

**Town of East Hampton  
Town Council Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, June 27, 2023  
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. Peterson, to adopt the agenda as presented. Voted (7-0).

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the minutes of the Town Council Special Meeting and Regular Meeting of June 13, 2023 as written. Voted (7-0)

**Public Remarks**

Donald Scranton, Ambulance Chief, notified the Town Council that there will be a Mass Casualty Drill on Sunday, July 16 from 8am to 11am at Sears Park. All of the public safety groups will be participating as well as some mutual aid groups.

**Presentations**

None

**Bids & Contracts**

None

**Resolutions/Ordinances/Policies/Proclamations**

**Proclamation Naming Bevin Park**

David Cox read the proclamation naming the athletic field area at Center School as Bevin Park. A formal dedication will be held on Old Home Days after the parade.

**Amendment to Chapter 278 – Taxation of the Code of the Town of East Hampton Regarding Stipend for Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Personnel and Potentially Set Public Hearing**

The amendment to this ordinance is being suggested to address the changes made at the Ambulance Association in the pay model for individuals that respond.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to set a Public Hearing for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 during the Town Council Regular Meeting for the amendment to Chapter 278 – Taxation of the Code of the Town of East Hampton regarding the Stipend for Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Personnel. Voted (7-0)

## **Review of Recommended Modifications to the Business Incentive Program Ordinance and Potentially Set Public Hearing**

Marlene Geary, Chairperson of the Economic Development Commission, presented changes to the Business Incentive Program intended to simplify the process for applicants and provide better information for review to the EDC and the Town Council. They have also recommended a name change to the East Hampton Tax Abatement Program or ETAP.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Goff, to set a Public Hearing for Tuesday, July 11, 2023 during the Town Council Regular Meeting for the amendment to Chapter 278 – Taxation of the Code of the Town of East Hampton regarding the Business Incentive Program. Voted (7-0)

## **Continued Business**

### **Sub-Committee Reports & Updates**

The Water Sub-Committee needs to meet and set up a Public Information Session for this summer.

There will be a meeting on Thursday regarding the tennis courts. The Public Works Director has provided some recommendations.

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Town Council Appointment to the Ambulance Association Board**

Mr. Goff noted that the Council should obtain information from the Ambulance Association regarding what is expected of a member on their board.

## **New Business**

### **Discussion and Possible Action on a Request to Use Yellow Ribbon Tree During Old Home Days**

The VFW Auxiliary has requested permission to use the Yellow Ribbon tree during Old Home Days to honor the Fire Department's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. They will be putting up red ribbons in their honor.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to allow use of the Yellow Ribbon Tree during Old Home Days for a tribute to the Fire Department for their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Voted (7-0).

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Payment for Bevin Park Bench**

The Old Home Days Committee has raised \$2,800 for a bench naming the fields at Center School Bevin Park. The remaining balance for the bench is \$2,300 which could be used from the Town Council budget.

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve the payment of \$2,300 for the balance of the Bevin Park Bench from the Town Council budget. Voted (7-0)

### **Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Middle School Roof Contract**

Bids were received on Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> for the project, which includes the full removal and replacement of the roof at the Middle School. The low bid was received from Armani Restoration, Inc. of Middletown for \$1,798,500. The Middle School Roof Committee approved the contract, and the Superintendent has sent a notice to proceed to the contractor in order to move the project ahead so that it may be completed this summer. The resolution establishing the committee requires the Council to approve the contract.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Feegel, to affirm the actions of the Middle School Roof Sub-Committee and Superintendent of Schools and award the bid to Armani Restoration, Inc. of Middletown in the amount of \$1,798,500 with a substantial completion date of August 23, 2023 for the Middle School Roof Replacement. Voted (7-0)

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Park Maintainer II Job Description**

The revised job description for the Park Maintainer II is to eliminate a previous requirement for a CDL drivers license in favor of certification in Playground Safety Inspection and watercraft operation.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Walck, to approve the revised Job Description for the Park Maintainer II. Voted (7-0)

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Metafloc Treatment in Lake Pocotopaug**

Chuck Yenknor, Chairman of the Conservation-Lake Commission provided an overview of the recommendation from the Conservation-Lake Commission to use a product called Metafloc in Lake Pocotopaug in the coming weeks. This is a product that binds with phosphorous in the water and causes it to settle to the bottom where it cannot be used by algae. The product would be applied by John Tucci of Everblue Lakes, who is an approved applicator. They will replace one BioBlast treatment with a Metafloc treatment.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Ms. Walck, to approve the application of Metafloc to Lake Pocotopaug by John Tucci of Everblue Lakes. Voted (7-0)

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Monthly Budget for July 2023**

Since the FY2024 budget has not been approved, and in accordance with State Statute, the Council is asked to approve a basic budget for the month of July, which will allow the Town operations to continue.

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Reich, to approve the budget for the month of July 2023 in the amount of \$3,068,925. Voted (7-0)

#### **Discussion and Possible Action on Pension Plan Updates**

The Pension Plan is in need of some administrative updates. The amendments will update the mortality tables used in the calculations, will allow participants who take their benefits later than they are allowed to receive a revised amount and to allow the plan to keep funds for participants who cannot be located after they are able to collect benefits.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Peterson, to approve the pension plan updates as presented. Voted (7-0)

#### **Town Manager 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.

### **Appointments**

A motion was made by Mr. Goff, seconded by Ms. Walck, to appoint the following:

- Mariann Mankowski, Commission on Aging
- Cindy Craig, Commission on Aging
- Kim Crabbe, Commission on Aging
- Beth Angel, Alternate - Commission on Aging
- Elizabeth Whitty, Housing Authority
- Rachel Watkins, Brownfields Redevelopment Agency
- Derek Johnson, Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency and alternate on Conservation-Lake Commission
- William Abbott, Fire Commission

Voted (7-0)

### **Tax Refunds**

A motion was made by Ms. Walck, seconded by Mr. Goff, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$1,771.45. Voted (7-0).

### **Public Remarks**

None

### **Communications, Correspondence & Announcements**

None

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Goff, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm. Voted (7-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sirois  
Recording Clerk