

Town of East Hampton  
Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, May 9, 2017  
Middle School Library

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Chairperson Patience Anderson, Vice Chairman Ted Hintz, Jr. (on telephone), Council Members Pete Brown, Melissa Engel, Mark Philhower, Josh Piteo and Kevin Reich and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco

**Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School Library.

**Adoption of Agenda**

A motion was made by Mr. Piteo, seconded by Ms. Engel, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voted (7-0)

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Piteo, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of April 25, 2017 as written. Voted (7-0)

**Presentations**

None

**Public Remarks**

Rachel Mansfield, Eastham Bridge Road, commented that she represents 15 teachers that face possible termination if the budget does not pass. She asked that the Council value education and put forth a referendum prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, urges the Council to move forward with the budget in the best interest of the community.

Nancy Kohler, Daniel Street, commented in support of the children and taxpayers noting past articles and references in the Rivereast. She asked for the current budget to be put forward to the voters.

**Bids & Contracts**

None

**Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations**

**Ordinance Banning Fracking Waste**

Chairperson Anderson noted that only one person commented during the Public Hearing on the draft ordinance. The Council members agreed with the commenter to have the ordinance revised so it is not so vague.

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Reich, to table discussion on the ordinance banning fracking waste until the document is amended. Voted (7-0)

## **Continued Business**

### **Discussion of 2017/2018 Budget**

Council members discussed at length the delay in putting the budget vote out to the Town. With little information from the State about revenues, there was concern about over taxing or under taxing the residents. There was a discussion about supplemental tax bills if additional funding is necessary and whether a rebate could be given to taxpayers if the State gives funding that we were not expecting. There were concerns noted about overtaxing the residents. Several members would like the budget put out to taxpayers by the end of June. Chairperson Anderson would like to schedule a Tri-Board meeting to discuss the budget options before the Council takes action on the budget.

### **Update on 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Mr. Piteo noted that the birthday cards are at many locations in town to be signed. The theme for the Old Home Days parade is the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary and people are invited to dress up like a historic East Hampton person.

## **New Business**

### **Public Water System Budget**

Tim Smith, Public Utilities Administrator, provided an overview of the 2017/18 Public Water System Operating Budget & Water Rate Recommendation. There will be a public hearing on the water budget and rates on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the WPCA offices. This item will come back to the Council on June 13<sup>th</sup> for a vote.

## **Town Manager Report**

### **State Revenue Projections/Legislative Update**

Mr. Maniscalco reported that State revenue projections may result in a \$5 billion dollar deficit over a two year period. The Town may not have an answer on state funding until August.

### **Update on Town Facilities Building Committee Meeting**

The committee decided to move forward with a Construction Manager rather than a General Contractor. The Construction Manager will provide more transparency as it relates to bidding and additional flexibility as changes could possibly arise. The architectural firm met with all of the departments to review the programming.

### **Update on Christopher Brook**

Work has started on the sidewalk and the concrete was poured for the sidewalk on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The work on the base for the road has been compacted. They will be working soon on the stone facing for the bridge.

### **Update on Open Positions**

#### **Assessor**

The Town is working with a final candidate with a hopeful start date of early June.

### **CGI Town Video**

The Town has entered into a partnership with CGI Communications. CGI will create 5 videos to host on the East Hampton website. They will be reaching out to town businesses for advertising on the video.

### **Sears Park Open**

Staff have been working to open the Park. They have received approval to turn on the water system. Park attendants and lifeguards are not on site until Memorial Day.

### **Meeting with DOT regarding Milling of Route 16**

The State DOT will be milling and repaving Route 16 in the near future. We will be getting more information from them with the week.

Mr. Maniscalco also reported there was a pink water issue at Royal Oaks. The water is safe but the system is in the process of being flushed.

Ms. Engel asked about an update on the Sports on 66 tax abatement. Mr. Cutler has until July 15<sup>th</sup> to reply. She would also like a report from Mr. Reich and Mr. Hintz regarding the Middle Haddam School.

Mr. Hintz asked about the construction manager responsibilities versus Mr. Motto's position. Steve Motto as the Owner Project Manager represents the Town and oversees the project. The construction manager oversees the subcontractors and bids those subcontractors. The cost would be determined in the bid. More information will be provided at a future meeting.

### **Appointments**

None

### **Tax Refunds**

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$4,474.49. Voted (7-0)

**Public Remarks**

Barbara Moore, 7 Overlook Road, agrees that a Tri-Board meeting should be held to hear more from all three boards.

**Communications, Correspondence & Announcements**

A letter was received from the brother of Jim Morris thanking the Town for all that has been done to honor Jim.

**Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois  
Recording Clerk