

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, October 24, 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 Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Engel, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Brown, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of October 10, 2017 as written. Voted (7-0)

Presentations

Special Proclamation

The Town Council presented a proclamation to Ann McLaughlin naming her the Honorary Ambassador for East Hampton. The Commission on Aging presented her with flowers for the occasion. A copy of the proclamation will be included in the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office.

Public Remarks

Ann McLaughlin, 85 North Main Street, invited the Council to a Welcome Home Yellow Ribbon ceremony on Sunday, November 19th at 1pm for Navy Commander Michael Flatley.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, asked why the Council meetings were moved back to the Town Hall.

Chris Goff, Board of Education Chairman, addressed the letter that was sent to Council members earlier in the day regarding the safety laminate for the schools. He asked for the support of the Council to start the bid process.

Bids & Contracts

Bid for Fueling Station

The Town recently bid out the work to complete the new fuel island on Gildersleeve Drive. If this project is not completed by next summer the Town may find itself without a place to fuel town vehicles. Last year the Town authorized the bonding of \$475,000. The Town received 3 bids and after review, the recommended low bidder is ETT Environmental Services, Inc. of Durham in the amount of \$359,000.

Mr. Hintz questioned why this project is moving forward if capital funds are frozen. Mr. Maniscalco explained that this is a bonded project, not a project using funds in the capital account.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to award the bid for the fueling station to ETT Environmental Services, Inc. of Durham, CT in the amount of \$359,000. Voted (6-1) Mr. Hintz against.

Amendment No. 2017-1 for Retirement Income Plan

With the approval of the Police union contract there were modifications made to the pension plan. Additionally, when looking at the funding of the plan we also need to make modifications to the non-union contributions to the plan so that we can ensure an adequate level of funding for the defined benefit plan.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Hintz, to approve Amendment No. 2017-1 to the Town of East Hampton Retirement Income Plan. Voted (7-0)

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

None

Continued Business

Update on 250th Anniversary

Josh Piteo provided an update on the 250th Anniversary activities. There is an East Hampton timeline available on the website. The final event of the celebration will be a gala at St. Clements on November 5th.

New Business

End of Year Transfers

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to waive the 2nd reading for this item. Voted (7-0)

Annually, the Finance Department and the Board of Finance make a recommendation to do transfers that cover overages in specific line items. The Council received a listing of transfers approved by the Board of Finance. The listing will be included with the minutes filed in Town Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the transfers listed (attached) for the 2016-2017 fiscal year and authorize the Finance Director to make any additional transfers, up to \$5,000 (in the aggregate) that may be needed in order to close out the books for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. Further resolved that the Finance Director shall report back to the Board of Finance and the Town Council of any additional budget transfers. Voted (7-0)

Town Manager Report

State Revenue Projections

A bipartisan budget has been proposed with a possible \$500,000 cut for the town. This will go to a vote next week.

Update on 1 Watrous Street

The building is approximately 50% cleaned out and the trailers are beginning to be removed. The upper floor is two thirds cleaned and the lower floor is about one quarter cleaned out. A 30-day extension was given to the company cleaning out the property to complete the project. Also, the town has been awarded a civil suit against the owner of the property for the full amount owed due to the taking down of the water tower and the town is in the process of identifying assets and taking the appropriate measures to secure them.

Update on 13 Watrous Street

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency has been working with an adjacent landowner who has an easement for a well on 13 Watrous. The goal is to move the well off of public property and place it on the homeowner's property and abolish the easement. DEDC has agreed this is an appropriate use of the funds and it will reduce the liability the Town currently has with a residential well on public property.

Mr. Hintz expressed his concerns over the timeliness of permits in the Building Department and questioned the short turnaround time on a roof replacement permit requested by another Council member. He would like to see the permits for other roof replacements in the last 6 months.

Appointments

None

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Ms. Engel, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$3,025.97. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

Ann McLaughlin, 85 North Main Street, noted that the 250th Ribbon on the Yellow Ribbon tree will be removed at the November 19th Welcome Home ceremony.

Michael Liska, 814 Ridge Road, Wethersfield, is new to the area and looking to buy a home in East Hampton.

Karen Johansmeyer, 16 Pennycorner Road, wished the Town a Happy Birthday and spoke about the Fife and Drum Corps.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

Chairwoman Anderson thanked the community for the privilege of serving on the Council. She thanked the town staff and wished her fellow Council members well in their future endeavors.

Mr. Piteo commented that it was a pleasure working with Chairperson Anderson and the rest of the Council.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Ms. Engel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk