

Recorded June 25 2015

(AM)

11:00 PM Lesley A. Blais

East Lyme Town Clerk

TOWN OF EAST LYME  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
JUNE 22, 2015

Moderator, Eugene Cushman, called the Special Town Meeting to order at 7:00 PM at the East Lyme Town Hall. Mark Nickerson led the assembly in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. Town Clerk, Lesley Blais, read the Notice of the meeting and stated that said Notice was signed by a majority of all of the Selectmen, had been posted on the Town signpost and that a copy thereof had been published in The Day, a newspaper published in the City of New London and of general circulation in the Town of East Lyme and filed in the Town Clerk's office.

The Moderator stated that in accordance with Section 7-6 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, as amended, only an elector of the Town or a citizen of the United States of the age of eighteen years or more who names appear on the Grand List of October 1, 2014 and are liable to the Town for taxes assessed against him based on an assessment of not less than \$1,000 are eligible. Moderator then stated that we have received communications from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance for items 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 of the call and therefore won't be addressed.

Item #2 of the Call: To consider and act upon a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$40,000 For The Planning, Design And Construction Of The East Lyme High School Baseball Field Dugouts And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$40,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose.

First Selectman, Mark Nickerson stated that this item has been stricken because it did not pass the Board of Finance.

Item #4 of the Call: To consider and act upon a resolution entitled "Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$900,000 For The Rehabilitation Of Various Town Roads And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$900,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose.

Motion was made by Kevin Seery and seconded by Steve Kelley to move the motion.

Mark Nickerson stated this item comes up every year. We spend \$900,000 in bonding money that is dedicated to town roads. Due to this year's winter weather, this item is most necessary. Attorney Tracy Collins added more information from the resolution saying that this money included the reconstruction, grinding and overlay, chip sealing, crack sealing and administrative financing and costs relating to the issuance thereto.

Ron Rando questioned if there was any money from the State for these roads and Joe Bragaw, Director of Public Works stated \$162,000 came from the State. He also asked if any money is put into the CNRE accounts for roads and Mark Nickerson stated no.

Moderator called for a vote. Item #4 of the call was adopted.

Item #6 of the Call: To consider and act upon the resolution entitled "Resolution Making Appropriations Aggregating \$1,090,000 For Various Capital Improvements And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,090,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriations And Pending The Issuance Thereof The

Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.

Motion was made by Chuck Holyfield and seconded by Kevin Seery to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson stated our gas/diesel tanks are coming to the end of their life. They're 26-27 years old and can't be used past 30 years old. The plan now is to put a fueling station at the 8 Capitol Drive location where our highway department now exists and also keep a diesel tank at Roxbury Road for our buses and possibly our fire trucks to reload there. Also, we are going to be asking for a replacement of the salt shed which is now at Roxbury Road. This will be a much larger one that can contain the entire season's salt.

There being no discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #6 of the call was adopted.

Item #8 of the Call: To consider and act upon the resolution entitled “Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$1,300,000 For The Acquisition Of A Tower Truck Fire Apparatus And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,300,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”.

Motion made by Rob Wilson and seconded by Deb Levandoski to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson stated that the fire department has located a truck that is already being built so with that comes a demo price. We don't have to pay the larger sum for custom ordering saving the town money. There is a liability issue with our current truck with a tilted ladder. This new truck will be made available since it is already being built, six to nine months sooner than a custom order.

Dan Summers, Deputy Chief of the Flanders Fire Department stated that this truck will have a larger pump and a different cab. The height and length will fit the underpasses and the station. There is potential for a savings of \$158,000 plus a potential for approximately \$5000 more for a prebuy of the chassey. New England Fire Equipment is willing to give us a trade-in of \$9000 or we could take it to auction or use it for scrap ourselves. It should be available for delivery in mid-September.

Ron Rando feels that we don't need this truck because we already have one in Niantic. He stated this is too much money to spend now when times are tough.

Jim Levandoski, Fire Chief of the Flanders Fire Department stated we are actually looking at numbers of approximately a little more than half of the \$1,300,000 appropriation. Mark Nickerson stated we will not be spending any more money than is necessary.

After no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #8 of the call was adopted.

Item #10 of the call: To consider and act upon the resolution entitled “Resolution Amending A Resolution Making An Appropriation In The Amount Of \$715,000 For The Planning, Design, Rehabilitation And Improvement Of The Tennis Court Facility And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$715,000 Bonds Of The Town To Meet Said Appropriation And Pending The Issuance Thereof The Making Of Temporary Borrowings For Such Purpose”. (Said Resolution Amendment increases the amount of the prior appropriation and bond authorization from \$715,000 to \$820,000)

Motion was made by Rob Wilson and seconded by Steve Carpenteri to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson explained that generally when we do the resolutions, we have a firm number. In this particular case, two or three years ago, digging up the tennis facility we didn't. We dug up the facility that

was there and found there was debris underneath and swamp like conditions. The people that were in charge at the time made a good educated guess as to the cost but they were \$105,000 off. Tonight we will not be voting on the tennis court lights. What was voted on a few years ago by the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance and by a Town Meeting included lights so what we are looking for are the funds to finish this project.

Susan Welshock, the boys high school tennis coach, stated that the tennis court gets used 7 days a week. This is the only tennis court in town. We have a very impressive facility. The high school uses it as well as the community. One reason the lights are needed is that the community uses it more after work hours.

Mike Schulz would like to see the money raised by the players.

There being no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #10 of the call was adopted.

Item #11 of the call: To approve a Special Appropriation of \$329,800 from the CNRE for various projects consistent with the Capital Improvement Plan:

Cad Software & Survey Equipment	\$4,000
Town Projects (Roofs)	\$50,000
HVAC Replacement Town-wide	\$37,000
Sidewalk Repair – Town-wide	\$35,000
Town Projects – Various	\$50,000
Equipment for acquisition of police vehicles	\$40,000
Revaluation	<u>\$113,800</u>
TOTAL	\$329,800

Motion was made by Steve Kelley and seconded by Rob Wilson to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson stated the resolution speaks for itself. This is the CNRE which is something we plan through our Capital Improvement Program. It is money set aside for various issues that come up such as roof repair or sidewalk repair and others. It's a good management plan for the town.

There being no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #11 of the call was adopted.

Item #12 of the call: To approve an appropriation in the amount of \$45,000 for an Animal Control Vehicle from CNRE Fund 32 consistent with the Town's 2015/2016 Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion was made by Kevin Seery and seconded by Steve Kelley to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson explained that we received a \$25,000 grant from Dominion so we will provide the remaining \$20,000. Our agreement with Waterford is we provide the vehicle and they provide the facility and we split the cost of the officer/dog catcher.

Hearing no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #12 of the call was adopted.

Item #13 of the call: To approve an appropriation in the amount of \$417,056 for the purpose of acquiring by way of lease or purchase various vehicles and equipment more particularly described in the Town's FY 2015/16 Equipment Acquisition Plan as evidenced by one or more agreements for the acquisition of said vehicles by lease or purchase or a combination thereof, for a total price of \$400,000 plus interest at the rate of 1.66% per annum, payable in annual installments of \$83,412 (\$6,950.92/month) over a period of (5) five years. The First Selectman is authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver

any documents that may be required in connection with said transactions.

Motion was made by Chuck Holyfield and seconded by Rob Wilson to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson explained this is our Vehicle Acquisition Program. It was set in motion six or seven years ago by Chuck Holyfield who has done an outstanding job in assessing our needs and spreading out the needs so they don't come all at once. We have a fleet that has been updated steadily through the years. We are now at the point where we are not acquiring as much because we have purchased many vehicles and equipment. There are two items heading to the highway department this year. These items are a dump truck for \$155,000 and a pay loader for \$175,000. The other two vehicles are police vehicles at \$35,000 each.

There being no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #13 of the call was adopted.

Item #14 of the call: To approve an appropriation of up to \$25,240 for DOT 2015 from a High Risk Rural Roads-Speed Enforcement Grant.

Motion was made by Rose Ann Hardy and seconded by Deb Levendoski to adopt the item.

Mark Nickerson explained our police will be using this grant out in our rural roads for speed enforcement. It will also be used for new laser guns, hand held laser units and to pay for the man power.

There being no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #14 of the call was adopted.

Item #15 of the call: To approve an appropriation in the amount of \$325,072 for the purpose of acquiring by way of lease or purchase or a combination thereof, various new computer and smart board equipment for the High School, Middle School, Niantic Center School, Lillie B Hayes School, Flanders School and the Central Office more particularly described in the East Lyme Public Schools Proposed Year One Replacement Plan 2015/16 and a new Student Information System for a total price of \$311,729 plus interest at the rate of 1.66% per annum, payable in annual installments of \$65,015 (\$5,417.86/month) over a period of five (5) years.

Motion was made by Steve Carpenteri and seconded by Kevin Seery to adopt the item.

Jeff Newton, Superintendent of Schools, stated the breakdown of the costs include \$200,000 for the replacement of computer items, monitors and projectors. Another \$20,000 will be for Smart Boards and \$91,000 is allocated for a new student information managing system.

There being no further discussion, moderator called for a vote. Item #15 of the call was adopted.

Motion was made by Kevin Seery and seconded by Chuck Holyfield to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lesley A Blais  
Town Clerk