

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2013  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Paul Formica, Mark Nickerson, Holly Cheeseman, Kevin Seery,  
Rob Wilson.

EXCUSED: Rose Ann Hardy.

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 7:29 p.m.

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
Nov 21, 2013 AT 10:05 AM PM  
Rob Wilson  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1b. Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items  
There were none.

1c. Delegations

John Cesario of 15 Darrows Ridge said that in 2008, the First Selectman signed an agreement with NEN incorporating improvements for Mostowy Road. He said that the attorney bills total \$500,000 since that agreement. He added that the First Selectman is named as a defendant in a lawsuit with this group and according to Charter, there is a conflict of interest and he should step aside and recuse himself.

John Ellis, Chair of the Woodsman Land Trust encouraged the Selectmen to take advantage of the opportunity to submit grant applications to the state. He said that there is a potential of one million dollars in grant money available, with the potential of 2 million dollars if matched.

John Cesario said that regarding the Ellis proposal, if the NEN lawsuits are dismissed as a result of the acceptance of this proposal, the town would benefit. He said that the Board took on the risk of litigation and put it on the backs of the taxpayers. He encouraged the Board to consider the Woodsman Land Trust proposal.

John Strafacci of 16 Darrows Ridge Road said that the town paid above fair market value for the Darrows property and questioned if the easement language meets the DEEP's requirements for these grants. He suggested that the Board postpone voting on the easements for more information. He said that his comments concerned easement language for property already purchased by the Town.

Karen Rak of 27 Black Point Road reminded everyone that grant money is taxpayer money.

PRESENTATION – Ledge Light Health District – Elevated Rate of Tick Borne Diseases

Director of Ledge Light Health District Baker Salisbury was present and noted that East Lyme and Waterford have the highest rates of reported tick borne diseases. He reviewed information about preventing exposure and illness from tick bites. (Attachment A). He noted that he wanted to meet with the Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments in early spring to work on assisting in preventing the spread of the disease. He said they also wanted to utilize signage for tick zones. He stressed that deer transport Lyme disease, they do not cause it.

1d. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of November 6, 2013

MOTION (1)

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 6, 2013 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Seery. Motion passed 5-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (2)

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of November 20, 2013 in the amount of \$1393.77.

Seconded by Mr. Seery. Motion passed 5-0.

2a. Appointment – SCRRRA – Director of Public Works – Bragaw

Mr. Formica noted that Bill Scheer had been assuming the duties of Director of Public Works and has been attending the SCRRRA meetings. Now that Mr. Bragaw has been hired, Mr. Scheer is stepping down and he is requesting that Mr. Bragaw be appointed.

MOTION (3)

Mr. Nickerson moved to appoint Joseph Bragaw of 19 Attawan Avenue, Niantic, CT as the representative to SCRRRA through January 4, 2016.

Seconded by Mr. Seery.

Mr. Formica noted that even though all the Board members have been re-elected, the term of appointment should only be until January 6, 2014.

Mr. Nickerson amended his motion as follows: to appoint Joseph Bragaw of 19 Attawan Avenue, Niantic, CT as the representative to SCRRRA through January 8, 2014.

Mr. Seery amended his second. Motion passed 5-0.

2b. Authorization to Sign – Yale Trail Conservation License Agreement

Attorney Collins said that this agreement will entitle the residents of town to utilize walking trails on the Yale property. She added that our insurance company is satisfied that the Town will be protected from any liability.

**MOTION (4)**

Mr. Nickerson moved the following:

RESOLVED, the First Selectman is authorized to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town, a Trail Conservation License Agreement with Yale University to construct and maintain a pedestrian walking foot path to be used by the general public on the property known as the Yale Outdoor Education Center and to sign and deliver such other documents and take such other actions as may be necessary or desirable to implement such Agreement.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

**2c. Discussion / Action to Authorize First Selectman to execute Conservation Easement on Darrow Pond in accordance with Purchase Agreement**

Attorney Wainwright noted that when the Town purchased the property from the Trust for Public Land, it was agreed that approximately 200 acres would be conserved as open space. She said that there are existing easements on the property and that this easement will be subject to all existing easements. She added that the town explored the potential for available grant money in 2011 and there were no grant opportunities available at that time. She said that the town would not be able to apply for any grant opportunities for this property now since grants are not available for property that is already purchased.

**MOTION (5)**

Mr. Nickerson moved the following:

RESOLVED, that Paul M. Formica, First Selectman of the Town of East Lyme, is hereby authorized and directed to sign that certain Conservation Easement, to be granted by the Town to the Friends of Oswegatchie Hills Nature Preserve, Inc., pursuant to the Town's obligations under that certain Option Agreement with the Trust for Public Land dated August 5, 2011, as amended, and Letter Agreement dated December 2, 2011, and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of the Conservation Easement.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

**3a. Continued Discussion – Public Safety Committee**

Mr. Formica said that he would like to continue this item until the next meeting.

Ms. Cheeseman noted that the Library board would like to be included in the makeup of the public safety committee.

**5a. Ex-Officio**

Mr. Seery noted that Harbor Management had no meeting.

Mr. Wilson had no report.

Ms. Cheeseman attended the Zoning meeting where there was a discussion about the sign subcommittee. She also attended the Library Board meeting where they discussed their upcoming budget and added that they will be making a capital request this year for painting the library. She added that they are entering the Edge Program which assesses a library's capabilities to supply the technical needs of a town.

Mr. Nickerson attended the Parks and Recreation meeting and the Senior Class party meeting. He noted that the annual craft fair will be at the High School on November 30<sup>th</sup> and urged support.

#### 5b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Formica said that he had attended a Capital Improvement Program meeting in preparation of the upcoming budget.

He attended a ribbon cutting for Berkshire Hathaway real estate.

He attended a dinner reception for the William Crawford award where the Siegel's, husband and wife, were honored for their works as operators of the Garde Theater.

He attended numerous Veterans' Day events at the schools and at the Town Green.

He attended a meeting with the Assistant Comptroller regarding the constantly increasing fringe rates for the Resident Trooper Program. He said the rate is now at 82% and next year it will rise to 92%. He said the reasoning offered is that the fringe rate was increasing in order to pay for the unfunded pension liability of the state.

He met with the Dispatch Committee and he believed that there would be a presentation at the second meeting in December.

He attended a Rotary luncheon honoring Veterans.

He attended a meeting with CT DEEP in support of the Crescent Beach residents regarding bluff repair.

Mr. Formica noted that he is a member of the educational subcommittee of M.O.R.E. where they discussed education mandates such as the upcoming teacher evaluations.

He chaired the Water and Sewer Commission meeting.

He attended a CCM meeting and one regarding Route 11.

He chaired a meeting regarding improving the rail corridor to Stafford Springs.

He added that he will be attending a meeting with Darrow Pond residents on Friday evening.

6. Public Discussion

Camille Alberti of 7 Darrows Court and a member of the Board of Finance inquired about the Woodsmen Land Trust proposal and asked if the Board of Selectmen passes this proposal, how long the Board of Finance will have once it comes to their board.

7. Selectman's Response

Mr. Formica responded that there is no time line and if passed, the Board of Finance can take as much time as they want.

MOTION (6)

Mr. Nickerson moved to adjourn the November 20, 2013 meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 8:43 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary

Attachment A

# Preventing Tick-borne Disease

Simple Steps that Can Make a Difference. Learn more at [www.llhd.org](http://www.llhd.org)

## 1 Prevent Exposure to Ticks

- Be aware that infected ticks are endemic in our area. Ticks become active at 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
- Tick 'danger zones' include shady borders where recreation areas meet wooded areas. Create a protective border several feet wide of wood chips or gravel along 'danger zones'.
- Ticks require ground-level moisture to thrive; cut trees back and locate play areas in full sun.

## 2 Prevent Tick Bites

- Use DEET or wear treated clothing when working or playing outside.
- Bathe or shower shortly after working or playing outdoors. Ticks do not latch on and begin feeding for several hours; scrubbing and lathering can get rid of loose ticks.
- Check people and pets for ticks. Treating pets with flea/tick prevention medicine protects pets from getting ill but does not stop them from bringing ticks into the home.
- Check clothing for ticks. Put clothing in the dryer on high heat to kill unseen ticks.

## 3 Prevent Illness After a Bite

- Proper removal of ticks is important! Squeezing a ticks' body or only partially removing a tick can increase the likelihood of illness. Use tweezers to grasp the tick where it enters the skin and pull upward in a slow, steady motion.
- Be vigilant for disease symptoms. You may have been bitten by a tick and not know. You may or may not have the "bulls eye" rash at the beginning of an illness. Be aware that tick-borne disease is very common in our area and ask your doctor to be tested if flu-like symptoms, headaches, joint pain or other symptoms are not resolved.



# Preventing Tick-borne Disease

## Looking Ahead: Ledge Light Health District in Partnership with Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Schools, and Residents

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Identify opportunities to integrate no- or low-cost landscaping and layout changes that can reduce tick population in high-use recreation areas.

Consider best practices for tick prevention in long-term plans for recreation areas.

Scan school playgrounds and athletic fields for similar opportunities.

Create a public awareness/education campaign highlighting the steps residents can take to reduce their risk of Lyme disease.

Share prevention information through schools, Town Hall, Library, Senior Center, Youth Services, websites, etc.

