

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 20, 2019  
MINUTES

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

EXCUSED: Marc Salerno

Mr. Nickerson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and stated that the Pledge of Allegiance was performed at the special budget meeting.

1b. Additional Agenda and Consent Items  
There were none.

1c. Delegations

Mike Schulz, Lovers Lane, spoke in favor of a 0% increase for fiscal year 19/20 in general wages for town employees to make up for the increase in health insurance costs.

Holly Cheeseman, 16 Mitchell Drive and Connecticut State Representative, reported on the Governor's budget and stated that today's budget is just the beginning of the process. Specific impact to East Lyme could include the following; a drop in over \$800,000 in state aid for fiscal year 2019/2020, and \$1.5M the second year; the ECS grant will reduce by \$680,000 in 19/20, and \$1.25M the following year; and the Town's pension contribution would be \$123,000 in 19/20 and double that the following year. She expects that many of the proposals brought to the table will receive pushback from municipalities, across political parties, most certainly the proposed sales tax which would tax everyday items such as aspirin, haircuts, little league registration, and many more items. There was a lot of support for a phase in of the \$15.00 minimum wage, but this may have a negative impact on municipalities as a majority of the people who make less than \$15.00 per hour currently are part time summer help. In private business, it would cause an employer to have to give raises to others higher up which would create a situation where less people will be hired. Ms. Cheeseman stated that this is just the beginning of the process and she will keep us up to date as it moves along; and that she and Mr. Formica will be working hard to do what's in the best interest for our District and work toward equality from town to town.

1d. Approval of Minutes

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Hardy called for the following change: under ex-officio reports, Mrs. Hardy reported that the Zoning Commission approved Zoning Regulations to allow medical marijuana dispensaries by special permit only within designated areas in town.

MOTION (1)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2019, as amended.  
Seconded by Mr. Dagle. Motion passed 5-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (2)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of February 20, 2019, in the amount of \$564.34.

Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 5-0.

FILED IN EAST LYME  
CONNECTICUT  
Feb 26 2019 AT 2:04 AM  
Bridgette Harris ATC  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

2. Executive Session

MOTION (3)

Mr. Seery MOVED to enter into executive session for the purpose of discussing the description of Unaffiliated employee's benefits, and to include Anna Johnson, Joe Bragaw and Victor Benni. Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 5-0.

They entered into executive session at 7:42 p.m. They returned at 8:02 p.m. and Mr. Seery advised that no formal votes were taken.

MOTION (4)

Mr. Seery MOVED to return from executive session and resume the regular meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Old Business

There was none.

4a. The Board of Selectmen received a presentation from Jessica LeClair representing the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern CT State University. The program they represent is called Sustainable CT, and Ms. LeClair explained the program and its potential benefits to our town. Mr. Nickerson stated that being a part of this program can bring benefits to our town and taxpayers, but that they provide guidelines and no specific obligation that the town will need to meet.

4b. Sustainable CT Resolution

MOTION (5)

Mr. Seery MOVED that WHEREAS, Sustainable CT is a comprehensive, statewide, action-oriented voluntary certification program, built by and for municipalities, with the vision that: Sustainable CT communities strive to be thriving, resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking. They build community and local economy. They equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents. And they respect the finite capacity of the natural environment.

WHEREAS, Sustainable CT is designed to boost local economies, help municipal operations become more efficient, reduce operating costs, and provide grants and additional support to municipalities.

WHEREAS, the Town of East Lyme embraces an ongoing process of working toward greater sustainability, selecting which actions it chooses to pursue from the voluntary menu of actions provided by Sustainable CT.

RESOLVED, that the Conservation of Natural Resources will serve as the Sustainability Team, and that the first meeting of the Sustainability Team will happen within 90 days of passing this resolution, and that the Sustainability Team shall report annually to the Board of Selectmen on the progress of its activities toward Sustainable CT certification.

RESOLVED, by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Lyme that we do hereby authorize the First Selectman to serve as the Town of East Lyme's Sustainable CT contact person for the Sustainable CT Municipal Certification process and authorize him/her to complete Municipal Registration on behalf of the Town of East Lyme.

Seconded by Mrs. Hardy. Motion passed 5-0.

4c. Unaffiliated Employees Benefits Description

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson stated that there needs to be some additional work on this document and they it will come back before the Board of Selectmen at a future meeting.

4d. Continue Budget Review

This item was not necessary.

5. Communications

There were none.

6. Information and Reports

There were none.

6a. Ex-Officio Reports

There were none.

6b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Nickerson thanked everyone for voting at referendum and that the purchase of the public safety complex was passed by a vote of 1389 yes and 803 no. Because of the weather, that is all he had to report, and instructed everyone to drive safely.

7. Public Comment

There were none.

8. Selectmen's Response

There were none.

MOTION (6)

Mr. Seery moved to adjourn the February 20, 2019, regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 8:20 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Anderson  
Recording Secretary