

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Public Hearing
Monday, January 27, 2020
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Pete Brown, Vice Chairman Dean Markham, Council Members Tim Feegel, Derek Johnson, Barbara Moore, Mark Philhower and Kevin Reich and Town Manager David Cox

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Public Hearing for Proposed Sale of Town Property at 20 East High Street

Town Manager David Cox provided background on the proposed sale. The town received an offer for the property that has been on the market for 6 months. The price was negotiated and raised to \$316,000. The Board of Finance and Planning & Zoning approved the resolutions. Planning & Zoning agreed that the use as an office is in compliance with the Plan of Conservation and Development but put a condition on it that any future use would need to go before Planning & Zoning. The last steps in the process are a Public Hearing and Town Meeting.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, asked if the vote at the Town Council meeting was unanimous and if not was there discussion on the dissent. It was indicated the vote was 6-1.

Kyle Dostaler, 56 William Drive, commented that he is opposed to the selling price of \$316,000. The property is on the busiest section of Route 66. He asked why the Town is in a hurry to sell for a ridiculously low price.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, asked if the intended use for the building is known. It was indicated that the Town does not know the intended use, but Mr. Cox noted that per the Planning & Zoning resolution, any future use needs to go before the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Council member Johnson noted that he voted no for the sale of Town Hall at \$316,000.

Mary Krogh, Young Street, asked if there have been any discussions about tax breaks for the new owner. It was indicated there are none at this time.

Scott Minnick, 28 South Main Street, commented that in prior discussions it was indicated that the sale price would be much higher, and the Town is being duped by the lowball price. Chairman Brown said there was no promise from Council about the sale of the current building during the discussions of the new building.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, asked what Derek Johnson's comments were on his dissenting vote. Mr. Johnson indicated he voted no because there was no appraisal, no analysis of

cost of appraisal and no analysis on costs to keep the property. Ms. Dostaler asked why the Town would move forward without doing due diligence.

Kathy Mayo, 50 Wangonk Trail, commented that whatever the property is worth we need to get the maximum amount to help pay off the new Town Hall. She wondered if there was a counteroffer but would like a better offer and does not support this sale price.

Bob Hein, Birchwood Road and Board of Finance member, commented that the Board of Finance had much discussion on what the property is worth. He stated the property is worth what you can get someone to pay for it. If the town doesn't take this offer there might be a better offer but maybe not. There would also be the upkeep until the building is sold. The Board of Finance took all of this into consideration in its recommendation.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Reich, to adjourn the Public Hearing at 6:47 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk