

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Town Hall Council Chambers and Zoom

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Mark Philhower, Vice Chairman Tim Feegel, Council Members Pete Brown, Brandon Goff, Eric Peterson, Kevin Reich and Alison Walck and Town Manager David Cox

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Philhower called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers and via Zoom.

Adoption of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of September 13, 2022 as written. Voted (7-0)

Public Hearing on an Amendment to Chapter 155 of the Code of the Town of East Hampton Regarding Extending a Moratorium on Certain Activities Related to Adult-Use Cannabis:

No comments were made by the public on this topic.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to close the Public Hearing. Voted (7-0).

Public Remarks:

Ted Turner, 223 Hog Hill Rd, wanted to encourage the Town Council members to approve of the covid funds for the VFW. The funds could help small businesses and local non-profits.

Susan Fielding, 11 Lake Dr, wanted to encourage the town to get on board with pickle ball. The court is half the size of a tennis court. This could help the town move forward and grow.

Deborah Cunningham, 40 Daly Rd, wanted to express her concerns over the distribution of ARPA funding to small businesses and non-profits. She advises the members to use good judgement in distributing the funds as well.

Presentations: None

Bids & Contracts:

- a. **Consideration of a motion to waive the competitive bidding process and award a contract roof replacement at Fire Station #1:** The Fire Department staff received three quotes for the roof replacement but didn't go through the process of the sealed bid specifications. At that time, the Council was asked to waive that part of the process and was then agreed upon by the Council members. The Fire Department is giving the Town Council

an opportunity to award the contract to Bert Dorr Roofing of Middletown for \$44,700. This would be to replace the middle section of the roof at Fire Station #1 on Barton Hill Road.

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Ms. Walck, to award the contract to Bert Dorr Roofing in the amount of \$44,700 to repair the Company #1 Fire Department roof. Voted (7-0).

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamations:

- a. **Consideration of a motion to approve Ordinance 2022.03, An Ordinance to Extend the Moratorium on Certain Activities Related to Adult-Use Cannabis:** A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to extend the moratorium on certain activities related to adult-use cannabis. Voted (7-0).

Continued Business:

- a. **Sub-Committee Reports & Updates:** The water sub-committee gave an update. There has been exploratory drilling and testing on the Pine Brook property. There were 5-6 holes drilled and the company kept hitting bedrock. The Oakum Dock property is still being evaluated and tested for feasibly usable water for the town. The town received grant funds that would help move projects along without any expense to the taxpayers. It was suggested to have the company evaluating the property for water to come in and present at a future Town Council meeting.
- b. **Receipt, discussion, and possible action regarding recommendations from the Commission on Aging regarding older adult transportation, housing and wellness:** Eric Rosenberg, Bob Atherton, and Sue Greeno from the Commission on Aging attended the meeting to present to the Council members. The commission sent out a survey to the senior citizens living in town. The survey was to gain insight and get information on what the senior community needs in town. The three commission members indicated three main areas that needs improving from the survey results. Transportation, Health and Wellness, and Housing were the categories that needed updates and improvement. The presentation packet was attached to the Council meeting packet on the town website.

New Business:

- a. **Consideration and Possible Actions Regarding the Fees and Regulations Related to Amusement Devices:** In the 1970's and 1980's there were fees and regulations pertaining to arcades and other amusement devices in town. The members suggested waiving the fees for now and to investigate redrafting or rewriting the regulations to be updated.

A motion was made by Mr. Peterson, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to waive all fees associated with ordinance for amusement devices pending new regulations. Voted (7-0).

- b. **Consideration of Library Policies:**

- i. **Consideration and action regarding an update to the Library Circulation Policy:** Library Director Kellogg attended the meeting to present to the Council members. The update to the circulation policy is to clarify that the materials may be borrowed by anyone with a valid public library borrower card from any Connecticut library. There are some specific borrowing terms that may be applied to certain types of materials.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Walck, to approve the updated library circulation policy. Voted (7-0).

- ii. **Consideration and action regarding a proposed Library Proctoring Policy:** Library Director Kellogg presented to the Town Council on the proposed Library Proctoring Policy. The proposed policy would help setup library patron proctoring by setting times for appointments, responsibilities, services and functions, and restrictions.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve the proposed policy for setting up the Library Proctoring. Voted (7-0).

c. **Consideration of Police Department Policies/ General Orders:**

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve of policies 3.1, 3.2, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, and 9.5 as presented. Voted (7-0).

