

**EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
Wednesday, FEBRUARY 1st, 2012
MINUTES**

PRESENT: Paul Formica, First Selectman, Mark Nickerson, Holly Cheeseman, Rose Ann Hardy, Kevin Seery, Rob Wilson

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney O'Connell, Town Counsel
Dr. James Lombardo, Superintendent of Schools
Tim Hagen, Chairman, Board of Education
Dave Putnam, Parks & Recreation Director
Mike Giannattasio, Public Works Director
William Scheer, Town Engineer
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

EXCUSED: No One

Chairman Formica called this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen to order at 7:25 PM immediately following the previously scheduled Special Meeting. He said that he would first like to recognize Robert Cutillo as the longest serving police officer the Town has had. He thanked him for his many years of dedicated service to the Town.

1.a. Pledge Allegiance to the Flag

The Pledge was observed.

Mr. Formica said that he had a few presentations to make as there are two new canine members of the Police Department. He first called Robert Cutillo's daughter, Officer Lindsay Cutillo, handler of 'Knox' a yellow lab retriever who is certified as a narcotics dog and who will return for more training in this area. He placed the collar on 'Knox' and presented Officer Cutillo with the K-9's badge and ID card. He noted that with donations from Robert Cutillo and his brother Jack Cutillo and Dick Gada, along with donations made to the Police benevolent fund that Knox was purchased – all at no cost to the taxpayers.

He then introduced Officer Michael Jezierski, handler of 'Jimo' a German Shepherd who is the replacement for Harley who was hit by a car. Money from the insurance company provided them with Jimo. Jimo is cross-trained as a narcotics dog and also for evidence recovery and to detect and alert for drugs such as marijuana and ecstasy. He thanked the both Officers and Sgt. Blanchette for his professionalism in running the department.

1.b. Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items

There were none.

1.c. Delegations

Mr. Formica called for Delegations.

Joe Mingo, 397 Boston Post Road said that he had passed out a listing of notable trees found in East Lyme to the Board members. One of the most notable is located very close outside this building. He said that he also wanted to note that the two K-9 officers who were just recognized are from East Lyme and are fine young people. However, what he came to speak about is the athletic complex and the bonding of it. He said that they have just bonded an \$11M water main and another \$3.5M for Darrow's Pond property and they have not started paying on those items yet. He questions if they can afford this as he has recently driven around Town and there are a lot of 'For Sale' signs all over our Town. Heating

oil is going for \$3.75/gallon and gasoline is going for \$3.70/gallon. His insulin has risen out of sight just for a month's supply. Houses are selling under value – homes in the Orchards that sold at over \$700,000 are having trouble selling for \$500,000 now. He said that there are more homes for sale in this Town now than he has ever seen and he is 70 years old.

Also, UCONN is in the process of building new fields however they are being built by money from supporters and not by the taxpayers. He said that he questions the use of an artificial field and the bacteria that collects in it as regular grass does not have to be sprayed for bacteria. If the supporters of it here want to pay for this, then that is okay – but as something that the taxpayers have to pay for – he said that we are all tapped out.

Shawn Greely, 11 Scott Road said that he is speaking on behalf of the East Lyme Soccer Association as they have over 700 kids who play soccer. They feel as a Board that this project should move forward for the voters to make a decision on. The fields are very well used and always in demand and he feels that the kids learn through these events and that it is a small price to pay.

Allison Woods, 4 Ferro Court echoed support for the project. She said that she is a parent and one of her children is a sophomore who may or may not get to use the complex. She said that she feels that it is a case of 'when' it will be done as it is needed and will have to be done as the facilities are in need of upgrading. She thinks that the responsible thing to do is to forward this on for the taxpayers to decide.

Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Road said that she heard mention of 700 soccer players – perhaps if they had some fundraising they could pay for the complex. As a Town we are maxed out where bonding is concerned. She said that she thinks that they should have user fees for sports as that would help pay for some of this. They need to think 'out of the box'. In 2006, Mr. Seery was quoted in the paper as saying that we did not need this – she asked - what changed now? She said that artificial turf may not be the best way to go. The Board of Finance is supposed to be the gatekeepers of what we can afford. We have a lot of bonding coming along and properties have been taken off of the tax rolls and there is another property out there that is being considered – which places more burden on the taxpayers. She said that she wants to see some serious fundraising.

