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Lesley A. Blais

East Lyme Town Clerk

TOWN OF EAST LYME

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 7, 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 \$17,208.30 from the Capital Non Recurring Fund 32 Account 32-60-120-100-002 to an account established titled "ICE Grapple Truck".**

**Motion (1) Kevin Seery moved to approve Item 1.**

**Seconded by Ron Rando.**

Mr. Nickerson stated it is a \$172,000 truck; we will be sharing it with New London. We have a need on occasion for this type of truck. It will be kept in New London, but by agreement we will be able to get it as needed. There is a contract between the Towns. New London qualifies for special funding.

Joe Bragaw, Director of Public Works stated this is a great opportunity to share equipment.

Ron Rando, 194 Boston Post Road, East Lyme stated he never heard of this, it sounds good, but if we buy it with New London when can we borrow it? Who has to pay the repairs? How is the schedule set up?

Mr. Bragaw stated scheduling is done with 24 hours notice. In an emergency it will be shared. Routine repairs will be paid by New London. For other repairs the Town of East Lyme will pay a smaller portion, about 30%. It is a Freightliner, and it is diesel. The money will come from a CNRE Account set aside for the purchase of equipment.

John Drabik, 18 Drabik Road, East Lyme stated this is a Tonka toy, it can't be operated near power lines or houses, it is a single axle truck, and we are wasting money here. If New London sells the truck are we out our money?

Mr. Bragaw stated it will be owned by the Town of East Lyme and the City of New London. It will be used in a lot of storm events; our department has a need for it.

Mike Schulz, Lovers Lane, East Lyme asked what the vehicle specifications are as to load lifting capacities.

Mr. Bragaw stated it is 2700 pounds.

**Item 1 was passed.**

- 2. Special Appropriation – Historic Preservation Technical Assistance Grant \$9650 from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation to CNRE Fund 32 for Phase II Survey at the Samuel Smith Property.**

**Motion (2) Kevin Seery moved to approve Item 2.**

**Seconded by Marc Salerno.**

Mr. Nickerson stated people are very dedicated to this cause. Luane Lange spearheaded this program; the Grant comes with a matching requirement. The next item will be that Grant. This will cost nothing to the Town of East Lyme.

Luane Lange, 160 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic stated this was written because Phase One was done last year. They went to the CT Trust for Historic Preservation then they were able to get a match with a like amount from the Department of Economic and Community Development.

Mr. Rando stated when the Town bought the property they were told the Samuel Smith people would handle it. They are supposed to take care of it. He is against Grants; it is taxpayer hard earned money. What is a Phase II survey?

Ms. Lange stated Phase One was done last year and that included digs within the acreage. This will be for additional interesting areas. There will be no money from the Town for this.

Mr. Rando asked if they found any historical artifacts on the property.

Ms. Lange stated they do have artifacts and they are looking for more.

Mr. Rando stated he begs to differ that there is no money from the Town; sooner or later the taxpayer will pay.

Bette Mahon, 53 Quarry Dock Road, Niantic stated the next phase will discover what parts of the building were put up at what time. Many people come to look at the house.

Mr. Nickerson stated when the property was bought there was some controversy. They did promise no burden to the Town. It was very clear that the group was going toward Grants. He recognized it is coming from everyone's pockets, but the money is there and if it doesn't go to this it will go to another community. It may as well be ours.

Mr. Drabik stated he loves history; they were told the house would be self sustaining.

Ms. Lange stated when the State helped fund the house they were granted a 20 year easement. They cannot charge a fee. Rotary has helped fund the garden, the budget doesn't allow a major project, and this house is special.

**Item 2 was passed.**

- 3. Special Appropriation Certified Local Government Grant in the amount of \$9650 from Dept. of Economic and Community Development to CNRE Fund 32 to complete funding for Phase II survey at Samuel Smith property.**

**Motion (3) Kevin Seery moved to approve Item 3.**

**Seconded by Luane Lange.**

**Item 3 was passed.**

**Motion (4) Joe Bragaw moved to adjourn the Special Town Meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

**Seconded by Ron Rando.**

**The meeting was adjourned.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Karen Miller Galbo  
Assistant Town Clerk**