

Recorded June 22 2017

3:45 ^{AM} _(PM) Lesley A. Blais
East Lyme Town Clerk

**TOWN OF EAST LYME
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING
JUNE 21, 2017
MEETING MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Town Meeting Moderator, Gene Cushman.

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

Karen Galbo, Assistant Town Clerk read the Call of the Special Town Meeting and stated that said Call, signed by the Board of Selectmen, had been posted on the Town signpost on June 8, 2017, and that a copy thereof had been published in The Day newspaper in its issue of June 14, 2017.

The Moderator stated that in accordance with Section 7-6 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, only an elector of the Town, or a citizens of the United States of the age of eighteen years or more who jointly or severally, was liable to the Town for taxes assessed against them based on an assessment of not less than \$1,000 on the last completed Grand List of the Town or who would have been so liable if not entitled to an exemption under subdivision (17), (19), (22), (23), (25), or (26) of Section 12-81 of the General Statutes would be entitled to vote at the Special Town Meeting.

The Moderator appointed the Registrars of Voters as checkers and tellers.

1. To receive communications from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance with respect to a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Aggregate Amount Of \$150,000 For The Planning, Design, Construction And Improvement Of A Basketball Court At Peretz Park And Boathouse Rowing Docks And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$150,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

The Communication from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance were both received.

2. To consider and act upon a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Aggregate Amount Of \$150,000 For The Planning, Design, Construction And Improvement Of A Basketball Court At Peretz Park And Boathouse Rowing Docks And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$150,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

Motion (1) Kevin Seery Moved To Approve Item 2.

Seconded by Marc Salerno.

Mark Nickerson, First Selectman welcomed everyone to the meeting. \$130,000 of this is to replace the basketball courts at Peretz Park; they will also be replacing the hoops. \$20,000 of this is for the docks on Pattagansett Lake, which is used by the crew team and citizens of this town. The docks are very old and can be a liability to anyone using them and they are beyond repair.

Ron Rando, 194 Boston Post Road, East Lyme thanked everyone for being here at the meeting. We still don't know what money we are getting from the State. The Town should take a hard look at what we are spending. How many towns use that basketball court?

Dave Putnam, Parks and Recreation Director stated it is an open basketball court; there is no way of knowing how many non-residents use it.

Mr. Rando stated he can't see spending money that is not needed, just patch it.

Kristina Fenton, 130 Boston Post Road, East Lyme stated she graduated on Friday; she had the honor and privilege of being on the crew team for the high school and was a captain for 2 of her 4 years. Slowly that dock has become less and less safe. When the rowers have been carrying heavy boats the dock would sink into the water. Some parents have made some temporary fixes, but the public could be in danger.

Item 2 Passed.

3. To receive communications from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance with respect to a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$990,000 For The Rehabilitation Of Various Town Roads, Sidewalks And A Parking Lot And The Replacement Of A Crossing Light And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$990,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

The Communication from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance were both received.

4. To consider and act upon a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$990,000 For The Rehabilitation Of Various Town Roads, Sidewalks And A Parking Lot And The Replacement Of A Crossing Light And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$990,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose".

Motion (2) Kevin Seery Moved To Approve Item 4.

Seconded by Richard Morris.

Mr. Nickerson stated we are always planning for the next generation. We plan to spend \$900,000 per year on roads, we have to keep up on repair, and we are also doing a lit crosswalk at the high school. One student was recently hit in that crosswalk. Cars don't see the kids crossing there. They are also going to do a sidewalk between the Middle school and Lillie B. Haynes. This is part of our Capital Plan.

Mr. Rando asked what our bonding debt is.

Mr. Nickerson stated \$57,000,000 in principal and interest.

Mr. Rando stated our interest is climbing, we need to cut down on spending, if we can't afford it don't buy it.

Ethan Stewart stated that seems like a lot of money, he understands that we have to spend money on sidewalks, but should we be spending that now?

Mr. Nickerson stated Ethan had won a C-Span award last year. We have some remarkable kids in our school system. If we don't do the work now we will have to do a lot of work later. Joe Bragaw our Director of Public Works has every road mapped out as far as what is needed for each road. If we don't spend the money this year then that is roads that are not being fixed.

Item 4 Passed.

5. To approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$31,855 from CNRE Fund 32 to account 32-99-400-700-701 (BoE Vehicles).

Item 5 was not approved by the Board of Finance.

6. To approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$34,405 from CNRE Fund 32 to account to be established titled, "ELHS Dust Collection System".

Motion (3) Kevin Seery Moved To Approve Item 6.

Seconded By Tim Hagen.

Mr. Rando stated we used to have auto and wood shops and now look. We don't need more Attorneys.

Jeff Newton, Superintendent of Schools stated this is a two-fold project. The goal is to improve air quality and to preserve the electronic equipment.

Item 6 Passed.

7. To approve a special appropriation in the amount of up to \$81,726.35 from the remaining balance of the 2016/17 Vehicle Acquisition Program to purchase two Police vehicles with related equipment.

Motion (4) Steve Kelley Moved to Approve Item 7.

Seconded by Dan Price.

Mr. Nickerson stated this is not in next year's budget, this is unspent vehicle money. They typically buy 2 vehicles and remove 2 vehicles from the fleet every year. One of the vehicles they are replacing has 217,000 miles; the other one has 137,000 miles.

Sgt. Macek of the East Lyme Police Department stated they went a year without purchasing any vehicles. There are 9 vehicles in the fleet with over 90,000 miles on them.

Steven Kelley, 8 Joval Street, asked if we charge contractors for just the officer's salary or do we also charge for wear and tear on the cars while idling at work sites.

Anna Johnson, Finance Director stated they charge \$5.00 per hour for the vehicles while officers are working at job sites and that money goes to the General Fund.

Sgt. Macek stated the new chief is re-evaluating that number as it is extremely low.

Mr. Rando asked why they don't shut cars off when working at a job site.

Sgt. Macek stated if cars are shut down the battery will be dead within a half hour because of all of the equipment in them.

Dan Price, 205 Upper Pattagansett Road, stated that issue will be addressed shortly by the Police Commission. He likes to save money, but getting these vehicles is a good idea.

Item 7 Passed.

8. To approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$28,313.88 in account 32-25-200-700-472 (PS-Police Patrol Vehicle Equipment) as follows: re-allocation of \$21,813.88 in account 32-25-200-700-472 (PS-Police Patrol Vehicle Equipment), transfer and re-allocation of \$3,172.13 from account 32-30-400-700-711 (Paint Vehicles), \$1,490.00 from account 32-30-400-700-712 (PWD – Stainless Sander) and \$275.75 from account 32-30-400-700-713 (PWD – P/U Truck Equipment) and appropriate and transfer \$1,562.12 from account 32-60-120-100-002 (Proceeds from the Sale of Vehicles).

Motion (5) Kevin Seery Moved to Approve Item 8.

Seconded by Marc Salerno.

Mr. Nickerson stated this is money we have that will get us the remaining amount for the police cars.

Item 8 Passed.

9. To approve a special appropriation for the following projects in CNRE Fund 32 which are consistent with the 2017/18 Capital Improvement Plan:

| CNRE - Municipal Project | Amount |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Town Projects (Roofs) | \$10,000 |
| HVAC Replacement Town-wide | 10,000 |
| Replace Cooling Tower ELCC | 20,000 |
| Sidewalk Repair - Town-wide | 25,000 |

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| Town Projects - Various | 43,389 |
| Town-wide Servers | 5,000 |
| Revaluation | 50,000 |
| TOTAL | \$163,389 |

Motion (6) Kevin Seery Moved to Approve Item 9.

Seconded by Rita Franco-Palazzo.

Mr. Nickerson stated this is all in the budget. These are essentially savings accounts, these amounts are significantly less than what is recommended, but these are tight budget times.

Item 9 Passed.

10. To approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 in CNRE Fund 32 to revenue and expenditure accounts titled, "Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA) Grant".

Motion (7) Kevin Seery Moved to Approve Item 10.

Seconded by Paul Dagle.

Mr. Nickerson stated when we receive grant money we have to do appropriations to spend it. This Grant is for studying coastal resilience and shoreline issues.

Item 10 Passed.

11. To transact any other business proper to come before the meeting.

Motion (8) Kevin Seery Moved to Adjourn the Special Town Meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Nickerson.

Motion Passed.

Respectfully Submitted,


Karen Miller Galbo
Assistant Town Clerk