Mary Ellen Andres, 42 Dean Road said that she is speaking on behalf of the Lacrosse team. She said that she is a taxpayer and that she did vote for the water project. The cost benefits outweigh having a grass field as safety is a big issue. She said that her son plays football and that during certain seasons they are out on the grass football field and in all sorts of mud and the fields do not have a chance to recover. The Journal of Sports Medicine stated that there are more injuries on grass fields than artificial turf fields. They can also create revenue for the Town with the turf fields as they can host events and rent the fields for other events to come here. Also, if they think about the athletes, some of the kids are going to schools on great scholarships and the turf fields are faster and without them, the kids are at a disadvantage. She summed that they have a fine athletic program at the High School and they need this and it should go to the taxpayers to be decided.

Reb Buckley, 16 Egret Road said that he is a coach at the school and that he has spoken before about the state of disrepair of the fields and how desperately it needs to be fixed. He thinks that this should be put out for the taxpayers to be able to decide.

1d. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of January 18, 2012

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to add to the agenda – Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2012.

Mr. Seery seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Formica called for any corrections, changes or a motion on the January 18, 2012 Special Meeting Minutes.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of January 18, 2012 as submitted.
Mr. Seery seconded the motion.
Vote: 5 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.
Abstained: Mr. Wilson

Mr. Formica called for any corrections, changes or a motion on the January 18, 2012 Regular Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Hardy asked that on Page 2, at the bottom where she is speaking that the sentence be changed to read: *Ms. Hardy said that she was thinking that they should put money in for the Commission members and Town Employees to be reimbursed as well as increase mileage accounts in accordance with the IRS mileage rates.*

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 18, 2012 as amended.
Mr. Seery seconded the motion.
Vote: 5 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.
Abstained: Mr. Wilson

1e. Consent Calendar

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of February 1, 2012 in the amount of \$747.82.
Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.
Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

2. NEW BUSINESS

2a. Discussion/Action – Special Appropriation Athletic Complex - ELHS

Mr. Formica said that this item has been carried on the Capital Plan for some time now and was on the plan prior to his time here. It was the forward thinking of Dave Putnam that put it there as this is a focal point for sports as a large number of people use the track and fields. He said that when he came into Office that he felt that his purpose was to upgrade the Town and look to the future of it for the good of all of the people of the Town. To this end he has supported the water project, the parking lot upgrades, the streetscape projects brought about through STEAP Grant monies, roofing projects, solar projects and other projects to the various infrastructures throughout the Town. He commended Mr. Giannattasio and Mr. Scheer for being instrumental in overseeing many of these projects. They have done many improvements to the schools – notably the roofs, the air quality and solar for savings and he thinks that the time is right to bring this forward for the consideration of the Town as the Board of Ed has brought it forward to him. He said that Tim Hagen, Chairman of the Board of Education and Dr. James Lombardo, Superintendent of Schools would make presentations.

Tim Hagen, Chairman of the Board of Education shared some background on this project and acknowledged Dave Putnam for his forethought on where best to position this complex. In January of 2010 the Board of Ed started work on this project and it took the entire year. They set up a study committee who came back and said that they needed an architectural design study done. Various groups worked together to raise the \$17,000 necessary to do this study. In September 2010 it was presented and in October 2010 a Public Hearing was held and was well attended. After that, they continued deliberating. They held 11 Board meetings and six (6) subcommittee meetings – all open to the public – to discuss this project. The need for repair and remediation of the fields was immediately understood and the biggest issue was of natural grass versus synthetic turf. In making that decision, information from the manufacturers was considered. He said that Dr. Lombardo would now present a PowerPoint presentation with the details.

Dr. James Lombardo, 4 Maple Street, Superintendent of Schools said that there are a number of people present this evening to answer questions on this project. He said that he calls it the 'East Lyme Athletic Complex' as it is meant to serve the needs of the entire Town. He then introduced Bill Seymour, Architect with Gale Associates to do the presentation.

Bill Seymour, Architect with Gale Associates said that they first examined what is currently on site and found that the track has a narrow radius, delaminated surface and the field has bubbles, dips and ponding and is in need of being blown up and reconstructed. Through the PowerPoint presentation he reviewed the current deficiencies and presented what they have proposed to bring the complex into compliance and make it a State of the Art facility. (Presentation attached) He said that the reason for synthetic versus natural grass is that the natural grass field is limited to 100 uses per year and synthetic is available for use all the time. They are also paying \$28,000 per year to maintain the natural grass field and with the synthetic turf – they would get a groomer machine to fluff it.

Dr. Lombardo thanked Mr. Formica for his input and wisdom with this project; and Mr. Seery for his role on the Board of Education with his fundraising for the architectural study as Mr. Seymour and Gale Associates came at no cost to the taxpayers.

Mr. Formica synopsized how they got to where they are now. He said that the Board of Education and Board of Finance have worked very hard with him on putting together a capital plan. He noted the bond refunding and the savings that have been realized through this refunding along with the unspent monies from the Town and School budgets that have been returned to the General Fund since 2009. When he came into office the undesignated fund balance was not at 7% as it is now. The Town manages a five year capital plan for large ticket items. He said that he also started a 20/20 Vision Committee to look at the 84 Town buildings to see where the best place would be to put their money. He explained the debt service graph and where they could be without having to raise taxes. He said that each of the items to be purchased has to come before the Boards and also go to a Town Meeting for approval. He noted that there is a need for other items besides the athletic complex – one of the exits out onto Boston Post Road has a very difficult line of site for cars and buses alike and they are proposing a boulevard type of entryway to alleviate such issues. This reconstruction would also allow for fire trucks to get out and to have a light placed there to be controlled by the Fire Department so that they can get out when they have to get to a fire or emergency. The light would also be important for all the extra events that would be generated by the athletic complex. Also, by closing off the bad entry/exit road, they would be able to create 150 extra parking spaces. He said that he feels that all of that could be done for \$500,000 plus \$150,000 for the installation of the traffic light. He noted that on the plan that there is an area for a future concession building – the concrete slab and all of the hook-ups would be there, but not the building. They are in the process of doing a new support building for McCook's and suggested that a similar type building could be the style of the concession building in the athletic complex. This part of the project could be a fundraising project for the community groups throughout the Town. He feels that they are managing the Town well and commended Mr. Putnam for the excellent job that he is doing and noted how he had jumped in on the concept of combining Youth Services with Parks & Recreation and also how instrumental he is with regard to the upkeep of the fields.

Dave Putnam, Parks & Recreation Director explained the usage that Bridebrook Park field had received in the Fall of 2011 noting that it is the only location for the Soccer Club to use in the fall. The area is extremely heavily used. He said that the benefits of artificial turf are that it offers: Improved quality, Greater field flexibility, Fewer game cancellations, Youth leagues, Tournament opportunities and New (adult) league opportunities.

Mr. Formica asked if the Board members had any questions.

Ms. Hardy said to Mr. Putnam that it was mentioned that New London Rugby wished to play on our fields and was turned away – she said that she thought that they had artificial turf and if so – why ask to play here.

Mr. Putnam said that he could not say why.

Ms. Hardy asked Mr. Putnam – they currently have natural grass at Bridebrook - if they had the chance would they want to change it to artificial turf.

Mr. Putnam said that he would but only if there are lights put up as there are no lights there now.

Ms. Hardy said that \$17,000 was spent on the study and asked if more money would be needed for this.

Dr. Lombardo said no, the \$17,500 was raised and used for the plan development.

Ms. Cheeseman said that she was interested in the other entities using our facilities and asked what other Towns garner in revenue figures for the rental use of their fields.

Dr. Lombardo said that they have not done extensive research on that but they do know that they have been approached by various organizations to use the fields. They were approached by a football team last year who wanted to use the field for the summer for \$15,000.

Mr. Seery added that they would also have received the concession stand dollars.

Ms. Cheeseman asked about sponsorships.

Mr. Hagen said that they normally are not interested in that path but given the economic times, they may have to consider it.

Mr. Wilson said that he attended a number of the meetings on the complex and his concern is that they are making it a public use venture and he cannot see how they can do it without restroom facilities. He added that he drove around the area today and jotted down all the items that are all around the track area outside - trailers, porta-potties, storage units, plows, etc. and that look horrible. He said that he would not support putting this type of money into this without a restroom facility included with the project. He suggested looking at downsizing something to make sure that they have a restroom facility as bathrooms are a necessity. He said that his first thought was to look at the baseball facility that was built in the 1980's and to renovate it as the sewer line goes right by it.

Mr. Formica noted that a lot of the equipment would move to into the vacated Roxbury Road site once the move to Capital Drive is completed.

Dr. Lombardo added that they desperately want to clean up the back area that Mr. Wilson is speaking about and that as soon as the space is available in the Roxbury Road site, they will do so. He said that the intention is to have bathrooms there and that when the bids go out, they will see where they come in at and what can be done as he thinks that there is room to do them.

Ms. Hardy said that Yale has architectural students who did the Smith Harris barn and suggested that they might be a possibility for the concession facility.

Ms. Hardy said to Mr. Seymour that it was stated that the turf is made up of recycled tires – she noted studies on vapors that are released from them and the field itself and asked if he had seen the studies. Mr. Seymour said that he has not personally seen those studies however there are other materials TPE and one made from coconut husks that have been known to break down quickly and clog drains. They have studied their turf and have found negligible risks and is not sure that there is a problem with them.

Ms. Hardy asked about disposal of them when they are worn out.

Mr. Seymour said that a number of companies have developed recycling of the turf fields and they have been used in the manufacture of recycled decking, lawn furniture and other items.

Ms. Hardy asked about the cost of the removal of the field when it is done.

Mr. Seymour said that the cost of a new field is around \$850,000 – which includes stripping and putting in drains, etc. When it is replaced they suck out the infill and recycle it and put the new product in. It is an expensive project and probably \$350,000 - \$400,000 is for the removal which does not require hazmat.

Ms. Hardy asked what the average lifespan was of the field.

Mr. Seymour said that they were originally warranted for 8 years and have lasted 8 to 12 years. Since then the technology has changed and they now last 13 – 14 years.

Ms. Hardy asked if the warranty would be for that.

Mr. Seymour said that for whatever reason the industry standard has remained at 8 years warranty.

Mr. Seery said that he has some concerns about the bathroom facilities and suggested to Mr. Hagen that they consider selling sponsorships to raise money. Beyond that, he said that he feels that the bleachers are dangerous and that they need to be replaced. The longer that they wait the sooner they get to things being critical. Over 830 students use the field and the community uses it for walking and passive recreation. He said that he is very much in support of this project going forward.

Dr. Lombardo noted that the replacement cost of the field is something that they have taken into consideration. It costs \$40,000 per year for sod for the field maintenance so in 10 years they would have the \$400,000 necessary to replace the field.

Ms. Hardy asked Dr. Lombardo if he anticipated the need for more maintenance as this project is a far more comprehensive complex.

Dr. Lombardo said no, that to the contrary he expects that it will require less maintenance and will free up people for other projects.

Mr. Nickerson said that in listening to the presentation and comments that this project seems like a 'no-brainer'. He said that he would urge the Board of Education to put on a future agenda serious discussion of sponsorship opportunities. The sixth graders have had sponsor signage up and he said that he does not know why the high school can't have it. He said that he thinks that it would be beneficial to do fundraising and that he likes that blend for the project. He then asked if the older lights at the current complex could be used elsewhere.

Mr. Putnam said that it would be very costly and that they are so old that they are not at all energy efficient. They are also on wood now and would have to be re-mounted and hooded.

Mr. Wilson asked Mr. Seymour about the bleachers and the ADA lift and if it goes to the press box.

Mr. Seymour said that it would get them to the floor of the press box.

Mr. Seery commented that the current facility is not a facility that was allowed to fall into disrepair as attempts have been made to keep it up and it has served the Town well all these years.

Attorney O'Connell then explained the motions they would make.

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. Nickerson moved the RESOLUTION MAKING APPROPRIATIONS AGGREGATING \$3,450,000 FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$3,450,000 BONDS OF THE TOWN TO MEET SAID APPROPRIATIONS AND PENDING THE ISSUANCE THEREOF THE MAKING OF TEMPORARY BORROWINGS FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

Ms. Hardy said for the record that she will vote on this and is prepared to vote and does not feel that she has a conflict with it. She further said that she did not get the bonding information in the packet that was mailed and only saw it tonight and did not have time to review it. She would like them to vote on this at their next meeting. They spent \$100,000 on the Doyle Property as there was a need for it and this proposal does not make any use of that property. She has also heard about numerous fundraising events that would be undertaken but has not seen any. The presentation was very detailed tonight and they have packets to look at but the public does not have it to see. She said that she feels that she needs more time and that the public should have more time to provide them with input. She said that she also wants a

capital projects listing and the feasibility study report from the 20/20 Committee which she requested at the last meeting.

Mr. Formica apologized regarding the bonding information and said that he did email the resolution earlier today when it became available. He said that they are charged with moving this forward and that there will be a Public Hearing on this on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at the High School Auditorium where the public can attend and see the presentation and speak and ask questions prior to it going to the Board of Finance. This project has been talked about for a long time and to put it off would be putting off the opportunity to get this done in February and then being able to have the work done and finished in time for the start of the new school year this September.

Ms. Hardy said that she thinks that there is a definite difference between discussions and hearing about this for the first time on TV. She thanked those who devoted their time and efforts to this project.

Ms. Cheeseman said that while it has been stated that this is a necessity, and that passions are running high, she has a reservation on adding to the bonding in this economy. She said that she would vote for it so that others can do their part and act but she wants to be sure that they make the best possible decision.

Mr. Wilson asked if there was any chance of receiving any State funding for this.

Mr. Formica said that is a conversation that is taking place. He then called for a vote on the motion.

Vote: 5 – 1 – 0. Motion passed.

For: Ms. Cheeseman, Mr. Formica, Mr. Nickerson, Mr. Seery, Mr. Wilson

Against: Ms. Hardy

****MOTION (6)**

Mr. Nickerson moved that the First Selectman be authorized and directed to call a Special Town Meeting to be held at the East Lyme Town Hall, on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. (E.S.T.), to consider the resolution entitled "Resolution Making Appropriations Aggregating \$3,450,000 For Various Capital Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,450,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose", and to submit said resolution to a referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to take place on Tuesday, February 28, 2012, at the hours to be determined by the Town Meeting in accordance with the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, and the Notice of said Adjourned Town Meeting and Referendum state the question to be voted on upon as set forth in materials submitted to the Board by Bond Counsel.

TOWN OF EAST LYME
NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given of a Special Town Meeting of the Town of East Lyme to be held on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7:00 P.M. (E.S.T.) at the East Lyme Town Hall for the following purposes:

1. To receive communications from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance with respect to a resolution entitled "Resolution Making Appropriations Aggregating \$3,450,000 For Various Capital Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,450,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

2. To consider a resolution entitled "Resolution Making Appropriations Aggregating \$3,450,000 For Various Capital Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,450,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

At its meeting held on February 1, 2012, the Board of Selectmen voted to submit Item 2 of the call of the Special Town Meeting to a referendum vote at an Adjourned Town Meeting to take place at the East Lyme Community Center on February 28, 2012, at the hours to be determined by the Town Meeting.

3. To set the hours of voting on the above referendum.
4. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Copies of the proposed bond resolution are on file and open to public inspection at the office of the Town Clerk.

Dated at East Lyme, Connecticut, this first day of February, 2012.

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Mr. Seery seconded the motion.

Ms. Hardy said that her comments were the same as she had previously stated. She feels that the time is very pressurized and that this goes to a referendum in less than a month and that it should be on the agenda with the annual budget vote and it should also be a budget review item. While she is in favor of having a referendum, she said that she thinks that they will be holding one anyway for the budget in May and that they could use the \$8000 for this referendum on other needs. She said that she feels that there needs to be more time for public input and comment.

Mr. Formica called for a vote on the motion.

Vote: 5 – 1 – 0. Motion passed.

For: Ms. Cheeseman, Mr. Formica, Mr. Nickerson, Mr. Seery, Mr. Wilson

Against: Ms. Hardy

2b. Discussion/Action – Police Contract

Mr. Formica noted that this was the subject of their Special Meeting/Executive Session earlier this evening.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. Seery moved to approve the Contract Agreement between the Town of East Lyme and East Lyme Police Local No. 2852, Council 15, AFSCME, AFL-CIO Effective July 1, 2011 – June 30, 2014.

Ms. Cheeseman seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

2c. Budget Transfer

Mr. Formica explained that the posted position for the Field Services Facility was challenged by the Union and that moving to the new facility was delayed. In the interim until they determine how they will proceed, the current HR Manager will provide HR support and also support the Field Services Facility.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the transfer of \$24,393 to account 2-01-01-106-100-211 (HR Manager) from the following accounts: \$12,684 from 2-01-30-317=100-211 (Superintendent of Highways) and \$11,709 from 2-01-45-421-100-211 (P & R Director) for the purpose of transitioning personnel.

Ms. Cheeseman seconded the motion.

Ms. Hardy asked if there was a person holding the HR position.

Mr. Formica said yes, the current HR person is now doing three days in the new Field Services Building and two days here. With the Union challenge of the posted position, they will have to determine the best way forward as they did receive a number of applications for the position when it was posted.

Ms. Hardy asked if there is a part-time position.

Mr. Formica said that they are just moving the money around as the HR person has worked longer in HR as the Field Services Building was not ready in October as had been planned. This money was in

the budget for the anticipated change. Kardas Larson will be doing some technical updates for them and could eventually be the part time people.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

2d. Appointments – Boards and Commissions

Mr. Formica said that they had two appointments to make.

****MOTION (8)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to appoint Thomas Boguszewski of 24 Patrick Place, Niantic, CT as a Regular member and John M. Smith of 2 Clarks Lane, Niantic, CT as an Alternate member to serve on the Zoning Board of Appeals through January 4, 2016.

Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

2e. Budget Review Introduction & Set Review Schedule

Mr. Formica noted that they have their budget books and read from the transmittal letter regarding the key events. He noted that they had submitted a request for \$337,000 to FEMA and that \$163,000 was approved and would be coming back to them hopefully very soon and could be reallocated to the budgets most affected by the storm. He asked that they set a budget review schedule.

Ms. Hardy suggested that they hold their first budget review prior to their next meeting – on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 6 PM to 7 PM as then they would have the Town Meeting and their Regular Meeting following that.

Mr. Formica asked what departments they would like to see.

Ms. Hardy said that she would suggest that they start with, on that date (2/15):

- Public Safety/Emergency Management
- Police
- Niantic Fire Department
- Flanders Fire Department

It was the consensus of the Board that they would start with that budget review and set other dates and departments at that meeting due to the lateness of the hour.

3. Unfinished Business

There was none.

4. Communications

a. Moody's Rating

b. Calls for Service Police Report

There was no discussion.

5. Information and Reports

5a. Ex-Officio

The Board members asked that due to the lateness of the hour that they hold this information to their next meeting.

5b. Committee Reports

There were none.

5c. Selectman's Report

Mr. Formica said that he wanted to report on one item which had been put in the 'Patch' when nothing had been agreed upon or signed. He said that there was discussion at the Waterford Board of Selectmen meeting regarding a regional dispatch operation between Waterford and East Lyme. While there was discussion about a memorandum of understanding – nothing had been reviewed by Counsel or anyone here. Somehow the draft document was released from Waterford. He said that he wanted to apologize to the Public Safety Group on how this was handled and stated that they would not find anything with his signature on it as nothing had reached that point in time yet. He additionally reported that Water & Sewer did decide to maintain fluoride in the water but at the lower levels as determined by the DPH.

6. Public Comment

Mr. Formica called for comments from the public.

Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Road said that she had a few questions regarding regionalization and savings and said that she would like to see the savings that they are claiming they will have such as with the merging of the ACO. She said that she would also caution them on speaking about savings unless they can actually see them as the farther that something gets away from you – the less that you actually see of what is really going on. Regarding the turf field she suggested that they check out the website - synturf.org as it is a warehouse website for everything artificial turf. She said that the Board of Ed has not done its' duties to the fields – she reminded them that every year the Board of Ed is given money for maintenance and if they haven't done or have deferred the repairs – that is their problem. It is not because they did not have the money to do it. She said that Ms. Cheeseman made a very good remark about our future and she feels that we may have some bigger fish to fry down the road – we have all sorts of groups – the 20/20 Vision Committee, facilities group, etc. and they do not seem to be touching base at the same time and the information that they have is very important to know and have coordinated. As far as referendums are concerned, she said that she thinks that it would be good to consolidate the items and to do it in May and save money. She encouraged them to work on the fundraising that she has heard them talk about since 2006.

7. Selectman's Response

Mr. Formica thanked everyone for coming and said that with the Animal Control (ACO) that they are working on having it be a three Town effort – Old Lyme, Waterford and East Lyme.

****MOTION (10)**

Mr. Nickerson moved to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting of February 1, 2012 at 11:00 PM.

Mr. Wilson seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Zmitruk

Recording Secretary, Pro-tem