

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 14, 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.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to adopt the agenda as written. Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Special Meeting of December 3, 2019 and the Regular Meeting of December 10, 2019 as written. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

Amy Ordonez, Main Street, commented on an event/art installation in June in the Village Center by the Yarners.

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

Proclamation for Eagle Scouts

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve proclamations for Eagle Scouts Kyle C. Burnham and Noel D. Flannery. Voted (7-0)

Resolution for Town Hall Sale & Set Town Meeting Date

The next steps in the sale of the 20 East High Street Town Hall location are to set a Public Hearing and Town Meeting. The Board of Finance and Planning & Zoning have completed their approvals.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Reich, to waive the 2nd reading on this item. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Markham, to adopt the resolution as presented. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against. The full resolution will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Resolution for Regional Performance Incentive Program for RiverCOG

The RiverCOG is working on several grant applications and has requested authorization and endorsement from each member town for the projects and applications.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to waive the 2nd reading on this item. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adopt the resolution as presented. Voted (7-0). The full resolution will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Review of Arts & Cultural Commission Ordinance Change & Set Public Hearing Date

The Chairperson of the Arts & Cultural Commission has requested a change to the membership of their group to provide for seven members and two alternates instead of nine full members. It will assist the Commission in reaching a quorum for its meetings. The change requires a Public Hearing prior to the Council voting on the ordinance change.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Reich, to set a Public Hearing date of January 28, 2020 at 6:15pm. Voted (7-0)

Continued Business

Proposed Job Description for Facilities Foreman & Related Memorandum of Agreement

Council members continued their review of the proposed job description for the Facilities Foreman.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to table this item to allow the Town Manager, staff and Town Council Chairman to review the proposed job description for Facilities Foreman and related Memorandum of Agreement. Voted (7-0)

Proposed Job Description for Parks & Recreation Program Specialist

Council members continued their review of the proposed job description for the Parks & Recreation Program Specialist. It was noted that this position is funded through program fees, if the programs and funds cease to be available, the position will be eliminated.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the job description for the Parks & Recreation Program Specialist. Voted (7-0)

Update on Progress of Town Hall Project

Mr. Cox noted that tours were provided to several Town Council and Board of Finance members as well as staff members on January 7th. The project is within budget and on schedule. The move to the new building should be mid-April.

Update on DPH Drinking Water Project

Mr. Cox noted that he is working to set up a meeting with DPH, and the engineer to identify questions and additional information needed from the contractors who submitted the original proposals.

New Business

Police General Orders 3.6, 4.9 and 5.5

Council reviewed and asked questions on Police General Orders 3.6, 4.9 and 5.5.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Markham, to waive the 2nd reading for this item. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve the Police General Orders 3.6, 4.9 and 5.5. Voted (7-0)

Review & Possible Approval of RFP For Lake Aeration Project

Council members reviewed the RFP for the lake aeration project. Markups from the Conservation-Lake Commission and Dr. Knocklein were provided. Council discussed the timeline, funding and the measurement of success.

A motion was made by Mr. Feegel, seconded by Mr. Reich, to waive the 2nd reading on this item. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the RFP for Lake Aeration as amended. Voted (7-0)

Review of Library Strategic Planning Survey & Selection of Council Representation

Library Director Ellen Paul provided an overview of the Library's Strategic Planning Survey. It was noted that town budget funds were not being used for this process. It is funded through donations.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Reich, to waive the 2nd reading on this item. Voted (6-1) Mr. Johnson against.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the survey as presented. Voted (7-0)

Mr. Johnson, Ms. Moore and Mr. Markham (as available) will provide Council representation.

Discussion of Property at 3 Walnut Avenue

Council members asked if the 3 Walnut Avenue property could be used for additional parking for the Village Center. There are some drainage issues at the moment but the Town Manager will look into the possibility of using this area for parking.

Discussion of Renaming the Eastern Portion of Pine Brook Road

A memo was provided to the Council regarding renaming the eastern portion of Pine Brook Road. Questions were asked including when was the road originally named and what are the requirements for subdivision roads. Mr. Cox will look into this and it will be further discussed at a future meeting.

Town Manager Report

Mr. Cox provided an overview of the Town Manager Report. The full report will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Cox provided information on additional information not included in the report. New striping is being done on the newly paved North Main Street. Mr. Philhower asked about issues with the catch basin covers and manholes.

Eversource and Asplundh are doing a lot of additional tree work in town.

Mr. Cox also noted that he has reappointed Robyn Letourneau to the Economic Development Commission with a term through December 31, 2024 and has appointed Christopher Ott and Matthew Reich to the Economic Development Commission with terms through December 31, 2021.

Mr. Reich asked for an update at a future meeting regarding the High School building Committee and the drinking water at the High School. Mr. Cox noted that the Superintendent announced at their Board of Education meeting the night before that the water fountains will be turned back on.

Appointments

Reappointments

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to reappoint the following individuals with a vote of (7-0):

Phyllis Martin, Arts & Culture Commission, term ending December 31, 2022
Scott Hill, Building Code Board of Appeals, term ending December 31, 2024
Brian Gay, Clean Energy Task Force, term ending December 31, 2021
Cynthia Singer, Clean Energy Task Force, term ending December 31, 2021
Robert Atherton, Commission on Aging, term ending December 31, 2022
Darin Hurne, Fire Commission, term ending November 30, 2022
Phil Visintainer, Fire Commission, term ending November 30, 2022
Amy Ordonez, Library Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Melinda Jones, Library Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Jack Solomon, Library Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Reginal Starolis, Middle Haddam Historic District Comm., term ending December 31, 2024
Tim Adams, Parks & Rec Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Sheryl Dougherty, Parks & Rec Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Jessica Rurka, Parks & Rec Advisory Board, term ending December 31, 2022
Tim Puglielli – alternate, Planning & Zoning Commission, term ending December 31, 2021
Michael Kowalczyk – alternate, Planning & Zoning Commission, term ending December 31, 2021

*Kara Pedersen–alternate, Middle Haddam Historic District Comm., term ending December 31, 2024. This reappointment was requested in error. Ms. Pedersen had been moved to a full member on April 23, 2019 with a term through December 31, 2023.

Possible Appointments to Clean Energy Task Force, Commission on Aging, Housing Authority and Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Reich, to appoint the following individuals with a vote of (7-0):

Lorry Belanger, Clean Energy Task Force, term ending December 31, 2021

Pat Hamill, Commission on Aging, term ending December 31, 2020

Tess Lundgren, alternate on Inland Wetlands Watercourses Agency, term ending June 1, 2021

Roseann Amenta, tenant commissioner on Housing Authority, term ending December 31, 2024

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$3,173.71. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

Dave Bengston, Spellman Point Road, asked if he can get a copy of the RFP for lake aeration when it is complete. He also suggested that any local or State project in the watershed area be reviewed by the Conservation-Lake Commission.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

The Council received the December Board and Commission Summary.

The Capital Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15th at 9:00am in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk