

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2019
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

Present: Chairperson Melissa Engel, Vice Chairman Mark Philhower, Council Members Pete Brown, Tim Feegel, Dean Markham, Josh Piteo and Kevin Reich and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco.

Call to order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Engel 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. Feegel, seconded by Mr. Philhower to adopt the agenda with a change to move Continued Business Items 8a and 8b to Item 3b and 3c. Voted (7-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of May 28, 2019 as written. Voted (7-0)

Continued Business

Discussion & Possible Approval of Epoch Arts Neighborhood Assistance Act Project

A public hearing was held prior to the meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Piteo, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve the submission of paperwork for the Epoch Arts Neighborhood Assistance Act project to the State. Voted (7-0)

Approval of 2019/2020 Public Water System Operating Budget & Water Rate Recommendation

Scott Clayton, Interim Public Utilities Administrator, provided an overview of the water system operating budget and water rates. A public hearing was held but no one attended.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve the 2019/2020 Public Water System Operating Budget of \$237,408.00 and water rates for Equivalent Meter Units: \$40/EMU and Commodity Charge: \$11.50/1,000 gallons. Voted (7-0)

Presentations

Introduction of Chatham Health Director Russell Melmed

The Town Council welcomed the new Chatham Health Director Russell Melmed.

John Tuttle, Ambulance Association

John Tuttle, President of the Ambulance Association Board of Directors presented two items to the Town Council.

1. EAP – Employee Assistance Program – This service provides assistance to employees in crisis. The Town provides this service to town staff, fire and police personnel. Mr. Tuttle

would like the Council to consider providing this service to the ambulance volunteers as well. The cost would be approximately \$1,000 for all ambulance personnel.

2. Tax abatement – A tax abatement is given to fire and ambulance personnel up to \$1,000 on their town taxes. However, there are five ambulance volunteers who live in Haddam Neck and do not receive the abatement because they do not pay their taxes to East Hampton. He would like the Council to consider adding the volunteers that live in Haddam Neck to receive some type of abatement.

These items will be included on the next meeting agenda.

Aquarion & Connecticut Water Presentations

Aquarion Water & Connecticut Water responded to an RFP from the Town for a water system for the town. Don Morrissey and Dan Lawrence from Aquarion Water and Craig Patla and Dave Radka from Connecticut Water provided an overview of their RFP's and answered questions from the Council. The RFP documents and an additional presentation document for Aquarion will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. It was noted that East Hampton's water issue is high on the priority list for the CT Department of Public Health Drinking Water Section.

Public Remarks

Mark Barmasse, 6 Tiffany Court and Chairman of the WPCA commented on the water budget. Several years ago the town decided to no longer subsidize the Village Center water system. Now some of the money from water payments from customers goes into a saving account for repairs and maintenance. That is part of the reason for the increase in fees.

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations

Proclamation for Rotary

Jack Solomon will be named the District Governor for the Rotary.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve a proclamation for Jack Solomon of the East Hampton Rotary. Voted (7-0)

New Business

Police Department General Order 2.9 – Uniform Standards & Dress Code

Police Chief Dennis Woessner provided an overview of the revised General Order 2.9 – Uniform Standards & Dress Code.

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Reich, to waive the 2nd reading for this item. Voted (7-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve Police Department General Order 2.9 – Uniform Standards & Dress Code with the typographical error correction. Voted (7-0)

Town Manager Report

Update on Library Roof Project

The Library roof should be completed within two weeks. There was a change order for the gutters but the project was under budget, so the price increase is still within budget.

Update on Public Utilities Administrator Search

The Town Manager is negotiating a contract with the final candidate.

Town Manager Search

The consultant has received 30 applications and is currently reviewing the top 10.

Appointments

None

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$2,410.01. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

May Board & Commission Summary

The May Board and Commission Summary was provided to Council members.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Philhower, seconded by Mr. Reich, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk