

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Grange Hall
November 20, 2013
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: M. Walter; E. Lyman; E. Malavasi
Also Present: E. Blaschik; M. Malavasi; L. Zemienieski

1. First Selectman Walter called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to amend the agenda to include Cole McCormack's Eagle Scout project under the First Selectman's Report. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of November 6, 2013:

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to table approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2013. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: Mr. Walter distributed copies of the exit pole from the Municipal Facilities Public Hearing on November 14 for the boards review.

5. First Selectmen's Report: Mr. Walter introduced Cole McCormack who is creating a sign for the Town Meeting Hall/Grange Hall as his Eagle Scout project. Mr. McCormack distributed a copy of the sign design for the board. He commented that the colors would be green with gold lettering. He explained the project and noted that he was working with Mr. Ventres on design and Mr. Mansfield on the placement and exterior lighting. Mr. Walter asked how the fundraising was progressing. Mr. McCormack noted that he cannot start fundraising until the project was approved. Mr. Lyman asked about the legality of using the name "Grange" on the sign. Mr. Walter commented that he did not think it would be a problem but he would check with legal.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve Cole McCormack's Eagle Scout sign project pending site approval from Craig Mansfield and "Grange" name usage from the town attorney. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Walter briefed the board on the 911 Dispatch Consolidation project and provided a handout regarding the most recent project status review. He explained the need to consolidate was triggered when Hebron left the current KX group. Their departure left a large financial gap in the budget. The consolidation committee is working with East Lyme and Montville regarding a new consolidated regional dispatch operation. Mr. Walter explained how the towns contribute to dispatch centers.

A. Shared Services Report: Mr. Walter reviewed the shared services report on activities of the Facilities, Finance and Technology Departments. He noted that he will be sharing this report every month with the board.

B. Town Hall Wood Stove Discussion: Mr. Walter noted he was still waiting on quotes regarding alternative heating options for the building. Mr. Lyman commented that he would recommend putting in a decent heating system and leaving the old stove in place but welding the current stove shut so it could not be used but still created the ambiance of the old Town Hall look.

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

7. Unfinished Business:

A. Tax and Business Incentive Program Application: There was no update on this agenda item.

B. Transfer Station Update/Transfer Station Committee: Mr. Walter advised that he believed the Transfer Station Committee would be writing up a recommendation for the next Board of Selectmen meeting. Mr. Lyman asked if anything changed as to how the haulers were dumping into the hopper. Mr. Walter noted that nothing was changed except that their trucks would be weighed for recordkeeping purposes.

C. Ordinance Book Review Discussion: Ms. Denette checked with General Code regarding December 13 and they were unavailable that date. The board offered December 12 or December 16 at 5:00pm to meet with General Code.

D. Blight Ordinance Discussion: Mr. Walter noted that he met with Jim Ventres and Bernie Gillis and discussed the ordinance. Mr. Ventres and Mr. Gillis will work on revising the current draft.

E. Wocl Road Discussion: Mr. Walter noted that he was not quite sure what to do regarding this situation. Mr. Lyman commented that it was hard to approve this and incorporate a maintenance agreement into the land records and force future owners to abide by it. Mr. Walter confirmed that was the only house on that road and that the three surrounding property owners do not want to leave this road as paved. The board debated about what should be done. Mr. Walter noted that he would like to get another legal opinion.

8. New Business

A. Bid Waiver – Hurst Rescue Tool: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to emails from Shawn Daigle, Fire Chief, dated November 19 and November 20, requesting a bid waiver for purchase of a Hurst Rescue Tool. His email noted that Firematic Supply Co. Inc. was the sole source for this product in Connecticut and further provided a sole source letter from Hurst. Chief Daigle also provided a quote for this equipment of \$9,750.00.

Chief Daigle explained that Firematic Supply was the only distributor of the Hurst Rescue Tool in Connecticut. Mr. Malavasi asked if there were other brands of this type of equipment. Chief Daigle responded that there were but all the current equipment was Hurst and he wished to keep all the equipment compatible. Mr. Malavasi asked if there were other distributors out of state. Chief Daigle noted that there was but that would make service and repair difficult. The board discussed the operation of this tool and what it was used for.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to waive the bid process for purchase of a Hurst Rescue Tool and authorize the Fire Chief, Shawn Daigle, to negotiate with Firematic Supply Co. Inc. per their quote of \$9,750.00 for this purchase. Unanimous aye.

B. Reappointment of Subregistrars for Burial Permits: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a memo in their meeting packets, dated November 12, 2013, from Town Clerk, Denette regarding this agenda item.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the reappointments of Wayne Mohrlein of Aurora McCarthy Funeral Home and Thomas Portelance of Spencer Funeral Home, Inc. as subregistrars for burial permits for the Town of East Haddam for the period of January 6, 2014 to January 3, 2016. Unanimous aye.

C. Senior Center – Beer and Wine Approval: Mr. Walter explained that the board received a request for permission to serve beer and wine at the Senior Center from Brad Parker, Senior Services Director. The events they wish to serve beer and wine at are: Annual Holiday Party on December 9 and New Year's Eve Party on December 31.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to approve the serving of beer and wine at the Senior Center for the Annual Holiday party on December 9 and New Year's Eve party on December 31. Unanimous aye.

D. Board and Commission Changes (P&Z): Mr. Walter noted the board received a request from Town Clerk, Deb Denette, to fill a vacant alternate position on the Planning and Zoning Commission created by the resignation of Edmund Gubbins who was recently elected to a regular seat on the commission.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to appoint Martha Hansen to a vacant alternate member term on the Planning and Zoning Commission to expire at the November 2017 municipal election. Unanimous aye.

E. Volunteer of the Month: Mr. Walter called the board's attention to a nomination email from Peter Govert recommending Kim Moran Becker as a Volunteer of the Month. He also nominated co-manager Jovita Cozean but Ms. Cozean was already a recipient of the Volunteer of the Month award in January 2004. Mr. Govert's email stated, in part, that *"these new managers of the food bank have done a terrific job improving its operations. There is better quality and quantity of food, streamlined systems and increased clientele."*

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to name Kim Moran-Becker as volunteer of the month for November. Unanimous aye.

F. Tax Refunds: There were no tax refunds for consideration at the meeting.

9. Public Comment: There was no public comment.

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

A. The Selectmen reviewed the proposed 2014 schedule of meetings for the Board of Selectmen.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the following dates as the meeting schedule for the Board of Selectmen for the 2014 calendar year: January 15, February 5 & 19, March 5 & 19, April 2 & 16, May 7 & 21, June 4 & 18, July 2 & 16, August 6 & 20, September 3 & 17, October 1 & 15, November 5 & 19, December 3 & 17, and January 7 & 21, 2015. All meetings will be held at 7:00pm in the Grange Hall. Unanimous aye.

B. Freedom of Information Workshop (November 21, 2013): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a flier in their meeting packets with information about a Freedom Information Workshop scheduled for November 21st. He stated that the workshop is a good opportunity to learn the rules around what constitutes a public meeting and other guidelines for elected officials.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional regular business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Malavasi, to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Emmett Lyman, Secretary