

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 20, 2023

IN ATTENDANCE: Dan Cunningham, Ann Cicchiello, Rose Ann Hardy, Candice Carlson, Don MacKenzie and Jason Deeble

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Finance Director Kevin Gervais, Public Works Director Joe Bragaw, Parks and Recreation Director Jerry Lokken

Mr. Cunningham called the regular meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen to order at 7:00 p.m. and Ms. Hardy led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1b. Additional Agenda & Consent Items

**MOTION (1)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to add Agenda Item #3e to approve emergency work to be done on the sea wall at McCooks Beach.

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

1c. Delegations

There were none.

1d. Approve Minutes

**MOTION (2)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 6, 2023, as submitted.

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

1e. Consent Calendar

**MOTION (3)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to approve the Consent Calendar for December 20, 2023, in the amount of \$8,086.23.

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

2a. Cini Dock Fishing Leases Subcommittee

Tabled to a future meeting.

2b. CTDOT Master Municipal Agreement

DISCUSSION: Mr. Bragaw stated that this document is updated every ten years and there are no items of concern to bring up. Ms. Cicchiello noted that they added Section 4.14 to the documents regarding Affirmative Action goals.

**MOTION (4)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED the following: RESOLVED to authorize the First Selectman, Daniel R. Cunningham, to sign, in the name and on behalf of the Town, the "Master Municipal Agreement For Construction Projects" in the form presented to the Board of Selectmen at its December 20, 2023 meeting.

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

3a. Presentation by Parks and Recreation Re: Darrow Pond

Jerry Lokken, Parks and Recreation Director, and Todd Donovan, Chairman of the Darrow Pond Subcommittee, gave a summary of how things have progressed at the Darrow Pond property,

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
EAST LYME, CT  
2023 DEC 28 A 10:09  
Dan MacKenzie  
TOWN CLERK

and what the findings of the study were as found by FH1 Studio, the landscape architect. Contact the Parks and Recreation office for more information.

3b. 2022 Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan

**MOTION (5)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED the following:

WHEREAS, the Town of East Lyme has historically experienced severe damage from natural hazards, and it continues to be vulnerable to the effects of those natural hazards profiled in the plan (e.g. flooding, extreme heat, droughts, severe storms such as thunderstorms and winter storms, dam failures, wildfires, and earthquakes) resulting in loss of property and life, economic hardship, and threats to public health and safety; and

WHEREAS, the East Lyme Board of Selectmen approved the previous versions of the Hazard Mitigation Plan in 2005, 2012, and 2018; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, of whom the Town of East Lyme is a member, has determined that climate change is affecting the frequency and severity of some hazards and therefore elected to expand the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update to become a Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan Update; and

WHEREAS, committee meetings were held, and public input was sought in 2022 regarding the development and review of the Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan Update; and  
WHEREAS, the Plan specifically addresses hazard mitigation and climate adaptation strategies and Plan maintenance procedures for the Town of East Lyme; and

WHEREAS, the Plan recommends several hazard mitigation actions that will provide mitigation for specific natural hazards that impact the Town of East Lyme, with the effect of protecting people and property from loss associated with those hazards while adapting to the effects of climate change; and

WHEREAS, Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments has developed and received conditional approval from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for its Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan Update under the requirements of 44 CFR 201.6; and

WHEREAS, adoption of this Plan will make the Town of East Lyme eligible for funding to alleviate the impacts of future hazards; now therefore be it.

RESOLVED by the Board of Selectmen:

1. The Plan is hereby adopted as an official plan of the Town of East Lyme;
2. The respective officials identified in the mitigation strategy of the Plan are hereby directed to pursue implementation of the recommended actions assigned to them;
3. Future revisions and Plan maintenance required by 44 CFR 201.6 and FEMA are hereby adopted as a part of this resolution for a period of five (5) years from the date of this resolution.

An annual report on the progress of the implementation elements of the Plan shall be presented to the Board of Selectmen.

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

3c. Appoint BOS Member to Meet with Non-Affiliated Group

**MOTION (6)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Rose Ann Hardy, Don MacKenzie and Ann Cicchiello to meet with the Non-Affiliated Employees group representatives to discuss the upcoming fiscal year salary and benefits.

Seconded by Ms. Carlson. IN FAVOR; Cunningham, Cicchiello, MacKenzie, Carlson and Deeble. ABSTAINED; Hardy. Motion passed 5-0-1.

3d. Appointments

**MOTION (7)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Ellie Greenberg, 57 Arbor Crossing, East Lyme, to serve as a Representative on the Eastern Regional Tourism District Board of Directors on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on December 7, 2026.

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

**MOTION (8)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Ann Dagle, 5 Riverhead Lane, East Lyme, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 7, 2030.

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

**MOTION (9)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Donald Hull, 43 Cardinal Road, East Lyme, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 7, 2030.

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

**MOTION (10)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Pat Larkin, 14 Oak Hill Drive, East Lyme, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 7, 2030.

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

**MOTION (11)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Jaime Barr Shelburn, 31 McElaney Drive, Niantic, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 3, 2028.

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

**MOTION (12)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Jennifer Brush, 49 Spring Rock Road, East Lyme, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 3, 2028.

Seconded by Ms. Carlson. IN FAVOR; Cunningham, Cicchiello, MacKenzie, Carlson and Deeble. ABSTAINED; Hardy. Motion passed 5-0-1.

**MOTION (13)**

Ms. Cicchiello MOVED to appoint Margaret Chiapporie, 39 Upper Pattagansett Road, Unit 6, East Lyme, to serve as a Member on the Youth, Family and Human Services Commission on behalf of the Town of East Lyme with a term to expire on January 3, 2028.

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

3e. McCooks Beach Sea Wall

**MOTION (14)**

Ms. Cicchiello **MOVED** to approve a special appropriation in the amount of \$25,000 from remaining unexpended American Rescue funds to a new ARPA Account 85-70-008-700-802 "McCooks Beach Seawall" for a temporary fix to prevent further erosion, and forward to the Board of Finance for approval. Note: This requires a town meeting.  
Seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion passed 6-0.

4a. Ex-Officio Reports

Mr. Deeble reported:

- Harbor Management Shellfish Commission is applying to place a speed marker south of the bridge.
- Board of Education appointed two new members.

Ms. Carlson reported:

- The Short-Term Rental ad hoc committee met with the Town Attorney present and had a lengthy discussion with many questions asked. The next meeting is scheduled for January 16<sup>th</sup>, with a public hearing tentatively planned for January 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Parks and Recreation discussed their budget and appointed two members.

4b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Cunningham reported:

- Board of Finance appointed Denise Hall as the temporary chairperson.
- Board of Education will begin reporting quarterly to the Board of Finance; currently they report monthly.
- Police Commission discussed that this year's Light Parade had the highest attendance ever, with no mutual aid necessary.
- The new exit 74 northbound ramp is open; this project is just in the beginning stages.
- Our Police Department is the only fully accredited department in Connecticut.
- As First Selectman, he is now Chair of the Water and Sewer Commission.
- The meter replacement project is 96% complete.
- Went to a meet and greet with Warden Sexton and staff at York Correctional Institute.
- They are implementing an aerospace machine shop and will begin producing parts for the industry. They are paid prevailing wages and will keep the job once leaving York CI.

5. Communications

Letter from Superintendent of Schools Jeff Newton supporting the plans for enhancement at Darrow Pond, attached hereto as Exhibit #1.

6. Public Comments

There were none.

7. Selectman's Response

There was none.

**MOTION (15)**

Ms. Cicchiello **MOVED** to adjourn the December 20, 2023, regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 8:40 p.m.  
Seconded by Ms. Carlson. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted, *Sandra Anderson*

Recording Secretary

Exhibit #1



**EAST LYME PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
P.O. Box 220 • East Lyme, Connecticut 06333 • (860) 739-3966 • Fax (860) 739-1215

Board of  
Selectmen

DEC 20 23

Agenda Item  
# 30

Jeffrey R. Newton  
*Superintendent of Schools*

Annaliese Spaziano  
*Assistant Superintendent of  
Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment*

Kimberly Davis  
*Director of  
Student Services*

Maryanna Stevens, CPA  
*Director of Finance, Marketing,  
and Growth Management*

RECEIVED

NOV 29 23

First Selectman  
East Lyme, CT

November 27, 2023

Board of Selectmen  
East Lyme Town Hall  
108 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Niantic, CT 06357

Dear Members of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen:

This letter signifies East Lyme Public Schools' support for the Darrow Pond Subcommittee and their proposal for program development in creating a multi-use public area in the vicinity of Darrow Pond. This development would provide our East Lyme school system with excellent learning opportunities for all students at varying grade levels. Particularly, our high school science classes could safely utilize the area to do ecological studies of both land and water.

Providing a designated space for additional experiential learning opportunities for students would be an amazing benefit to our science curriculum and would allow students to further study wildlife, observe wetlands and vernal pools, while also exploring the surroundings that Darrow Pond has to offer. Hence, we fully support this project given its amazing potential to serve both the school community and greater East Lyme community.

If I may be of any further assistance in the support of this program development, please contact me at [jeffrey.newton@elpsk12.org](mailto:jeffrey.newton@elpsk12.org) or 860-739-3966 x5602.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Newton  
Superintendent of Schools

JN:cbg