

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Middle School Library

MINUTES

Present: Chairperson Patience Anderson, Vice Chairman Ted Hintz, Jr., Council Members Pete Brown, Mark Philhower, Josh Piteo and Kevin Reich and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco

Not Present: Melissa Engel

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Piteo, to adopt the agenda as amended, adding an item to New Business to schedule a Public Hearing for the Small Cities Grant. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of January 24, 2017 and Special Meetings of January 23, 2017, January 31, 2017 and February 7, 2017 as written. Voted (6-0)

Presentations

Presentation from Middle Haddam Association Related to Middle Haddam School

Members of the Middle Haddam Association, Barbara Angelico, President; Chuck Roberts, Vice President; Ted Rossi and Margaret McCutcheon Faber; provided a presentation to the Town Council on the history and details of the Middle Haddam School property. They would like the Town to consider a sale or lease of the property. They feel this would be a good opportunity for a secondary space for the town.

Public Remarks

Wes Jenks, 45 Meeks Point Road and a member of the Conservation-Lake Commission, thanked the Council for supporting the Conservation-Lake Commission. He is hopeful the budget will be increased to handle the new plan that has been approved for the lake. He also spoke about overdevelopment in town.

Margaret Faber, Middle Haddam Association, provided photos and a write up of grant opportunities related to Middle Haddam School. All documents will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Karen Johansmeyer, Penny Corner Road, Portland, commented that maybe the Middle Haddam School could be a music center for community use.

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

Resolution for Department of Emergency Services Grant

A resolution is required to allow the Town Manager to sign a Memorandum of understanding that will allow the Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) to apply for an Emergency Services Grant for our region.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the resolution and authorize the Town Manager to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Department of Emergency Services Grant. Voted (6-0)

Continued Business

Update on 250th Anniversary

Mr. Piteo provided an update on the 250th Anniversary noting merchandise is available for sale on the website, at Town Hall and the Library. A citation was received from Senator Blumenthal's office for the 250th Anniversary.

A motion was made by Mr. Piteo, seconded by Mr. Reich, to appoint Mattie Walton to the 250th Anniversary Committee to fill an open seat. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Commission on Aging Survey

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Piteo, to approve the Commission on Aging Survey. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Memorandum of Understanding for Clean Energy Community Program

The Town is proposing to purchase and install solar powered lighting units for the flag poles on the town office buildings with grant funds from the Clean Energy Community program.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding for the Clean Energy Community Grant. Voted (6-0)

New Business

Bid Waiver for Owner's Project Manager for Town Hall/PD Project

In order for the Council to consider a bid waiver for the Owner's Project Manager for the Town Hall/Police Department project, a legal notice must be posted in the newspaper.

Chairperson Anderson noted that letters were received in support of Steve and Lisa Motto and Dream Developers from Landcraft Corporation, Jerrold Day, Dr. George Mantikas, Michael Anderson, Catherine Ferentini, Terrence Sprankle and Edward O'Connor. The letters will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Piteo, to post the legal notice for the bid waiver in the newspaper. Voted (5-1) Mr. Hintz against.

Review of Project Schedule for Town Hall/Police Department

A preliminary project schedule for the Town Hall/Police Department project was provided to Council members.

Review and Discuss Draft RFP for Architect for Town Hall/Police Department

A draft RFP for the Architect for the Town Hall/Police Department prepared by Attorney Greg Faulkner was presented to Council members. This will be reviewed by the Town Facilities Building Committee at their first meeting.

Discussion Regarding Facility Programming at Town Hall/Police Department

The Council must make the decision on what departments are housed in the new Town Hall/Police Department building. Additional departments include Probate, Chatham Health and the Board of Education administration. The Judge of Probate, Jennifer Berkenstock, provided updated space needs for the Probate Court.

Public Hearing for Small Cities Grant

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to hold a public hearing on February 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Middle School Library for the Small Cities Grant Program. Voted (6-0)

Town Manager Report

State Revenue Projections

Mr. Maniscalco provided an overview of the Governor's proposed cuts to East Hampton. New numbers will be coming from CCM later in the week.

Update on Chatham Health Budget

Mr. Maniscalco proposed a reduction to the Chatham Health budget of approximately \$20,000 but the amendment failed. Their budget was approved with a 4.6% increase.

Update on Letter Sent Regarding Waiver/Reimbursement of Building & Zoning Fees to Secure a Water Source

The Town sent the letter to the developer but has not received a response to date.

Update on Sports on 66 Tax Abatement

Town staff met with the owner of Sports on 66. A memo will be included with the minutes laying out the option moving forward. A response has not yet been received from the property owner.

Update on Police Department Flooring Replacement

The repairs to the flooring went quicker than expected. The total cost for the work was approximately \$14,000

Update on Open Positions

Police Officer

The Police department received 35 applications. Testing will begin soon.

Library Director

The town is waiting on the completion of a background check on the chosen candidate prior to announcing the appointment.

Prevention Coordinator

James Olsen has been hired as the Prevention Coordinator. He will be attending the next Council meeting.

1 Watrous Street

The Town took ownership of 1 Watrous Street due to the lien on the property. The property has been secured for safety and the contents have been documented. The Attorney is working to gain ownership of the personal property.

An RFP has been issued for the Town Attorney. A committee of two Council members, the Town Manager and staff will be put together.

At the next Council meeting, the Conservation-Lake Commission will propose a copper sulfate treatment for the lake.

Appointments

Town Hall Police Department Building Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Piteo, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to appoint Cliff Libby, Ray Moore, Jeff Foran, Rebecca Sawyer, Steve Karney, Fred Galvin, Glenn Gollenberg, George Pfaffenbach and Kurt Comisky to the Town Facilities Building Committee. Voted (6-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$2,293.85. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Kurt Comisky, 62 Wopowog Road, thanked the Council for appointing him to the Town Facilities Committee. He commented on the Project Manager information and hopes there are some performance metrics and bonding in place in case of issues.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

January Board and Commission Summary

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

Executive Session

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

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Brown, to enter Executive Session at 8:22 p.m. for Attorney Client Privilege Communication – Board of Education v. Town of East Hampton Litigation with the Town Manager invited into Executive Session. Voted (6-0)

Possible Action on Attorney Client Privilege Communication - Board of Education v. Town of East Hampton Litigation

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Piteo to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Voted (6-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk