

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

MINUTES

Present: Chairperson Patience Anderson, Vice Chairman Ted Hintz, Jr., 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 Town Hall Meeting Room.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Brown, to adopt the agenda with a change to move State Revenue Projections, Update on Tax Sale and Update on Revenue Deficit Mitigation Plan from the Town Manager's Report to follow Public Remarks. Voted (7-0)

Executive Session

Attorney Client Privilege Communication – Thad King vs. Town of East Hampton

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Ms. Engel, to enter Executive Session at 6:35pm for Attorney Client Privilege Communication – Thad King vs. Town of East Hampton, with Town Manager Michael Maniscalco invited into the session. Voted (7-0)

Executive Session ended at 6:47pm

Possible Action on Executive Session Item

None

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Engel, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of September 26, 2017 as written. Voted (7-0)

Presentations

None

Public Remarks

Paul Smith, Superintendent of Schools, provided a copy of a news release from the CT Education Association regarding towns joining an injunction against implementation of the Governor's Executive Order. The towns involved at this time are Plainfield, Torrington and Brooklyn.

Karen Johansmeyer, 16 Penny Corner Lane, Portland, thanked the 250th Anniversary Committee for a wonderful fall festival and for including the fife and drum corps.

Town Manager Report

State Revenue Projections/Revenue Deficit Mitigation Plan

Mr. Maniscalco explained that on October 1st the Governor's executive order was implemented in an effort to get the State Legislature to get a budget together. If the State does not get a budget by October 15th they will not be able to apply for Medicaid reimbursements. Some communities are considering a lawsuit against the State but he is monitoring those actions to see if there is a viable action. Once a budget is approved the Governor's executive order goes away. The cuts from a budget should be less than the executive order. A plan of possible cuts was put together that could offset whatever type of cut to municipal aid that may occur. The listing will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. The plan was put together only as a possible tool if the funding is cut.

Update on Tax Sale

Mr. Maniscalco updated the Council on the progress for the tax sale. To date, the Town has collected over \$200,000 from taxes on the list. On October 3rd the remaining properties were turned over to the attorney in order to start proceedings for collection and/or auction.

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

None

Continued Business

Discussion & Possible Approval of Limnologist Services

Council members were provided the original and revised scope of services for the limnologist contract. The original scope intended to do significantly more work.

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Reich, that Northeast Aquatic Research is uniquely qualified to provide consulting services to the town and those services shall be exempt from the Town's purchasing ordinance section 4(a) and that the Town Manager is authorized to contract with Northeast Aquatic Research to continue to provide consulting services to the Town for fiscal year 2017-2018 in the amount of \$14,947. Voted (7-0)

Update on 250th Anniversary

Mr. Piteo provided an update on the 250th anniversary activities including the Gala to be held on November 5th at St. Clements. There is an East Hampton timeline available on the town website. Trivia night was a success with the winning team being "The Right Stuff".

New Business

Permission for Memorial Tribute to John Fidler

Christopher Goff, Chairman of the Board of Education, was present to provide an overview of the request from the Board of Education to rename the driveway in front of the High School as a tribute to John Fidler. Since the Town is the owner of all real property, per State Statute, the Board of Education is required to request approval to rename the driveway.

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to exempt this item from the 2nd reading policy. Voted (7-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to grant permission for the memorial tribute to John Fidler to rename the driveway in front of the High School to John Fidler Way. Voted (7-0)

Town Manager Report

Update on 1 Watrous Street

Dumpsters have been on site and the building is in the process of being cleaned out.

Update on 2017 Safewise 50 Safest Cities

The Town of East Hampton was named to the Top 50 safest communities in the State of Connecticut by Safewise.

Appointment to Conservation-Lake, EDC & Brownfields Redevelopment

Mr. Maniscalco made the following appointments:

- Danielle Holmes from an alternate member to a full member on the Conservation-Lake Commission with a term through June 30, 2021
- Matthew Joseff to the Economic Development Commission with a term through December 31, 2021
- Kelly Kerrigan to the Brownfields-Redevelopment Agency with a term through June 30, 2020.

Other

The Town was awarded a grant for the US Environmental Protection Agency's 2017 Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grant program in the amount of \$236,700. This is a non-matching grant.

Appointments

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Hintz, to appoint the following individuals:

Shauna Lange, full member, Arts & Culture Commission, term through December 31, 2019

Tim Puglielli, alternate member, Planning & Zoning, term through December 31, 2022

Voted (7-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$2,179.07. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

September Board and Commission Summary

The September Board and Commission Summary was provided to Council members.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Ms. Engel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk