

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 3, 2012

MEETING MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Paul Formica, First Selectman

Rose Ann Hardy

Kevin Seery

Holly Cheeseman

Rob Wilson

FILED IN EAST LYME
October 9, 2012 AT 8:30 AM

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mark Nickerson

Brian D. Hovey ATC
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

ALSO PRESENT:

Ed O'Connell, Town Attorney

Bill Scheer, Town Engineer

1a. Pledge of Allegiance

There was a Pledge of Allegiance at the Town Meeting immediately prior to this Regular Meeting.

b. Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items

There were no additional items.

c. Delegations

Karen Rak, 27 Black Point Road stated she would like the Board of Selectmen to consider as future agenda items the transparency of the town government and having the check register online. She thinks that would be helpful as well as contracts, and the names of individuals who are lobbying for the town. She wants them to choose wisely where the taxpayer money is going.

Ron Rando, 194 Boston Post Road is upset tonight because he wanted to go to the meeting at the High School regarding the new buildings, and that is an important meeting, and he thinks they should have scheduled these meetings on opposite nights. He also questioned where the new entrance to the High School and Flanders School will be.

Luane Lange of the Historic Properties Commission stated they need to have a conversation about how the contract with the grant writer will be written, and who will enter the contract with her.

Motion (1) Ms. Hardy moved to add under New Business Item D – Discussion – Grant Writer Contract for Samuel Smith House.

Seconded by Ms. Cheeseman.

Motion Passed 5-0.

d1. Approval of Minutes, Public Informational Meeting of September 19, 2012

Motion (2) Mr. Wilson moved to approve the Public Information Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2012.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy.

Motion Passed 5-0.

d2. Approval of Minutes, Regular Meeting of September 19, 2012

Motion (3) Ms. Hardy moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2012.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Motion Passed 5-0.

e. Consent Calendar

Motion (4) Mr. Seery moved to approve the Consent Calendar in the amount of \$2154.35.

Seconded by Ms. Hardy.

Motion Passed 5-0.

2. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion – High School Athletic Complex

Bill Scheer the Town Engineer is present, and is on the Committee overseeing the construction at the High School

Mr. Formica stated the entrance between the Fire House and the Laundromat is intended for a stop light. They are going to complete the build out first then do the traffic counts and studies needed to obtain the light. This will also enable the Fire Department to control the light in an emergency. Eventually it will serve as an entrance to the Flanders School and the High School. Eventually they will close the entrance that is presently at the Flanders School.

Mr. Scheer stated the project is moving quickly. November 17th is the anticipated completion date.

Ms. Hardy stated there were questions raised by the public at delegations at the last meeting. She would like help from Mr. Scheer to understand the process and once the contract is given out does it state that the contractor has disposal rights?

Mr. Scheer stated that is correct. The contract outlines the specifications of the job. It does reflect disposal of items. The Town wanted the top soil taken to the transfer station. Any other materials became the property of the contractor.

Ms. Hardy asked if when the contract is signed the value of the products that are being disposed of is determined by the Town.

Mr. Scheer stated the contractor has a value and subtracts accordingly as to items they can make money on by disposing, they would subtract that value out of their bid. He does not know how they value them. There would be a base bid and the Town can negotiate the value of the bid down once they do determine the value of certain items. For example the bleachers which were made of wood and steel had a certain value to the contractor who would be disposing of them.

Ms. Hardy asked if a Contractor uses a sub-contractor would the Town see that contract.

Mr. Scheer stated the Town would not see those contracts. He then stated the Contractor gave the light poles to the Waterford Youth Football League, he does not know what happened to the Press Box or the scoreboard.

Ms. Hardy stated we should make materials available to town residents.

Mr. Seery stated the visitor bleachers were re-assembled at the East Lyme Youth Football field.

Ms. Hardy stated she sees a need for us to look at our policies and see if we are making materials reasonably available to our own taxpayers.

b. Disposal of Properties

Mr. Formica stated there is a process as to the disposal of property within the Town. Inventory of property is up to the respective departments. One benefit of opening the Colton Road

facility is that they can now further control the inventory. Everything has been organized and is better controlled. He hopes to have a full time manager in that building to manage personnel and equipment. At the Town Hall everything that is bought goes through his office.

Ms. Hardy asked about filing cabinets and chairs.

Mr. Formica stated if she was to ask him to produce a book of every chair he cannot do that, but there is a purchase order for everything. He thinks they are in pretty good shape.

Ms. Hardy asked if there was some way to get on the website materials to be disposed of and make them available to residents.

Mr. Formica stated when they got new copiers they had bidding for copiers and people were aggrieved that we didn't advertise, but advertising would have cost more than was made on the machines.

Ms. Hardy stated if people knew of the availability of items it wouldn't appear that someone got something because of insider information. She will propose something for the Board to consider.

c. Dispatch Contract

Motion (4) Mr. Seery moved to approve the Agreement with the Town of East Lyme and the Local 1303-436 AFSCME Dispatchers Union for the time frame of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015.

Seconded by Ms. Cheeseman.

Motion Passed 5-0.

d. Discussion – Grant Writer Contract for Samuel Smith House

Mr. Formica stated the grant writer will cost \$2800.00. He previously suggested the Historic Properties Commission do a fundraiser to raise the money and he offered up the first \$100.00. He doesn't know what has happened since then. The Town did pay for the appraisal with Town money.

Ms. Hardy asked if the grant writer was willing to wait for her money.

Luane Lange stated usually she gets 1/3 at the beginning of her work, but she has agreed to start without prepayment. The real issue is who the contract is with.

Attorney O'Connell stated the Historic Properties Commission should enter the contract to obtain services of the grant writer who would prepare the application on behalf of the Town.

Ms. Hardy asked if they have the 1/3 to pay her.

Luane Lange said they do have the 1/3 to pay.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Continued Discussion – Dominion Dry Cask Storage/Proposed Letter

Mr. Formica read a draft letter that Ms. Hardy wrote on the Board of Selectmen's behalf.

Everyone was willing to sign the letter, and Ms. Hardy will reformat the letter and bring it to the next meeting with blanks for signatures.

4. Communications

There were no communications.

5. Information and Reports

a. Ex-Officio

Ms. Cheeseman stated the Town Building Committee did not meet. She attended the 20th Anniversary of an AHEPA building to offer them congratulations.

Ms. Hardy stated she attended the September 24th meeting of the Board of Education where they discussed enrollment and concerns were expressed as to the size of the third grade classes at Lillie B. Haynes School. They will be adding a 6/10 instructional assistant to float among the classes to assist with reading and math. There is a big public discussion tonight regarding what to do about the elementary school buildings.

Mr. Seery did not attend any meetings.

b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Formica stated he attended the groundbreaking of the Charter Oak Federal Credit Union in Waterford, which also has a 250 seat community room.

He met with Lori Mathieu at the Department of Public Health. The crossing of the Latimer Brook by Silver Falls is going smooth.

He attended a GEICO ribbon cutting, the Niantic Fire Department Picnic, a Water and Sewer Commission meeting. Council of Governments Executive Committee Meeting, a DEEP event, and a Board of Finance meeting.

They are in mediation on the Town Hall/Public Works Union Contract.

He attended the celebration at the Middle School for the honor of the Middle School of the Year.

The Town's bond counsel, Attorney D'ercole's wife passed away and he attended her funeral today.

6. Public Comment

Mr. Rando asked if the grant writer expense was a surprise expense.

Mr. Formica stated it was talked about early in the discussions, and the Town paid for the appraisals.

Mr. Rando stated he is not too impressed with the report on the ball fields. The gravel and topsoil should have gone out for bid and sold. The scoreboard was smashed by a backhoe. He doesn't feel 25 kids in a class are too much.

Karen Rak thanked the Board of Selectmen for their explanations. She does think it's troubling that we do not know the value of the assets that are being disposed of. She thinks we need a comprehensive asset management program. Perhaps it wouldn't be that much money, but it is taxpayer money. She would like to know the overall value of everything disposed of. The Historic Properties Commission needs to come up with that \$2800.00. It makes her suspect how the renovations of the house will go. They need to show some skin in the game.

7. Selectmen's Response

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Miller Galbo

Recording Secretary Pro-Tem