

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 27, 2018
East Hampton Town Hall

DRAFT MINUTES

Present: Chairperson Melissa Engel, Vice Chairman Mark Philhower, Council Members Josh Piteo, Tim Feegel and Dean Markham, and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco

Not Present: Council Members Kevin Reich and Pete Brown

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Engel called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Philhower, seconded by Councilor Feegel, to adopt the agenda. Voted (5-0)

Executive Session

- a) **Potential Purchase of Property for a Town Project**
- b) **Review Draft Employment Agreement for Police Chief Candidate**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Philhower, seconded by Councilor Markham, to enter into executive session at 6:31 p.m. to discuss the two items listed above. Voted (5-0). Town Manager Maniscalco was invited.

Executive session was adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Possible Action on Executive Session Items

Councilor Piteo moved, and Vice Chairman Philhower seconded to direct the Town Manager to secure three appraisals for the parcel A land purchase. Voted (5-0).

Vice Chair Philhower moved to approve the draft employment agreement for the Police Chief candidate. Councilor Feegel seconded. Voted (5-0)

Discussion: the approval is for the contract for the new Police Chief only.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Vice Chair Philhower, seconded by Councilor Markham, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of February 13, 2018. Voted (5-0).

Discussion: Councilor Markham stated that he feels the minutes are minimalist and do not reflect discussions held. He will meet with Town Manager Maniscalco and Mrs. Sirois to discuss.

Presentations

Public Water System Interconnection Study

Tim Smith and Town Manager Maniscalco distilled the previous Tighe & Bond report down into a memo that includes phasing for a water system project. The costs and logistics of the four phases were discussed; Mr. Smith and Mr. Maniscalco answered questions for the Council.

Public Remarks

None

Bids & Contracts

Funding for Youth Services Prevention

Jodi Brazal, Director of Human Services, was present to discuss the funding, which will come from a two-year grant with no matching requirement on the part of the town. This will fund training for teens age 12 – 18 in skills such as interviewing, filling out a job application, writing a resume, etc. as well as the creation of a job database and a staff person to handle these functions. After the two years, the database and program will be established, so it will be able to continue it at no cost using interns.

Councilor Markham moved to authorize the Town Manager to enter into agreement with the CT Judicial Department. Vice Chair Philhower seconded. Voted (5-0).

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

None

Continued Business

Amendment to Agreement for Middlesex Hospital Paramedic Services

The agreement has been amended to keep the cost for the town at \$1 per capita, rather than the formerly agreed upon \$2 per capita.

Vice Chairman Philhower moved and Councilor Feegel seconded to enter into agreement for Middlesex Hospital Paramedic Services. Voted (5-0)

New Business

Local Option for Land Conservation & Stewardship Funding

The Council discussed the proposed legislation enabling a local option for land conservation and stewardship funding, with all present in agreement that it is not necessary as the Town has a lot of open space now.

Easement Request for 88 Long Crossing Road

The request is for crossing the Town easement to connect into utilities for a new home.

Vice Chairman Philhower moved to allow Town Manager Maniscalco to enter into agreement for the easement request at 88 Long Crossing Road. Second by Councilor Piteo. Voted (5-0)

Town Manager Report

Appointments

John Purple is appointed to the Conservation-Lake Commission, term ending 2019.

Robyn Letourneau is appointed to the Economic Development Commission, term ending 2019.

State Revenue Projections

Mr. Maniscalco attended the Council of Small Towns' annual town meeting which included Keith Phanuef of the CT Town Mirror and also featured a panel of legislative leadership from the Senate and House. He believes there will be some type of a town cut, but does not believe it will be to the size and magnitude seen this year; perhaps a mid-year cut or Governor's hold back action.

Update on Town Hall/Police Department/BOE Project

The project was approved by Conservation-Lake, Inlands Wetlands and the Design Review Board. Planning & Zoning may approve at their next meeting March 7. Schematic design estimates are complete, and the project moves into the design development phase. An early package for site work is being considered.

Update on Police Chief Search

The field is narrowed to two candidates. Mr. Maniscalco is hoping to meet his self-imposed deadline of April 2 for selection.

Participation on Construction Management Association Panel

Mr. Maniscalco has been asked to participate in that association's panel on public/private partnerships due to the Town Hall/PD/BOE and the natural gas projects.

Update on Tax Sale

The tax sale netted about 1.5 million dollars. Bidding on two properties has been postponed.

At this time Mr. Maniscalco noted that the Board of Finance approved the transfer of funds to seven departments from the employee benefits line. These are cost of living adjustment reallocations. The previously budgeted total is \$36,131.00. At the next meeting the Council will be asked to take action on the reallocations.

Appointments

Vice Chair Philhower moved to appoint Lore Slaughter to the Library Advisory Board (term ending 2020) and Linda Brogan to the Housing Authority (term ending 2022). Second by Councilor Feegel. Voted (5-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Philhower and seconded by Councilor Piteo to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$9,139.25. Voted (5-0)

Public Remarks

Scott Bristol, 3 Olde Flatbrook Road, stated in relation to a question during the water interconnectivity presentation that Essex is served by CT Water.

Donna Goodspeed, 52 Long Crossing Road, thanked the Council for supporting Ms. Brazal for the grant funding.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

Chairperson Engel read a letter from Linda Nadeau, by way of Ann McLaughlin, thanking Mr. Maniscalco for his consideration of safety during the power outage of January 4, 2018. This letter will be placed in his personnel file.

Chairperson Engel has been invited to and will be attending a meeting on February 28, 2018, with Paul Smith, Superintendent of Schools regarding school security.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Vice Chair Philhower and seconded by Councilor Feegel to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Eliza LoPresti
Recording Secretary