

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 23, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Pete Brown (arrived at 6:35pm), 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

Vice Chairman Markham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Adoption of Agenda:

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adopt the agenda as written. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of June 9, 2020 as written. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

None

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamation

None

Continued Business

Approval of 2020-2021 Public Water System Operating Budget & Water Use Rate

The 2020-2021 Public Water System Operating Budget & Water Use Rate was approved by the WPCA and forwarded on to the Town Council. The WPCA held a public hearing on the budget with no comments received. There is no increase in rates for this budget. The full budget will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the 2020/2021 Public Water System Operating Budget and to establish rates in the amount of \$40 per month per EMI plus \$11.50 per 1,000 gallons of water use. Voted (7-0)

New Business

Discussion of Funding Plans for High School Baseball Field, Tennis Court and Track Improvements

Mr. Cox explained that the Capital Committee reviewed the Capital plan that proposed financing the work needed to renovate the High School baseball field, tennis court and track rather than attempting to fund the items using current taxes. The total for the three projects would be approximately \$950,000. There is approximately \$900,000 in the authorized bonding amount for the high school project. This amount could be allocated to these projects and combined with the funds in the Capital Reserve Fund for the track replacement of approximately \$189,000 to provide funding. It is the Council's decision whether to move forward with this plan. Jeremy Hall, Director of Parks & Recreation, was present to provide additional details on the projects. After discussion, Mr. Philhower and Mr. Feegel requested a 2nd reading on this item. It will be included on the next meeting agenda.

Town Manager Report

Mr. Cox provided an overview of the Town Manager Report, which will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. In addition to the information in his report, Mr. Cox provided an update on the Building Department operations. This report will also be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Another update on the Building Department will be included on the July 14th agenda. He also noted that tax bills will be mailed out soon and that the low interest rate program is available for taxpayers if needed. Mr. Cox provided an update on the 20 East High Street property which is included on the agenda report.

Mr. Markham asked for an update on 1 Watrous Street and 13 Summit Street. Mr. Cox noted that 1 Watrous is in the midst of a Phase II study. There has been interest in the properties.

Appointments

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to appoint George Coshow (term through April 30, 2022) and Linda Ursin (term through April 30, 2024) to the Ethics Commission and to reappoint Gabe Stein to the Ethics Commission (term through April 30, 2024). Voted (7-0)

Tax Refunds

None

Public Remarks

Tom Seidl, Jacobson Farm Road, commented that he appreciates the discussion on the High School baseball field and how much it is needed. In 2018 the team was only able to have 4 practices on the field and all of their home games needed to be rescheduled on the road.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcement

None

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk