

Board of Selectmen
Town Office Annex
September 1, 2010
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter, Pete Govert, Emmett Lyman
Also Present: S. Wheeler

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. Lyman, seconded by Mr. Govert, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.
3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meetings of March 1, 2010, March 3, 2010, March 4, 2010, March 5, 2010, and August 18, 2010, and Regular Meeting of August 18, 2010: Mr. Govert stated that he had just received the packet of meeting minutes and had not yet reviewed them. He requested that the approval of the Special Meetings of March 1, 2010, March 3, 2010, March 4, 2010, and March 5, 2010, and the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2010 be deferred until the next Regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen agreed with his request. Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 18, 2010 as written. Unanimous aye.
4. Correspondence:
 - A. DEA – Prescription Drug Take Back Day – September 25, 2010: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen’s attention to a copy of an e-mail in their meeting packets from CT State Trooper Bellandese regarding the DEA’s planned Prescription Drug Take Back Day. He noted that the Town will make the Grange available for that purpose on September 25th.

Mr. Walter stated that Trooper Bellandese also requested in his e-mail that the Town post “No Swimming” signs by the creek under the new bridge on State Road 151; however, it was noted that the property on either side of the creek was privately owned.
5. First Selectman’s Report: Mr. Walter reported on the following items:
 - The Chatham Health District and the Town will sign a contract with Everbridge to replace Alert Now as their emergency notification system. He advised that he will also ask Mr. Carroll to consider Everbridge for the Board of Education’s emergency notification provider.
 - The Chatham Health District will be posting ratings on their website of the food service/provider businesses in East Haddam and other surrounding towns. He noted that a number of restaurant owners attending a public hearing on this topic were in support of making the ratings public. Rules need to be established for an appeal process and reinspection.
 - He has been meeting with the Town’s Emergency Management team in preparation of the potential of Hurricane Earl hitting Connecticut. He stated that Mr. Mansfield has suggested the Town acquire a credit card that can be used for purchases in an emergency situation. He noted he will discuss Mr. Mansfield’s suggestion with the Finance Director, Ms. Varricchio.

- Lighting of the Town Office Site parking light was discussed at a recent meeting of the Safety Committee. The Committee recommended that motion detector lighting be installed.

The Selectmen also discussed the security of the doors at the Grange.

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

7. Unfinished Business

A. 4-8 Middle School: Mr. Walter stated that the 1st day of school ceremonies went very well.

B. Goodspeed Opera House Update: Mr. Walter advised that construction was continuing to move forward on the Actors' Housing project.

C. Old Middle School: Mr. Walter stated there was nothing new to report on this item.

D. Road Acceptance and Associated Drainage Easement – Meadow Brook Road: Mr. Walter advised that he had no update on this agenda item.

E. STEAP Power House Road Grant: There was no new update on this agenda item.

F. Request for Golf Cart Ordinance: The Selectmen reviewed Attorney Poliner's e-mail regarding the petition to allow the use of golf carts at Lake Hayward. They also reviewed an e-mail from Mr. Flynn, a property owner at Lake Hayward who was not in favor of the proposal. In response to a request by Mr. Govert, Mr. Walter agreed to also get input from the Ambulance and Fire Departments.

G. Clark Gates Road Petition: Mr. Walter advised that he had taken a 1-day class at UConn for analyzing and solving local traffic problems. The Selectmen discussed a number of options for reducing traffic speed on Clark Gates Road and Mr. Walter advised that the cost of installing parabolic cross-walks was prohibitive. Mr. Walter stated that, in addition to speeding, many drivers were ignoring the stop signs on the road and noted that enforcement in the area should be increased. Mr. Lyman suggested using road-cuts similar to those in the breakdown lanes and before toll booths on state highways. Mr. Walter stated he would discuss that possibility with Mr. Thumm.

H. Rotary Club Donation of Edgar D. Williams Park: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets related to this agenda item. He noted that the Town Attorney had conducted a title search and that Mr. Ventres will research previous Phase I and II environmental reports related to the property. He stated that this agenda item was not ready for consideration at this time.

I. DCS Energy – Solar Panel Offer: Mr. Lyman stated that he had reviewed the materials that had been provided and noted several concerns he had with the proposed contract. Mr. Walter stated that he would follow-up with the Town's insurance carrier regarding some of Mr. Lyman's concerns and Mr. Govert agreed to also follow-up on several of Mr. Lyman's questions.

8. New Business

A. Open Space Trust Fund Ordinance Revision: Mr. Walter stated that the Open Space Committee had recommended that an Agriculture Commission representative be added as a member on the Open Space Trust Fund Ordinance.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution and sent acceptance of said amendment to Town Meeting for approval:

Open Space Committee: the Board of Selectmen shall appoint a Land Preservation Committee. The membership of the Committee shall be composed of an individual or representatives from each of the following commissions, boards, and organizations; the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance, the Board of Education, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Conservation Commission, the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission, the Historic District Commission, the Economic Development Commission, the Recreation Commission, **[add: the Agriculture Commission]** and the East Haddam Land Trust, Inc. The membership shall coincide with terms of election or appointment from each committee or board and follow the political balance in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes. This Committee will be responsible for the preservation of agriculture and open space in Town for the land and for expenditures of any funds from the Open Space Trust Fund or any other source.

Unanimous aye.

Mr. Lyman noted that there was no provision in the ordinance for the election and term of the Chairman. The Selectmen agreed that the ordinances for all of the Town's Boards and Commissions should be reviewed and possibly updated to correct the omission.

B. Commission Appointment (AGR): Mr. Walter advised that Mr. Jed Cone had submitted an application to the Town to become a member of the Agriculture Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to appoint Jed Cone as a regular member of the Agriculture Commission, with an initial appointment to be for one year; thereafter all terms for regular members shall be three years. Unanimous aye.

C. Commission Reappointment (IWWC): Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to a reappointment recommendation letter in their meeting packets from Mary Augustiny, Vice-Chairman of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Govert, to reappoint Randolph Dill for a two-year term, to expire June 30, 2012, as a regular member of the Inland Wetlands & Watercourse Commission. Unanimous aye.

D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Walter called the Selectmen's attention to five tax refunds.

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

- \$315.24 to Alicia J. Gram,
- \$826.52 to Joseph Urbano,

- \$125.60 to Matthew Riley,
- \$141.63 to Susan Martin, and
- \$195.03 to GMAC.

Unanimous aye.

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

10. Selectmen's Discussion:

Mr. Walter advised that one of the State Troopers had reported that a robbery at North Plains Road had the same M.O. as the one at North Plains Road and that several of the surrounding towns were also experiencing similar robberies.

In response to a question by Mr. Govert, Mr. Walter reported that the Town had coordinated a meeting for the individual interested in purchasing the old Torah Institute property and representatives from a number of Town Departments. He advised that the discussions had been very open and candid about issues that could come up regarding re-opening the camp grounds. He also advised that neighbors had been informed of the proposed plans and none had expressed any major objections.

Mr. Govert also inquired about the status of the old Sunrise Resort and Mr. Walter informed him that the State was in the process of seeking developers.

Mr. Walter advised that the draw-down of the Moodus Reservoir by the State will be later than originally planned and that that information had been posted on the Town's website.

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 8:25 pm. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Tape 621A
621B

Emmett Lyman, Secretary