

Youth, Family and Human Services Commission Meeting
Olive Chendali, East Lyme Community Center
January 9, 2025, 6:00 pm
Regular Meeting

Present:

D. Hull – Chairman
J. Brush
L. McGowan
J. Shelburn

Absent: A. Dagle, S. Miller, V. Brush (student rep)

Also present: Youth and Family Services Director, S. Firmin, Ex-officio, C. Carlson

Call to Order:

Chairman D. Hull called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Public Delegation:

No members of the public were present.

Minutes:

J. Shelburn moved to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by L. McGowan.

Approved unanimously.

Director's Report:

- a) Director, S. Firmin, shared Youth and Family Services was not awarded the Cannabis grant and informed the commission of the feedback received from the grant committee that influenced their decision.
- b) S. Firmin also noted Youth and Family Services was not awarded the Youth Led grant through Governor Lamont. This grant was extremely competitive with over 200 submissions.
- c) It is being proposed in the budget FY 25/26 to move the Wellness and Prevention Coordinator position to full time in January 2026.

Ex-Officious Report:

- a) Ex-Officio, C. Carlson, discussed the renaming of Mainstreet park, the hazard mitigation plan, possible use of the Dominion building, pension and insurance issues, and CIP and BOS budget schedules.

Student Report:

No report.

Communications:

No communications to report.

Cassidy M. McGowan
TOWN CLERK

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Unfinished Business:

- a) Chairman, D. Hull informed the commission the drug boxes for the police department have been purchased. S. Firmin will be using the opioid settlement funds to reimburse the police department.
- b) D. Hull and S. Firmin presented the revised budget proposal for FY25/26. It was pointed out that the finance director has asked the department heads to keep the projected budgets at a 0% increase. However, some of the line items in the Youth and Family Services budget increased due to the town social worker moving from under the COA department to Youth and Family Services, as well as the request for the Wellness and Prevention Coordinator to become full time in January, in addition to the request for a PT case manager.
- c) J. Shelburn stressed the importance of explaining during the upcoming budget presentations the town social worker position is a reallocation of funds from one department to another.

New Business:

- a) S. Firmin went through the capital improvement plan requests for a shed and prowise board.
- b) J. Shelburn made the recommendation to check with the school administration to see if there is a prowise board not being used.
- c) S. Firmin discussed a future capital improvement plan request to renovate the Youth Center.
- d) D. Hull reported on the November law enforcement conference attended by two officers and the plan to send additional officers in the future.
- e) D. Hull suggested to fill the vacant commission member spot with another police officer. D. Hull informed the commission of two officers that are interested in joining and gave a background on each one. The commission felt it would be a good idea to have both parties on the commission.

Adjournment: J. Shelburn motioned to adjourn at 6:55pm, seconded by J. Brush. Approved unanimously.