

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 2, 2020
MINUTES

This meeting was held via Zoom online meeting services and was available for the public to view, listen and participate via videoconference and dial-in options.

This meeting, in its entirety, is available to view by visiting the East Lyme Town Hall webpage.

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

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Anna Johnson, Police Chief Mike Finkelstein and Lieutenant Dana Jezierski

First Selectman Nickerson called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

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

1c. Delegations
There were none.

1d. Approval of Minutes

MOTION (1)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2020, as submitted.
Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (2)

Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of December 2, 2020, in the amount of \$296.95.
Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 6-0.


2a. CNRE - \$19,118 – Communications Tower

MOTION (3)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson stated that this project was approved by the Board of Selectmen back in August of 2017, and the tower is now built and ready for us to move our equipment over from the temporary tower located on Walnut Hill Road. He noted that this agreement was entered into in August of 2017 with Marcus Communications / Mostowy Towers, and that the Town owns the top twenty feet of the tower to use for our equipment. The temporary tower on Walnut Hill Road has improved emergency communication in the north end of town, and the new tower will improve the service in this area, as well as in the Giants Neck Heights area. Mr. Nickerson noted that Dick Morris was a key player in this project, as well as Chris Taylor; both gentlemen have left the Town since then, so he thanked Chief Finkelstein for picking up where they left off in seeing this project through to fruition.

Chief Finkelstein stated that the lease was signed in 2017 and will be utilized for Town of East Lyme Police, Fire, EMS and school buses. He reported that the temporary tower has served us well, but this new tower will provide better service, and as Mr. Nickerson noted it is high enough to provide clear service to Giants Neck Heights. This tower is equipped with a propane generator in case of power failure. Chief Finkelstein stated that Marcus Communications owns the tower and the Town of East Lyme owns exclusive use of the top 20 feet of the tower for emergency services and bus communication. He stated that this new

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DEC 14 2020 AT 12:15 AM/PM

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

tower and equipment is compatible with the plans for the new public safety building and will work well with our existing system as well.

Mr. Seery MOVED to appropriate and transfer \$19,118 from CNRE fund 32 account 32-70-300-500-999 (Town-wide Projects) to an account to be established titled, Radio Tower Infrastructure and forward to the Board of Finance for approval. This resolution is passed under the guidance of Executive Order 7S with no town meeting required and being less than 10% of the current budget.
Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

2b. Appointment to a Board/Commission – Inland Wetlands Commission
MOTION (4)

Mr. Seery MOVED to appoint Marjorie Meekhoff, 6 Cedar Ridge Road, East Lyme, as an alternate member of the Inland Wetlands Agency with a term to expire on January 3, 2022.
Seconded by Mr. Salerno. Motion passed 6-0.

2c. 2021 BOS Meeting Schedule
MOTION (5)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Nickerson noted that as of right now, the town will continue to hold all of its meetings via Zoom and not in person at Town Hall. He reported that the ceilings at Town Hall are being replaced, starting with the upper meeting room; this completes all of the currently planned upgrades to the meeting room.
Mr. Seery MOVED to approve the East Lyme Board of Selectmen meeting schedule for 2021, as submitted.
Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. Motion passed 6-0.

3. Communications
There were none.

4a. Ex-Officio Reports

Mr. Cunningham reported that the Historic Properties Commission continues to work on the grant for the roof at the Sam Smith Farmstead, and they anticipate submitting that application soon. Mr. Cunningham reported that some East Lyme High School seniors, Nicole Burgon, Maggie D'Amico, Caroline French and Natalie Libby, created a website called "History In The Making", which highlights East Lyme's local history. This webpage can be found by visiting the Historic Properties section of the East Lyme Town Hall website.

Mr. Salerno reported that the Planning Commission approved their FY21/22 budget. He stated that because of the pandemic and because of the complexity of these meetings, it has been decided that the Administrative Assistant will attend all land use meetings to run the Zoom controls until the pandemic is over and we are meeting in person at Town Hall. He reported that they closed the public hearing on the Old Black Point Road matter, and that they scheduled a special meeting for December 15th to address the matter on Upper Kensington. Mr. Salerno reported that both Kirk Scott and Michelle Williams were reappointed to their respective positions on this commission. He reported that the Town Building Committee is finishing up loose ends on the schools' renovation project, and that they are working on the Public Safety Building and Mr. Dagle will provide a brief report.

Mr. Dagle reported the work has begun on the public safety building, and they are anticipating a mid-June 2021 completion. He reported that this year's Jingle Bell 5K run by the Brian Dagle Foundation will be happening this year virtually, and also includes a scavenger hunt this year. For more information please visit nianticjinglebell5k.itsyourrace.com.

Ms. Hardy reported that Zoning will be meeting on December 3rd and they have two items on their agenda; an application of Landmark Development Group, LLC and Jarvis of Cheshire, LLC c/o Timothy Hollister, Shipman & Goodwin, LLP for a text amendment revision of Section 32 to replace Preliminary Site Plan/Final Site Plan with "Master Plan" procedure as used in Gateway Development, and a petition of Pazz & Construction LLC, to rezone 20.24 acres from RU-80/RU-40, its existing zoning designation, to Affordable Housing District and for approval of a Preliminary Site Plan which proposes an eighty (80) unit multi-family

affordable residential housing development designated as “Brookside Apartments” for property identified on the westerly side of North Bride Brook Road in East Lyme, East Lyme Assessor’s Map 09.0, Lot 37-2, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §8-30g.

Mr. Seery reported that the Fire Department Organizational Review Subcommittee will be meeting on Monday, December 7th and he will give a report at the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

4b. First Selectman’s Report

Mr. Nickerson reported that they are currently working on the tri town water agreement, which has been in place for ~30 years. East Lyme, Waterford and New London participate in this agreement, and he noted that New London has a separate agreement with Old Lyme that is in place. This year’s light parade will take place on December 12th with December 13th as a rain date. This year, because of the pandemic, the floats will be parked at McCooks and the spectators will drive through to view them. The Cini Park fishing dock leases are up for renewal at the end of December, and the subcommittee is working on reviewing the applications for discussion and action at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Nickerson reported that it has been decided to utilize an Admin at all of the land use meetings to run the Zoom controls. As these meetings and public hearings are heavily attended and the results will generally carry legal consequences for the Commission as well as for the Town. He reported that the work is wrapping up at Vets Park, and he noted that the parking lot is being re-worked to add more parking spaces; they are also working on the puddle issues by installing new curbing and adding a slight slope for runoff to the sewers.

Mr. Nickerson reported that he has been meeting with fellow leaders from our neighboring municipalities to coordinate vaccination efforts, including shared campaigns and distribution of the vaccines. Priority will be given to first responders, healthcare workers, SEAT bus drivers, etc. They are working with the governor’s office to build the priority roster. He thanked everyone for their well wishes after his recent hip replacement and reported that he is doing really well and that he is on the mend. He appreciates what a caring and supportive community we live in and is grateful to have had 22 years involvement in town government.

5. Public Comment

There was none.

6. Selectman’s Response

There was none.

MOTION (6)

Mr. Seery MOVED to adjourn the December 2, 2020, regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 8:15 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted By:



Sandra Anderson
Recording Secretary