

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 26, 2021
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

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

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

Adoption of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of January 12, 2021 as written. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

None

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamation

Resolution Regarding a Building Committee for the High School Athletic Fields Project

Council members reviewed a revised resolution for the High School Athletic Fields Project. The revised resolution includes an increase in the number of resident positions on the committee. The Committee would be comprised of two staff members, a Council member and four other members of the public. The Council noted they would also like to see the alternatives for the project in addition to the final scope. The Council member on the committee will be able to keep the full Council apprised of the progress.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to adopt the resolution regarding a Committee for the High School Athletic Fields Project as presented. Voted (7-0)

Consideration of Amendments to the Library Circulation Policy

Library Director Ellen Paul was in attendance to provide an overview of the proposed changes to the Library Circulation Policy. The proposed changes relate to library card issuance, clarification to the practices for conducting interlibrary loan activities and the elimination of overdue fines for East Hampton materials. The Library Advisory Board has approved the revised policy.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Markham, to approve the updated East Hampton Library Circulation Policy. Voted (7-0)

Continued Business

None

New Business

Consideration of an Agreement Between the Town of East Hampton and the Municipal Employees Union Independent (Town Supervisors) for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023

Council members reviewed the collective bargaining agreement for the Supervisor's Union. The agreement is a result of a mediation session and is in line with the Police and NAGE contracts. The agreement makes adjustments to clarify language, provides clarifications to the accrual and use of flex time for FLSA exempt supervisors and adds an interim step to the PTO leave time at five years. The agreement has increases in wages in each of the three years of 2.5%, 2% and 2.25% plus a \$500 increase at the end of the agreement for three positions, which were deemed to be lagging behind the market for similar positions. The agreement also increases the employee share of health insurance and retirement plan contributions.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve the Agreement Between the Town of East Hampton and the Municipal Employees Union Independent (Town Supervisors) for July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023. Voted (7-0)

Town Manager Report

Mr. Cox provided an overview of the Town Manager's Report, which will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Cox also reported that the Chatham Health board met today and will move forward with the 20% request for Coronavirus funds from each town. There was general agreement from the other towns to allocate the 20%. The Health District will also be working with Senior Centers to develop a way to allow residents to register for the COVID vaccine outside of the VAMS system. The Final Report on soil sampling was received today for 1 Watrous Street.

Appointments

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to reappoint the board and commission members listed below: Voted (7-0)

Board/Commission	Name	Term Ending
Arts & Culture Commission	Melvin Carnahan Elizabeth Sennett	December 31, 2023
Chatham Health District	Kate Morris	March 31, 2023
Clean Energy Task Force	Kurt Reichenbach Martin Podskoch	December 31, 2022
Commission on Aging	Bonnie Berkovich Pat Hamill Carol McLaughlin	December 31, 2023
Economic Development Commission	Ted Turner Walt Jedziniak	December 31, 2025
Fire Commission	Brett Salafia Eric Germain	November 30, 2023

Housing Authority	Tom Denman	December 31, 2025
Library Advisory Board	Cindy Shirshac Melissa Jones	December 31, 2023
Middle Haddam Historic District Commission	Christopher Dart	December 31, 2025
Parks & Rec Advisory Board	Deb McKinney Cortney Hyte Dan Roy	December 31, 2023

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to appoint Rebecca Tinelle to the Arts & Cultural Commission. Voted (7-0)

The Appointments Sub-Committee will be doing interviews on February 2 and March 2 for additional reappointments and new appointments.

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$5,888.72. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcement

Capital Committee Meeting – Thursday, January 28, 2021 at 9:00am via Zoom

Mr. Markham noted the UMASS report regarding water was received. He asked if it was correct that the main outcome was setting things up for the Town to do their own survey. Mr. Cox noted this is correct. More information on this will be reported in the future.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Moore, to adjourn the meeting at 7:15pm. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk