

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF APRIL 4, 2012
MINUTES

PRESENT: Paul M. Formica, Mark Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Holly Cheeseman, Rob Wilson, Rose Ann Hardy.

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and led the Pledge.

1b. Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items

MOTION (1)

Mr. Nickerson moved to add Item 2d. EL Agribusiness – Request for Proclamation to the April 4, 2012 agenda.

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

1c. Delegations

There were none.

1d. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of March 21, 2012

Ms. Hardy noted on page 5, Item 3a., line 6, the monetary figure should be \$200,000.

Mr. Formica noted on the same page, third line, Ms. Hardy's question had not been answered and the response of "Yes" should be added as made by Mr. Formica.

MOTION (2)

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 21, 2012 as amended.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy.

Aye: Mr. Formica, Mr. Nickerson, Mr. Seery, Ms. Cheeseman, Ms. Hardy.

Nay: None.

Abstain: Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0-1.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (3)

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of April 4, 2012 in the amount of \$22.10.

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

2a. Special Appropriation - \$17,250 – Emergency Management

Mr. Formica noted that these were all reimbursable grants and approved for reimbursement by the State.

MOTION (4)

Mr. Nickerson moved to approve a special appropriation of \$17,250 and to establish budget accounts as follows: EOC Kitchen Renovation – \$5,825, Communications Equipment, Batteries and Office Supplies - \$2,750, Equipment Storage Shed - \$5,175 and Maintenance of Backup generator and radios - \$3,500 and forward to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting for approval.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Ms. Hardy noted that the equipment storage shed meet the zoning requirements.

Mr. Wilson said that the Board of Education has numerous sheds that have been there forever. He said he is totally against doing what we need to do for emergency management.

Mr. Formica said that he will have the Zoning Official look at this and find the appropriate location.

Motion passed 6-0.

2b. Appointment – Youth Services

MOTION (5)

Mr. Nickerson moved to appoint Ann Loder Block of 28 Stoneywood Drive, Niantic, CT to serve on the Youth Services Commission through January 6, 2014.

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

2c. Discussion – OPSAIL12 / CEL

Mr. Formica noted that developments have been occurring in the past few weeks which changed the tall ship event. He noted that Sailfest will occur on July 6th and therefore, it did not make sense to have Celebrate East Lyme at the same time. He stressed that we will be supporting Opsail however, we will move the ceremonies to McCook's and there will be no fireworks that evening. He suggested instead to have a sidewalk festival and to move Celebrate East Lyme back to the 29th Saturday which would be July 21st.

Ms. Hardy agreed with the changes noting this was a much better plan.

Ms. Cheeseman commended the First Selectman and the Opsail / CEL Committee for coming to this excellent solution.

Mr. Formica noted that a press release has been sent out detailing the changes.

2d. Agribusiness Proclamation Request

Mr. Formica read the letter from Mark Christensen dated March 21st into the record (identified as Attachment A).

Ms. Hardy noted that this request was coming forward so that the document could be enclosed with grant applications to show that they have the legislative body's support.

MOTION (6)

Ms. Hardy moved the following:

PROCLAMATION

The East Lyme Selectmen recognize Agriculture as defined by Connecticut General Statutes 1-1(q) benefits the Town in many ways.

Agriculture has economic benefits including jobs, agri-business and efficient tax revenue from farmland.

Additionally, certain Agriculture related business can bring tourists to spend money in Town.

Finally, farmland offers scenic vistas for all and can help protect water quality and reduce water runoff.

Therefore, be it known that the East Lyme Board of Selectmen supports Agriculture in East Lyme.

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

3a. Samuel Smith House

Ms. Hardy said that they would be using this fact sheet along with some pictures to inform the public. She reminded the Board that there are two grants available, one for up to \$200,000 for the purchase of the house and the second grant from DEEP is for open space with a 50% match (with the potential of 65%) and a 50% match by the town. She said that the first grant must be submitted by October. She said that both grants will need 2 appraisals, the first appraisal to be finished – covering both parcels and another appraisal valuing the both parcels. She said that the grant writer will cost \$4700.

Mr. Formica said that he has been playing phone tag up until this week with the owners. He said that he will contact them and get a set price. He said that this Board made an appropriation of \$400 for a partial appraisal and two full appraisals will cost \$1500. He added he will talk to the Planner and get the appraisals done, noting that they cannot be dated until after April 28th.

Ms. Hardy noted her concerns with the timeline. The information needs to get out to the people, Selectmen and Board of Finance have to vote, a public hearing needs to be held and then a town vote.

Mr. Seery said that he is supportive of the project however to get this item on the ballot we will need a price and information out and action by both Boards. He said the rush to

the May ballot may well set this up for failure. He said he would rather wait, inform the people and added that you really cannot plan on receiving money from grants.

Mr. Formica suggested calling the Registrars and seeing if there was a primary in June.

Ms. Hardy was concerned about making the grant deadlines. She said that the Town needs to show that the money is in a separate account for this purchase and she believed that we were obligated to go to referendum. She asked if the asking price for the parcels could be added to the budget.

Mr. Formica said it would be almost impossible to add \$500,000 to the budget since Finance had just cut the budget by \$42,000 and would be cutting more.

LuAnne Lange said that they will be having an open house at the site.

Mr. Formica noted he would be charged with moving the appraisals forward. He said it might be possible to address the item on May 2nd with the Selectmen, May 9th with the Board of Finance and a Special Town Meeting on May 16th. He said that we could vote on the grant writer appropriation at the meeting of May 2nd.

Mr. Nickerson stressed the need for a proposed budget for maintenance for five years. He said the Board and the public need to know future costs along with purchasing costs.

Ms. Hardy thanked Ms. Lange and Art Carlson for all the work and effort they have expended on this.

5a. Ex-Officio

Mr. Wilson had no report.

Mr. Seery had no report.

Ms. Hardy had no report. She added that the Zoning Commission meeting is canceled for 4/5.

Mr. Nickerson had no report.

Ms. Cheeseman said she attended the Planning Commission meeting which was brief and where they endorsed the Children's Museum's use of the Town building. She said they also discussed a zoning referral for a special use district.

5b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Formica said he attended a bridge meeting for Amtrak. He added that they will be asking for 20 closures from May 5th – August.

He attended a rice bowl fundraiser.

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He spoke at Reverend Rogers retirement.

He announced that there will be a National Drug Take Back Day at the Commission on Aging on April 28th from 10 – 2 to dispose of any unwanted or old prescriptions. He added that on May 5th from 9 – 12 there will be a shred day for documents at the Commission on Aging and if someone wants material picked up, they should call by May 1st.

Ms. Cheeseman commended the First Selectman for supporting organ donations noting this was an important valuable activity and urged everyone to donate.

Ms. Hardy noted a vacancy on the Commission on Aging and invited anyone interested to tour the Samuel Smith House on April 7th from 1-4 on Plants Dam Road.

MOTION (7)

Mr. Wilson moved to adjourn the April 4, 2012 meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 8:47 p.m.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary