

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 10, 2023
Town Hall Council Chambers and Zoom

MINUTES

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

Not Present: Vice Chairman Tim Feegel

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. Goff, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Regular Meeting of December 13, 2022 as written. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Russ Kaplan, Chairman of the Clean Energy Task Force, read a letter into the minutes inviting the Council to their Energy Fair on January 23rd at the High School. The letter will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Robert Rainville, 285 Young Street, introduced himself as the new Fire Chief. Mr. Philhower congratulated him on behalf of the Council.

Presentations

None

Bids & Contracts

None

Resolution/ Ordinances/ Policies/ Proclamations

Proclamation for the 80th Anniversary of the Rotary Club

Mr. Reich read a proclamation for the 80th Anniversary of the Rotary Club.

Proclamation for the Lions Club Humanitarian of the Year

Ms. Walck read a proclamation for the Lions Club Humanitarian of the Year – Robert Atherton.

Resolution Regarding Acceptance of the Donation of Land Adjacent to Oak Knoll Road

Mr. Cox provided an overview of a request to donate a small strip of land adjacent to Oak Knoll Road to the Town by the current owner. The land appears to be a remnant section inadvertently created through the subdivision of the land that became Steeple View Drive and Oak Knoll Road.

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Ms. Walck, to accept the donation of land adjacent to Oak Knoll Road as presented. Voted (6-0)

Continued Business

Sub-Committee Reports & Updates

The Water Sub-Committee will meet again in late January/early February.

Follow-Up Discussion Regarding the Town's Assessment and Tax Relief Programs

Mr. Cox provided an overview of the current status of various optional property tax relief programs available under State law and suggested changes to existing optional programs previously adopted. Mr. Cox will provide drafts of optional property tax relief programs for a future agenda.

New Business

Consideration and Action Regarding Police Department Policies/General Orders

1. General Order 5.5 Family Violence

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve General Order 5.5 Family Violence as presented. Voted (6-0)

Town Manager's Report

Mr. Cox provided his written report for the Council members which will be included with the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's Office. Mr. Cox noted the second tax installment is due by February 1st. Also, the Town received a \$1.4 million dollar grant for the completion of the Air Line Trail toward Portland.

Appointments

None

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Goff, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,540.96. Voted (6-0).

Public Remarks

None

Communications, Correspondence & Announcements

December 2022 Board and Commission Summary

Council members received the December 2022 Board and Commission Summary.

Mr. Brown asked a question about the school bus contract and whether town land will be used to store the buses and can the Board of Education enter into an agreement without consulting the Town Council. Chairman Philhower indicated this was not the proper point in the meeting to discuss this item without it being an agenda item.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Voted (3-3). Mr. Brown, Mr. Reich and Ms. Walck against.

Mr. Brown wanted to continue with his question. Chairman Philhower asked the Town Manager to consult with the Town Attorney regarding this item being discussed at this point in the meeting. Chairman Philhower again asked for an adjournment.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Goff, to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. Voted (6-0)

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Clerk