rescue vehicle.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to waive the bid process for the purchase of a 2013 Ford Econoline Com Cutaway Van and authorize the First Selectman or Fire Marshal to negotiate with Valenti Ford per their quote of \$37,760.00 for this vehicle. Mr. Blaschik recused himself from the discussion of this agenda item. The motion passed by a majority of ayes.

6. Citizen's Concerns: There were no citizens' concerns voiced 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: There was no update on this agenda item.

C. Right to Farm Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Walter reported that the latest draft of the ordinance follows state statutes and does not confer any additional authority on the Agriculture Commission. He noted that Mr. Ventres and the Agriculture Commission are comfortable with the current draft of the Right to Farm Ordinance.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Blaschik, to approve an ordinance entitled "Right to Farm Ordinance" and send it to the next Town Meeting for approval. Unanimous aye.

8. New Business

A. Bid Waiver – Fire Marshal Vehicle: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on in the above minutes.

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. 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 Grange Hall on Town Street in the said Town of East Haddam at 8:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2013 for the following purposes, to wit:

Item 1: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer in the amount of \$234,549.99 from the General Fund (781-579790) to the Board of Education Capital Reserve Fund (25-115160-25790).

Item 2: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Finance to approve a transfer in an amount not to exceed \$50,000 from the Capital Non-Recurring Reserve Fund (25-115160-25020) to the Fire Marshal Capital Improvement budget for the purpose of purchasing a vehicle for the Fire Marshal (revenue account 782-455055 and expense account 842-574201).

Item 3: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that a grant in the amount of \$4,000 is hereby accepted from the State of Connecticut, State Library, for the purpose of historic document preservation and appropriated to Fund 14 - Historic Document Preservation Fund; and that Mark B. Walter, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality, a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Document Preservation Grant.

Item 4: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of \$23,700 from the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation, entitled "FY 2013 Comprehensive DUI Enforcement Program for Municipalities", and to amend the 2012-2013 budget accordingly (revenue account 744-424420 and expense account 744-514403).

Item 5: To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of \$4,150.00 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, entitled "FY 2011/2012 Emergency Management Performance Grant", (revenue budget 746-431510 and expense budget 746-531510).

Unanimous aye.

C. Volunteer of the Month: There were no Volunteer of the Month nominations to consider at this meeting.

D. Board/Commission Reappointments (WPCA): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets from Andrew Lord, Chairman of the Water Pollution Control Authority, dated January 15, 2013, recommending the reappointment of Committee members.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to reappoint Andrew Lord and John Russell as regular members of the Water Pollution Control Authority for five-year terms to expire June 30, 2017.

Mr. Lyman stated he feels that since the Water Pollution Control Authority has the authority to levy a tax, he believes that individuals should be elected, rather than appointed, to the Board. Mr. Walter noted his comments. Motion passed by unanimous aye.

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

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

- \$322.43 to GMAC
 - \$214.76 to CAB East LLC
- Unanimous aye.

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

10. Selectmen's Discussion: There were no additional topics discussed by the Selectmen.

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 8:08 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary