

TOWN OF EAST LYME

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Paul Formica, First Selectman

Rose Ann Hardy

Kevin Seery

Rob Wilson

Mark Nickerson

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
Sept 22 2014 AT 10:00 AM/PM
(illegible signature)
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Members Absent:

Holly Cheeseman

Also Present:

Anna Johnson, Finance Director

Bill Scheer

Tracy Collins, Town Attorney

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

1A. PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed at the Town Meeting immediately prior.

1B. ADDITIONAL AGENDA & CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

There were no additional Agenda and Consent Calendar Items.

1C. DELEGATIONS

There were no public delegations.

1D1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2014

Motion (1) Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2014 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Seery.

Motion Passed 5-0.

1D2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2014

Motion (2) Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2014 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Motion Passed 5-0.

1E. CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion (3) Mr. Nickerson moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of September 17, 2014 in the amount of \$517.45.

Seconded by Mr. Seery.

Motion Passed 5-0.

2 NEW BUSINESS

2A. CHECKING OF THE INDICES – TOWN CLERK

Motion (4) Mr. Nickerson moved to appoint Attorney William Willetts Jr. of 216 Broad Street, New London, CT to examine the indices of the land records for the calendar year 2014 in accordance with CGS Section 7-14 for the sum of \$2000.00.

Seconded by Mr. Seery.

Motion Passed 5-0.

3 UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3A. CARE HERE – CONTINUED DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

Mr. Formica stated that Attorney Collins has gone over the contract. It has been available in his office for review. The contract satisfies the attorneys and CIRMA. He is proposing that the town participate in this. Care Here would manage the clinic. The town would hire the doctor and nurse. This is for the benefit of the town employees and for the town. We are thinking outside the box as to health care. This would be for employees and their families. The town is self-insured. There are three appointments made per hour. There is no waiting. Generic drugs would be available for free. Blood work would be done through a national network. Employees can still go to their general physician. They also do biometric screenings and provide a health coach.

Anna Johnson stated the potential savings projected by Care Here are \$226,000 in year one, 1.2 million dollars by year 3 and 3.3 million dollars by year 5. Those numbers are based on every employee using the service, with an estimated 2155 visits per year.

Mr. Formica stated this would be the first Care Here Clinic in Connecticut. There are three proposals for locations. One being an addition to the Community Center, one is a lease of space at the Midway Mall, and one is for a lease on Hope Street.

Ms. Hardy asked if employees could go during the day.

Mr. Formica stated it would be as they do now, either taking personal or sick time for a doctor's appointment.

Ms. Hardy asked about the additional work for the finance department, and the work that will be done for the build out to the space.

Mr. Formica stated we may be able to do most of the build out work ourselves, except for plumbing and electrical. He asked Mrs. Johnson about the cost to the finance department.

Anna Johnson stated she doesn't believe this will be any additional work for her office. Her office would not be handling any medical records. The work for her office would be similar to what it is now.

Ms. Hardy stated she is reluctant to spend money on a build out on a property that the town doesn't own. The library has already requested additional space and they were turned down. There are two existing clinics in town that are taxpaying.

Mr. Seery stated this is an innovative move to the future. Because we are self-insured we pay the premiums. It is cheaper for the town if employees go to this instead of the clinic in town. There is also a prescription savings. There is also no co-pay.

Mr. Formica stated a number of retirees still remain on our health plan. This will be open to them as well.

Mr. Nickerson stated this is forward thinking and it's a great idea. We will have to make sure it catches on. There are needs at the Community Center for space, but we can start this sooner if we lease a property.

Mr. Wilson stated this is based around insurance, so kids at the age of 26 would not be able to be involved.

Mr. Formica stated he believes it would mirror the insurance.

Mr. Wilson asked about the co-pay.

Mr. Formica stated there would not be a co-pay. Also if someone has the HSA he believes the co-pay may be \$5.00.

Mr. Wilson asked about room at Lillie B. Haynes or Niantic Center.

Mr. Formica stated there is a perfect spot at Niantic Center, but there are concerns about the clinic being open while school is in session.

Mr. Wilson stated he would like us to find a place we already own.

Ms. Hardy stated \$35,000 seems to be on the low side for the build out.

Mr. Scheer stated for the leased space only walls would have to be added to the interiors and a few doors would have to be changed. They would also have to add Air Conditioning. Our employees can do the walls, doors, and floor. A plumber would have to do an ADA bathroom. New circuits would have to be done by an electrician. He believes \$35,000 could do it, and that may be high.

Mr. Formica stated he would like to add it to the Senior Center. He believes if we try it for a couple years and see where we are then adding onto the Senior Center would make sense then if it's a success.

Ms. Hardy asked about liability to the town.

Attorney Collins stated the contract has been looked at by the town's insurance company. The town is covered.

Ms. Hardy asked about the potential to be sued if there was an accident.

Attorney Collins stated this would be no different than other claims against the town.

Mr. Nickerson asked about medical malpractice.

Attorney Collins stated the doctor is required to have medical malpractice insurance.

Ms. Hardy stated she is not ready to support this. The Town has just switched to Aetna and there have been numerous problems and the Unions have all filed grievances. She would be willing to review the contract and give it consideration.

Mr. Formica stated he doesn't think every Union grieved the medical insurance, in fact he doesn't know of any that did.

Mr. Seery stated this doesn't change any current health care contract.

Mr. Wilson asked about the Niantic Center option.

Mr. Scheer stated the build out for Niantic Center would be about \$125,000.

Mr. Nickerson stated it's probably not a good time to do in a school.

Mr. Formica stated it makes sense to look at other options. He suggested they authorize him to sign the contract and then we can begin the process.

Mr. Wilson stated he would like it to be on town owned property.

Motion (5) Mr. Nickerson moved to approve authorizing the First Selectman to sign a contract with Care Here.

Ms. Hardy asked where the funding from this will come.

Mr. Formica stated it will come from the health care fund.

Ms. Hardy stated she will not vote in favor of this and she has not reviewed the contract.

Mr. Formica stated he will have to come back with options on locations.

Mr. Seery stated he is in favor of this but he would like more information on where it will be.

Seconded by Mr. Seery.

Mr. Formica stated he can begin the process and Mr. Scheer and himself will look into more options for locations.

Motion Passed 4-1 (Ms. Hardy – Nay)

4. COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

5. INFORMATION AND REPORTS

5A. EX-OFFICIO

Mr. Seery stated there was no Inland Wetlands Meeting, Harbor Management was last night. Last Friday he attended Jeffrey's 5k Run. It was a very nice event.

Ms. Hardy stated she attended the Board of Education meeting. She also attended the Planning Commission meeting.

5B. FIRST SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Mr. Formica stated there are discussions with Old Lyme regarding the beach communities and sewage disposal. They are in the beginnings of those negotiations. He attended a FEMA monitored drill at Millstone. He met with an architect at Corrigan for a potential animal control facility outside the fence. A second architect will also look at it. He attended a Niantic Center School PTA meeting. Police contract negotiations are continuing they met last week. He attended the Chinese Harvest Fall Festival at the Middle School. He attended Heritage Fest in New London. He attended the Senior High School class picnic. Last night there was a fundraiser for the Brian Dagle Foundation for suicide prevention. The ELMS has been shuttered and the people have been moved out. The Town had to rent about 20 rooms at the Niantic Motel for the people that were moved out. He attended the first graduation ceremony for Kumon at their new building. The water conservation measures are still in effect. Work began a month ago on the Boardwalk.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

7. SELECTMEN'S RESPONSE

There was no selectmen's response.

Motion (6) Mr. Seery moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Nickerson.

Motion Passed 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen Miller Galbo".

**Karen Miller Galbo
Recording Secretary Pro-Tem**