

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 12, 2019
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

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

Not Present: Barbara Moore

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Brown 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. Markham, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adopt the agenda with an addition to Appointments for a Budget Policy Sub-Committee. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Special and Regular Meetings of October 22, 2019 as written. Voted (5-0-1) Mr. Johnson abstained as he was not on the Council at that time.

Public Remarks

Alannah Coshov, 28 Shipyard Road, congratulated the Town Council on their election. She also recommended Bridget McLennan be appointed to the Board of Finance to replace the position vacated by Barbara Moore. A copy of her letter of support will be included with the minutes.

Richard Brown, 78 William Drive and current Chairman of the Board of Finance, recommended Bridget McLennan be appointed to the Board of Finance to fill their empty seat. He noted she has been a very valuable member this past term.

Russell Bonaccorso, 27 North Maple Street, also recommended Bridget McLennan for the Board of Finance.

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

Contract for Carbon Filter Installation at Memorial School

In consultation with the State, a carbon filtration system for the water supply at Memorial School is needed to remove various contaminants in the water. The system is designed with redundancy so that as one filter begins to lose effectiveness, the other filter can take over. The project will be paid through the Water System Fund, which is funded by user fees.

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to waive the 2nd reading of this item. Voted (6-0)

A motion was made Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve the contract with Water Boy, LLC of East Hampton for the Memorial School Carbon Filter Installation Project in the amount of \$18,543.88 from the Water System Fund. Voted (6-0)

Continued Business

None

New Business

Approval of 2020 Meeting Dates

Meeting dates for 2020 were presented for the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month with a recess for the second August meeting and second December meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to waive the 2nd reading for this item. Voted (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the 2020 Meeting Dates as presented. Voted (6-0)

Town Manager Report

The Town Manager report was provided to Council members. The full report will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Appointments

Board of Finance

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to appoint Robert Hein to the Board of Finance to replace Barbara Moore who was elected to Town Council. Voted (4-2) Mr. Feegel and Mr. Philhower against.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Philhower voiced his concern whether it was a conflict of interest or ethics issue to appoint Mr. Hein as he is a substitute teacher for the Board of Education. Council members discussed the issue. Mr. Cox had spoken to Town Attorney Richard Carella and provided a response to the Council in his report indicating there was no conflict.

Town Council Sub-Committees

Chairman Brown made the following appointments to Town Council Sub-Committees:

Appointments Sub-Committee: Barbara Moore, Dean Markham and Mark Philhower

Personnel Sub-Committee: Kevin Reich, Derek Johnson and Tim Feegel

Capital Improvement Committee: Pete Brown and Barbara Moore

Budget Policy Sub-Committee: Dean Markham, Kevin Reich and Tim Feegel

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,791.96. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Richard Brown, 78 William Drive, noted that the appointment of Robert Hein is not a legal appointment and that he should have been vetted more completely by the Democratic party before the vote. He noted three statutes and three areas of the code of conduct and code of ethics related to the issue.

Council members directed the Town Manager to review the appointment of Mr. Hein with the Town Attorney again and get examples of case law on the issue.

Bob Hein, 19 Birchwood Road, commented that he would be willing to freeze his pay rate as a substitute teacher during his term of office on the Board of Finance.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

The October 2019 Board and Commission Summary was provided to Council.

An anonymous letter was received regarding issues at the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority has met on the letter. The minutes will be attached to the Council minutes. Mr. Philhower noted his concern about anonymous complaints.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. Voted (6-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk