

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF APRIL 19, 2017
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mark Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Marc Salerno, Rose Ann Hardy, Paul Dagle and Dan Cunningham

Mr. Nickerson called the meeting to order at 7:55 p.m. and stated that the Pledge of Allegiance was performed earlier at the Town Meeting which commenced at 7:00 p.m.

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

FILED

1c. Delegations
There were none.

Apr 24 2017 AT 2:55 AM/PM
(Carmen Yalton, atc)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

1d1. Approval of Minutes, Public Hearing of April 5, 2017
MOTION (1)

Mr. Seery moved to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing of April 5, 2017, as submitted.
Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 5-0-1. Abstained; Mr. Dagle.

1d2. Approval of Minutes, Regular Meeting of April 5, 2017
MOTION (2)

Mr. Seery moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2017, as submitted.
Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 5-0-1. Abstained; Mr. Dagle.

1e. Consent Calendar
MOTION (3)

Mr. Seery moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of April 19, 2017, in the amount of \$2,071.89.
Seconded by Ms. Hardy. Motion passed 6-0.

2a. Approve an expenditure of up to \$850 from the Parahus Account
MOTION (4)

Mr. Seery moved to approve an expenditure of up to \$850 from the Parahus Account for the purpose of purchasing an additional phone and install a phone line in the Conference Room.
DISCUSSION:

Ms. Cathy Wilson, Director of the Senior Center, addressed the Board and explained that the Parahus Account is a an account that accepts donations from the public given directly to the Senior Center; for example if someone leaves a donation in their Will or "in lieu of flowers please donate to . . . ". Mr. Nickerson thanked Ms. Wilson for her explanation, and stated that if anyone from the public would like to donate to the Senior Center Parahus Account, please call the Senior Center directly for more information. Ms. Wilson stated that these funds are used for the benefit of the seniors and not generally for operational matters. It was further explained that this account was created and named after Mr. Parahus, who was the Chairman and long time

member of the Commission on Aging, and who was also pivotal in raising funds to construct the building. Ms. Hardy stated that the intent of this fund is to provide for the people who frequent the facility, and she feels as though this is not an appropriate use of the funds. Ms. Wilson stated that she understands Ms. Hardy feeling, but that this is something that the center needs in order to provide adequate services to the seniors. Although she requested up to \$850, Ms. Wilson stated that she has the funds, out of the operations budget, to pay for the phone itself, but will require an undetermined amount to cover the wiring; it shouldn't be \$850 but she wants to be prepared in case they find issues when doing the wiring. Mr. Seery stated that he would reluctantly agree to this expenditure because he realizes it is something that is needed to enhance the operations of the Senior Center. Ms. Wilson stated that if she does not need to use the funds at all, she will not do so. Mr. Nickerson agreed that this is a needed expenditure at this time and will support it, but he asked Mrs. Hardy as Ex-Officio to this Commission to remind them what the purpose of the Parahus Fund is and how the funds should be used. It was agreed that guidelines should be created to oversee such funds; currently only the Senior Center, Smith-Harris House and the Library have such accounts set up.

Mr. Dagle stated that he would like to make a personal donation of \$500 to the Parahus Account to cover the cost of the wiring for this new phone, which should eliminate the need to use any funds from the Parahus Account.

It was agreed that this motion would be passed tonight, and that the \$850 approved would only be utilized if necessary.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion Passed 5-0-1. Abstained; Ms. Hardy

2b. Discussion and possible action on Parks & Recreation Department's request to consider a Town Ordinance to extend fines for walking dogs on the Niantic Bay Boardwalk

MOTION (5)

Mr. Seery moved to adopt the amendment to the Ordinance entitled "Ordinance Concerning Areas Under Jurisdiction Of Park & Recreation Commission", as submitted.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Seery thanked Counsel, and Mr. Putnam and the Parks & Recreation Commission for doing all of the research to come up with the most productive updates to this ordinance. He reported that at the last P&R Commission meeting, they spoke about getting updated signs made that would outline the ordinance and rules clearer for the public. Mr. Seery agrees that instituting a fine for violators is the right course of action. Mr. Salerno also agrees with adding a fine, and recommends that the fine information be put on the signs as well. Mr. Dagle stated that it might be prudent to outline the entire ordinance on the new signs so the public is aware of all the rules subject to fines if violated.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

2c. Discussion and possible action on the proposed lease for the communication tower on the Mostowy Road site

MOTION (6)

Mr. Seery moved to authorize the First Selectman, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver a document entitled "Site Lease with Option" with Mostowy Towers, LLC, for certain property located at 16 Mostowy Road for use as a communications tower, and to take such action as may be necessary or desirable to implement said agreement.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson reported that since the last meeting, the lease has been reviewed and everyone's input and concerns were considered. He stated that this is a very simple lease, and it has been found to be sufficient as it is presented. Ms. Hardy asked why the other existing sites that were identified not chosen as opposed to putting up a new antenna; and it was reiterated that all of the identified sites were looked at prior to last meeting, but that none of these sites were sufficient for our needs. She inquired as to where the temporary tower will be constructed and who is paying for that; it was reported that they are considering a couple of sites, one of them the solar farm on Walnut Hill Road, and that Marcus Communications aka Mostowy Towers LLC is installing this temporary tower as a courtesy to the Town of East Lyme to get our new communications system up and running prior to the permanent tower installation. Mr. Salerno and Mr. Dagle both appreciated being given the additional couple of weeks to review the lease and consider all the points brought up at last meeting, and they are both satisfied with the lease.

Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

2d. Review of 2017/18 CIP

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the 2017/2018 Capital Improvement Plan line item by line item.

2e. Discussion on a proposed ordinance regarding banners on sign posts

The Board discussed some concerns on this matter; who would police this, how much of a distraction will it cause, will it take away from the beautiful Christmas decorations and lights we traditionally put up, do we even have the authority to give permission or is it the State's authority.

Mr. Nickerson stated that he would speak with the members of Niantic Main Street and see what their thoughts are and report back at a future meeting. Mr. Salerno stated that this was one of the reasons why the Town installed the electronic board in front of Town Hall so as it cut back on the number of signs and banners posted around town.

2f. Sign Call – Notice of Annual Town Meeting

MOTION (7)

Mr. Seery moved the following call:

TOWN OF EAST LYME
NOTICE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Notice is hereby given of the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 8, 2017 at the East Lyme High School Mary Broderick Auditorium at 7:00 p.m. to act on the following:

1. To review and discuss the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, as recommended by the Board of Finance.
 - a. In accordance with Chapter 7.3 of the Town Charter, the moderator shall adjourn the annual budget meeting to a referendum on the voting machines. The budget resolution will be submitted to the persons qualified to vote in a Town Meeting by Referendum by machine vote, which referendum shall take place on May 18, 2017, at the East Lyme Community Center from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
2. To adopt a Five Year Capital Plan.
3. To conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Dated at East Lyme, CT this 19th day of April, 2017.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Old Business

There was none.

4. Communications

Letter from Arthur Carlson, Chairman of the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources (CCNR) regarding comments on the CT Department of Transportation Interstate 95 Restructuring. Letter asks the BOS to request that the DOT consider adding a catch basin system to protect the Pattagansett Aquifer.

5. Information and Reports.

There was none.

6a. Ex-Officio

Mr. Dagle reported that Harbor Management is seeking potential Federal funding for dredging in the Niantic River. State Congressman, Joe Courtney has requested that we submit information to him regarding why this dredging is needed; Harbor Management is working with Joe Courtney's office on this. The Harbor Management plan, started in 2011, has been approved by the DEEP and will now need to go through the remaining approval process.

Mr. Dagle reported that at the last Inland Wetlands Commission meeting, they discussed the Giants Neck Improvement Club's activities in the lower pond in an effort to remove invasive weeds.

Mr. Cunningham reported that the Historic Properties Commission has a couple of upcoming events for fundraising; the Bike & BBQ event is scheduled for October 1, 2017; and the Jim Stewart band will be performing with swing dancing on July 29th.

6b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Nickerson stated that he has been attending all CCM and COG meetings, and that everyone is eager for the final State budget information. He reiterated that there is still a good possibility that town services may need to be cut depending on how the State budget is presented.

The Community Center parking lot is being re-constructed presently to make the lanes wider and to add more parking spaces; there will still be trees throughout but just not as many in the middle, and less to make more room for parking spots.

Mr. Nickerson reported that the DOT held a presentation on Tuesday night the 18th at Camp Niantic to give information on the proposed work at Exit 74. Ms. Hardy inquired if they had decided where to put the commuter lot; Mr. Nickerson said that the proposed spot is not ideal so they will be going back to see if they can find a better location. He also stated that there will be businesses displaced as part of this project.

On April 13, 2017, Mr. Finkelstein and Mr. Price officially signed and executed the Police Chief contract, effective May 1, 2017.

Mr. Nickerson stated that regarding the proposed dredging of the Niantic River, he is favor of this project.

On Sunday, April 16th, the East Lyme Police Benevolent Association sponsored an Easter egg hunt at McCook's Point Park and spread out approximately 6,500 eggs for the kids. This was a great event and lots of fun; they did a great job in putting together this great event for our community.

During spring vacation last week we had some beautiful spring days, and the boardwalk and beach parking lots were almost to capacity.

Mr. Nickerson reported that a couple of weeks ago the movie "Stalker's Prey" aired on TV, and was filmed throughout East Lyme and Niantic. Very neat and exciting to see all of the different locations throughout town that made the movie, especially the high school, aka Hunter's Cove High School. The drama club is holding a fundraiser at the high school on Friday and Saturday night this weekend; for \$5.00 per person you can watch the movie at the high school auditorium. Mr. Nickerson stated that untrue to the movie, we do not have giant great white sharks in the Niantic Bay.

Thank you to Victoria Cheung, the Board of Selectmen dedicated AV student for all of the Board of Selectmen meetings; the BOS will miss her when she graduates this year. Victoria has done a great job of assisting the BOS and they appreciate it.

Upcoming this weekend; little league opens on Saturday the 22nd, the marching band is hosting a tag sale at the high school, the Niantic Bay Boardwalk 5K is this Sunday the 23rd, on Saturday the 22nd the March for Science is being held.

The Niantic Rotary Club is hosting their annual Gala fundraising event on May 6th at the Mystic Marriott. The theme this year is the Kentucky Derby. Tickets are \$125/person.

The Senior Center is hosting a Senior Prom for Seniors on April 29th.

Also on April 29th from 7pm – 9pm is the Beer for Beauty event hosted by Niantic Main Street at Smith's Acres.

7. Public Comment

There was none.

8. Selectman's Response

There was none.

MOTION (8)

Mr. Seery moved to adjourn the April 19, 2017, meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 9:50 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra A. Anderson, Recording Secretary