

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, April 13, 2021
Town Hall Council Chambers and Zoom

MINUTES

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

Not Present: Mark Philhower

Call to Order

Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom.

Adoption of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of March 23, 2021 as written. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Robert Antanaitis, Laurel Ridge, commented on his frustration with home insurance companies and costs of home replacement. Mr. Markham responded that Mr. Antanaitis should contact the State Insurance Commission.

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamation

Resolution Approving the Purchase of Real Estate and Establishing the Required Resolution and Special Town Meeting – Christopher Pond Property

Mr. Cox provided an overview of the resolution. The background of the purchase is included in the Agenda Information document that will be attached to the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's office as well as the full resolution. The resolution will go to the Board of Finance for approval and upon approval the item will go to Town Meeting on May 3, 2021.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to adopt the resolution approving the purchase of real estate and establishing the required resolution and special Town Meeting as presented. Voted (6-0)

Continued Business

None

New Business

Presentation & Consideration of a Proposal for a Community Garden on Cranberry Bog Property

Pam Joslyn from the Rotary Club was in attendance to present information regarding a proposal for a community garden on Cranberry Bog property. The presentation document will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Jack Solomon from the Rotary Club was also in attendance to answer questions from Council members. The garden would be managed by the committee formed for the garden. The Town would monitor the area and provide mowing and basic maintenance of the site around the garden.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Moore, to approve the use of the Town's easement at Cranberry Bog for the community garden. Voted (6-0)

Discussion of 2021-2022 Budget and Council Review Schedule

The Board of Finance provided a copy of their recommended budget for 2021-2022.

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Ms. Moore, to amend the Town of East Hampton budget referendum date, as per the Charter, Section 4.1 and Finance and Budget Ordinance, Article IV, Section 45-10, for adoption of the fiscal 2021-2022 Town of East Hampton General Government Budget and Education Budget, to occur on or before June 16, 2021. Voted (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Ms. Moore, to amend the Finance and Budget Ordinance, to allow sufficient time for the Town Council to adequately review, receive public comment and approve for submission to Town Meeting the General Government and Board of Education budget resolutions for succeeding year budgets. If this motion is adopted, it will be referred to a Public Hearing on April 27, 2021, with final action at the Regular Town Council Meeting on that date. Voted (6-0)

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Ms. Moore, to adopt the following budget calendar for completion of the fiscal 2022 budget by this Town Council:

- Tuesday, April 20, 2021 – Town Council Budget Workshop – 6:30pm
- Tuesday, May 11, 2021 – Town Council Public Hearing on budget – 6:30pm
- Tuesday, May 25, 2021 – Town Council Regular Meeting – vote on budget - 6:30pm
- Tuesday, June 1, 2021 – Town Meeting – send Budget to Referendum – 6:00pm
- Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – Town Vote at Referendum

Voted (6-0)

Discussion of Potential Appointment of Poet Laureate

The Town was recently solicited to appoint a new Poet Laureate. Ms. Moore suggested that the Arts & Culture Commission be involved in this process.

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Reich, to refer the Poet Laureate to the Arts & Culture Commission for a recommendation to Town Council. Voted (6-0)

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 noted that April 24 is Lake and Village Center Clean Up Day and May 1 is Airline Trail Clean Up Day.

Appointments

A motion was made by Ms. Moore, seconded by Mr. Johnson, to appoint Jack Solomon, Wes Jenks and Tim Day as full members of the Conservation-Lake Commission. Voted (6-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Markham, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,010.28. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Bob Hein, 19 Birchwood Road and member of the Board of Finance noted that the budget deliberations were cooperative and cordial. There were minor changes and the budget was unanimously voted in favor.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcement

March Board and Commission Summary

Council members received the March Board and Commission Summary.

Mr. Cox also noted a document was sent to the Town Council from the Ambulance Association to consider regarding long term ramifications for the community.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Moore, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm. Voted (7-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk