

Recorded Sept 26 20 16

10:20 ^(AM) PM Lesly A. Blais
East Lyme Town Clerk

TOWN OF EAST LYME

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

Moderator, Gene Cushman, called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Cushman led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Assistant Town Clerk, Karen Galbo, read the call of the meeting, stating it had been posted on the signpost, published in The Day newspaper, and recorded in the Town Clerk's office.

Moderator stated the rules of the Special Town Meeting, saying that only registered voters or taxpayers with a minimum assessment of \$1,000 on the last completed Grand List were eligible to vote and that there are penalties for anyone doing otherwise.

- 1. Special Appropriation in the amount of \$200,000 for a Brownsfield Assessment Grant to complete an environmental assessment of 224 Main Street; remove the building and develop plans and cost estimates associated with any remediation necessary and the ultimate reuse of the property.**

Motion (1) Ron Stevens and Kevin Seery moved to approve Item 1.

Mr. Nickerson stated Friday was the 6th anniversary of the Referendum to approve the purchase of this property. The Referendum did pass. They are in a position to demolish and remediate the property now. They believe there is plenty of money in this grant; they also saved \$100,000 on the purchase of the property. This is not East Lyme taxpayer money; it is money from the State which is available for East Lyme to get.

Ron Rando, 194 Boston Post Road, East Lyme stated the State doesn't run on air. The money is out of taxpayer's pockets. He has been here 80 years. There was a railroad station there, a gas station, tackle shop and a barber shop. He would like to know if they have tested the ground there.

Bill Scheer, Deputy Director of Public Works stated they have done a Phase I and Phase II Environmental Study with borings and test holes. There were two areas of concern, one area with hydro-carbons and one with lead; they do not know what is under the building.

Mr. Rando stated in the past they had piled a lot of stuff there, he remembers transformers by CL&P, there was a coal barn up the road, and do they have an estimate of the cost to clean it up.

Mr. Scheer stated they have no estimates now, but an environmental engineer has told them that lead and hydro-carbons are relatively easy to clean up.

Mr. Rando stated he thinks it will be over a million dollars to clean it up. How much was taken off of the tax rolls from the town purchasing this.

Mr. Scheer stated that is not his purview.

Mr. Nickerson stated we are not debating whether it should be bought, we already own it.

Mr. Rando stated he doesn't think we should have bought it. He hopes the East Lyme taxpayers don't have to pay a lot of money when they start digging.

Item 1 passed.

Motion (2) Holly Cheeseman moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Seconded by Dan Cunningham.

Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen Miller Galbo".

**Karen Miller Galbo
Assistant Town Clerk**