- i. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 3.1 Use of Force:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. There were changes made to the language specific to the standard. An example would be, authorization by police officers to carry weapons, use force, training requirements, and reporting guidelines.
- ii. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 3.2 Conducted Electrical Weapon:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. There were some language changes to clarify the new changes by the council.
- iii. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 3.5 Reporting and Investigating Force:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. There was a minor change made to the use of force mandated reporting requirements.
- iv. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 3.7 Firearms Policy:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. There were language changes specific to the update made by the council. The changes added authorization by police officers to carry weapons, use force, annual review by the Chief of police of all use of force incidents, an annual inventory of all weapons as well as mandatory training requirements.
- v. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 3.8 Patrol Rifle:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. The changes added authorization by police officers to carry weapons, use force, annual review by the Chief of police of all use of force incidents, an annual inventory of all weapons, securing of weapons, and mandatory training requirements.
- vi. **Consideration and action regarding General Order 9.5 In-Service, Roll Call, and Advanced Training:** The order required updating to reflect changes by the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POSTC) Accreditation Standards. The changes to the language include the training requirements of the chief of police and the accreditation managers.

- d. **Discussion and possible action related to a request from the East Hampton VFW Post for ARPA assistance:** The East Hampton VFW is requesting \$10,000 of ARPA assistance. The members discussed whether the funding would open the door to other non-profits, small businesses, and organizations coming forward requesting funding and assistance as well. The Council members asked what the characteristics of why to approve or deny any requests put forth. The intentions in choosing what option the members would vote for or with would be another deciding factor. The members need specifics on what/ how the ARPA assistance would be used for each organization, non-profit, or small business. Mr. Brown recused himself from the voting of this topic.

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve the request by the VFW for a one-time non-profit use of ARPA funds for veteran services in the amount of \$10,000 due to their loss of revenue during Covid and for their immense community outreach to veterans. Voted (5-1) Ms. Walck against.

- e. **Consideration and possible action regarding updates to the Assistant to the Tax Collector (Tax Clerk) Job Description:** The job description needed updating. The changes and revisions to the language is to better reflect the work expectations and the minimum requirements for the position.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to approve of the updated job description for the assistant to the tax collector (tax clerk). Voted (7-0).

Town Manager's Report: The sewer bills will be coming out soon in the mail. The bills can be paid in two parts. The town received a STEAP grant for the Village Center project. Developing the specifics for the Village Center project over the winter months in preparation of starting in the spring. There have been speed monitoring, car tracking, and speed tracking occurring in certain parts of the town. The Police Department does do targeted enforcement in town, like writing tickets and warning for those speeding. The Town Manager will start sharing the Police Department reports that are submitted to the paper. The public should be educated and/or re-educated on the updated laws on speeding and driving.

Appointments: None

Tax Refunds: A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$2,426.33. Voted (7-0).

Public Remarks: Susan Fielding, 11 Lake Dr, stated the ADU's requirements are not going to happen in town. Special permits needs to be applied for to have an ADU in town. Senior loneliness could be helped with pickle ball since it is a very sociable sport/ activity for all ages. Ms. Fielding expressed her concern over the speeding in town and the crumbling sidewalks for the safety of the town and the community.

Roger Anderson is the present commander at the East Hampton VFW. Mr. Anderson wanted to express his gratitude for the council awarding the ARPA funding. Functions and fund raising is where and how the VFW gain their money to help other vets in need. It is not in their moral fiber to turn down any vet in need or trouble.

Ted Turner, 223 Hog Hill Rd, wanted to thank the council for awarding the ARPA assistance to the VFW. He intends to send a letter to the Council. This letter will further specify where their money goes and how it helps other vets.

Terry Concannon, 59 Laurel Ridge, stated that she has concerns over giving ARPA money to non-profits. There are 70 non-profits in town. She stated that very few of those organizations have budgets that extent to the \$10,000 that was just awarded to the VFW. The churches in town, and possibly some of the other organizations on the list, already received their funding from the state as part of Covid relief efforts.

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements: None

Adjournment: A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 P.M. Voted (7-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Katrina Aligata
Recording Clerk