

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2017
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

Present: Chairperson Patience Anderson, Vice Chairman Ted Hintz, Jr., Council Members Pete Brown (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), 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 Town Hall Meeting Room.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Hintz, to adopt the agenda as amended, moving Presentations to follow the Adoption of the Agenda. Voted (6-0)

Presentations

Presentation from State Representative Melissa Ziobron and Update on Municipal Cuts with Council Question and Answers

State Representative Melissa Ziobron presented a citation from the General Assembly for the 250th Anniversary of the town.

Representative Ziobron also provided an update on the mid-year budget adjustments for Educational Cost Sharing and LOCIP and answered questions from the Council.

Introduction of New Tax Collector

The Town Manager introduced the new Tax Collector Kristi Merrifield.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Ms. Engel, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting and Public Hearing of December 13, 2016 as written. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

John Tuttle, President of the East Hampton Ambulance Association, read a letter asking that the Council consider naming the bridge under construction over Christopher Brook in Jim Morris' name. The full letter will be included in the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Executive Session

Attorney Client Privilege Communication – Board of Education v. Town of East Hampton Litigation

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Ms. Engel, to enter Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. for attorney client privilege communication regarding the Board of Education v. Town of East Hampton litigation. The Town Manager and Town Attorney Duncan Forsyth were invited into the session. Voted (7-0)

Executive Session ended at 7:25 p.m.

Possible Action on Executive Session Item

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

None

Continued Business

Update on 250th Anniversary

The Committee met on Monday, January 9th. The next meeting is February 2nd. Mr. Piteo is talking with various committees to find liaisons for the committee. The sign was put up near the parking lot at Town Hall. The banners for the Village Center will be coming as well as citations from various government officials. They would like to make the time capsule a major town event. The theme for Old Home Days will be the 250th Anniversary. There is a vacancy to be filled on the committee.

Mrs. Anderson attended the meeting and referenced questions at the meeting regarding the budget and possibly having more than one meeting per month. Mr. Piteo noted there will be more discussion on the budget at the next meeting.

New Business

Discuss and Take Possible Action on a Capital Reserve Fund Appropriation for the Center School Boiler Project

The Board of Finance did not meet prior to the meeting due to no quorum so this item will be tabled.

Town Facilities Building Committee Schedule

The Town Council will meet on Tuesday, January 31st at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room to interview building committee applicants.

Town Hall PD RFP Schedule and Scoring Criteria

The Town Council will meet on Monday, January 23rd at 6:30 p.m. in the Middle School Library to review the RFP documents received on January 9th. Mr. Maniscalco also provided a scoring sheet that can be used.

Discussion of Waiver/Reimbursement of Building & Zoning Fees to Secure a Water Source

Mr. Pelletier recently went to Planning & Zoning with a proposed conservation development of 22 units for his property at South Main Street. The original plan was for 127 units. As a part of a conservation development, a portion of the property is given to the Town as open space. The original proposal did not include the five wells that had been drilled on the property. The Town Manager and staff thought the Town could offer to waive and reimburse fees associated with his conservation development in return for moving the open space line and giving the town the five wells. The wells have been tested to produce 49,999 gallons of water per day and would easily meet the water needs of the Village Center. A memo from Tim Smith, Public Utilities Administrator is included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's office outlining the costs to develop a water system out of the South Main Street location. Council members discussed the sanitary radius for the wells and sewer. A draft letter was also prepared for Mr. Pelletier. Council members would like the wording changed to include information if the yield from the wells is less the developer would owe the fees. Mr. Maniscalco will revise the letter and bring it back to the Council. The letter would open a conversation to put together an agreement that would come back for Council approval.

Town Manager Report Reappointment to EDC

Mr. Maniscalco reappointed Kate Adams to the Economic Development Commission with a term through December 31, 2021.

State Budget Cuts

Mr. Maniscalco met with the Council Chair, Superintendent of Schools, Board of Education Chair, Finance Director and School Business Manager to discuss the mid-year State cuts and the impact to the budget.

Update on Christopher Brook

The project is in winter recess. Both lanes of traffic are open and Public Works is keeping an eye on the condition of the road and repairing it as needed. Work will resume in the spring. Mr. Maniscalco will prepare a resolution regarding naming the bridge after Jim Morris.

Update on 13 Watrous Street

The disposal documents have been signed and the materials have been trucked off. The contractor is working on a punch list including a neighbor's broken fence.

Update on 13 Summit Street Fire

The Fire Department did a great job fighting the fire. The building is condemned at this point. There were questions about the contractors brought in from another town to board up the building. The town will put together a listing of in town contractors for future use.

Update on Chatham Health District Budget

Mr. Maniscalco provided a copy of the draft budget for the Chatham Health District that proposes a 4.6% increase. Council members would like to have the Health Director present at the next meeting to answer questions on the proposed budget. Their budget will go to a public hearing on January 30th.

Update on Sports on 66 Tax Abatement

Mr. Maniscalco reported that Town staff have been working on setting up a meeting with the owner of Sports on 66 to discuss the tax abatement but have not had success. Mr. Maniscalco noted that the extension for the abatement was 17 months but that has now passed. There is no signed agreement at this time.

Update on Open Positions

Police Officer

Only one candidate applied but that person was not POST certified so the job posting has been reopened.

Library Director

Six candidates are in the interview process.

Prevention Coordinator

Ten candidates were interviewed with three being brought back for a second interview.

Appointments

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Hintz, to reappoint Michael Maniscalco to the Chatham Health District Board with a term through December 31, 2019.

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Ms. Engel, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$546.10. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

December Board and Commission Summary

The December Board and Commission Summary was provided to the Council.

Communication Regarding Invitation to Board of Education Negotiations

It was noted that the December 23rd article in the Rivereast contained an error - the Town Council was not invited to the Board of Education contract negotiations. Mr. Hintz noted that the Board of Finance chairperson could have attended but never received the dates for the negotiations.

Other

The Town Council was invited to the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday, January 17th for the budget presentation.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Brown to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk