

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 1, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin Seery, Anne Santoro, Rose Ann Hardy, Dan Cunningham, Aron Cicchiello and Bill Weber  
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Finance Director Kevin Gervais and Fire Marshal Bill Bundy III: 10

Mr. Seery called the regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen to order at 7:19 p.m., and he stated that the Pledge of Allegiance was performed at the commencement of the special budget meeting.

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

1c. Delegations  
There were none.

1d. Approve Minutes

**MOTION (1)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve the special budget meeting minutes of February 13, 2023, as submitted.

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

**MOTION (2)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve the special budget meeting minutes of February 15, 2023, as submitted.

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

**MOTION (3)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve the regular meeting minutes of February 15, 2023, as submitted.

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

1e. Consent Calendar

**MOTION (4)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve the consent calendar for the regular meeting of March 1, 2023, in the amount of \$25,343.63.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy. Motion passed 6-0

2a. Fire Marshal Fees

DISCUSSION: Fire Marshal Bill Bundy III was present to speak on this item, and stated that the Town has not ever charged fees, and most other towns already charge for these same services and charging these fees is an industry standard. Mr. Weber stated that he would like to consider adding a section that addresses waivers for 501c3 nonprofit companies. Mr. Seery stated that he would ask the Town Attorney to work on this ordinance for review at an upcoming meeting.

2b. Building / Zoning Fees

DISCUSSION: Mr. Seery stated that the Building Official presented at a past meeting, and that he will have the attorney draft this new ordinance as well.

2c. EV Charging

DISCUSSION: Mr. Seery stated that the Town Engineer will be at the next meeting.

2d. Budget Deliberations

DISCUSSION: The Board reviewed each budget line, and made the below changes:

**MOTION (5)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 110 Registrars; reduce line item 401 Election Day Expenses by \$3,000 to total \$19,700 and reduce line item 402 Referendum Primary Expenses by \$500 to total \$38,275.

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

**MOTION (6)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 113 Maintenance Town Buildings; reduce line item 314 Overtime by \$9,000 to total \$12,000, reduce line item 216 Service Contracts \$2,100 to total \$59,200, and reduce line item 222 Building Maintenance Expense by \$5,000 to total \$51,300.

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

**MOTION (7)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 114 General Government reduce line item 127 Healthcare Dental Insurance by \$84,252 to total \$2,251,044.

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

**MOTION (8)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 115 Services to Community increase line item East Lyme Student Scholarship by \$1,000 to total \$2,000.

Seconded by Ms. Cicchiello. IN FAVOR; Seery, Santoro, Cunningham, Cicchiello and Weber. ABSTAINED; Hardy. Motion passed 5-0-1.

**MOTION (9)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 117 Planning reduce line item 412 Part-time Clerical by \$500 to total \$1,500.

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

**MOTION (10)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 216 Police reduce line item Police Officers by \$43,044 to total \$2,151,065; hire two (2) officers, with a hire date to commence in November 2023.

Seconded by Mr. Cunningham. IN FAVOR; Seery, Santoro, Cunningham, Hardy and Weber. OPPOSED; Cicchiello. Motion passed 5-1-0.

**MOTION (11)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 317 Public Works; reduce line item 224 Road Reconstruction and Repairs by \$12,500 to total \$197,500, reduce line item 295 SCRRA Tipping Fees \$3,000 to total \$580,000, and reduce line item 440 Stormwater Materials and Supplies by \$87,000 to total \$125,000.

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

**MOTION (12)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 419 Health & Welfare reduce line item 297 by \$6,500 to total \$6,000.

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

**MOTION (13)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED that for Department 421 Parks and Recreation reduce line item 350 Parks Field Maintenance by \$12,000 to total \$37,900 and reduce line 320 Miscellaneous Supplies by \$2,000 to total \$13,500.

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

2e. Adopt 2023/2024 Annual Budget

**MOTION (14)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve the proposed 2023/2024 Town Budget in the amount of \$87,361,479 for a net increase of 8.86% consisting of the following, and to forward to the Board of Finance for approval (Note: Board of Selectmen review, comments, and recommendations concerning the Board of Education budget to follow):

General Government	\$21,637,598
Debt Service	\$ 6,198,189
Capital	\$ 610,840
Board of Education	\$58,914,852

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

3a. Lion’s Club Annual Event

**MOTION (15)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to approve and to authorize the First Selectman to enter into a lease agreement with the Niantic Lions Club for the purpose of selling food in connection with the art show on July 1st and July 2nd, 2023; the Town grants to the Lions, for the period of 4:00 p.m. on Friday, June 30th and shall end at 10:00 p.m. on Sunday, July 2nd, the right to use the land at the Town Hall on Pennsylvania Avenue, which is to be set aside for that purpose by the Town.

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

4a. Ex-Officio Reports

There were none.

4b. First Selectman’s Report

- Rte. 161 Corridor Study continues; DOT considering a boardwalk over Gorton Pond at the curve to extend the sidewalk from Society to East Pattagansett.
- Next meeting with the DOT for the Exit 74 project is March 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Call to the Public – if you have plans in the building department and would like said plans, please contact that department to take ownership of the plans. The Town will begin to digitize all of the paper plans on file, and the paper files will then be destroyed after a time if they are not claimed.

**MOTION (16)**

Ms. Santoro MOVED to adjourn the March 1, 2023, regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 9:43 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*Sandra Anderson*

Recording Secretary