

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR OPPOSITION TO CONNECTICUT STATE POLICE TRAINING FACILITY
11 RYE STREET
BROAD BROOK, CT 06016

Special Meeting Minutes

Friday, September 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michael S. Scalzo, Chairman

Dale Nelson

Gary Mazzone

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Dale Nelson on Friday, September 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Windsor Town Hall.

MOTION made by Dale Nelson to recess for five minutes until the meeting room was ready. Motion seconded by Mike Scalzo. In Favor: Nelson, Scalzo, Mazzone. Opposed: None

2. ATTENDANCE

Michael S. Scalzo

Dale A. Nelson

Gary Mazzone

3. AGENDA ITEMS

a) Election of Chairperson

MOTION made by Gary Mazzone to appoint Michael S. Scalzo Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for Opposition to the Connecticut State Police Training Facility for a term of 18 months, seconded by Dale Nelson. In Favor: Nelson, Mazzone. Opposed: None

b) Discussion item to add additional members to the Ad Hoc Committee.

MOTION made by Michael Scalzo to request of the Board of Selectmen clarification on the addition of a member from PZC and a member from IWC. Can the First Selectmen, as Chief Executive Officer of the Town, compel participation by these Departments and if not will the Board of Selectmen authorize two more at large citizen participants?

MOTION AMENDED by Gary Mazzone to include the question of can the two full time paid employees of the two Departments be compelled to participate on the Ad Hoc Committee? Seconded by Dale Nelson. In Favor: Nelson, Mazzone, Scalzo. Opposed: None

c) Discussion item; request solicitation of feedback from all of the Town Departments.

MOTION made by Gary Mazzone to put forth four specific questions to the Board of Selectmen to gather from each Town Department, to be used as action plan defense items going forward. The four questions are;

- 1. If the CSP siting is successful in East Windsor, hat additional duties will this create in your departments?***
- 2. What advantage would the CSP siting in East Windsor have for your Department?***
- 3. What disadvantage would the CSP siting in East Windsor have for your Department?***
- 4. What additional costs would your Department experience in the event the firing/training range were to site in East Windsor?***

Seconded by Nelson. In Favor Scalzo, Mazzone and Nelson.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Pippin is a member of IWC and was present when the matter was discussed. He stated the Commission could not participate because it would create a conflict of interest when the siting matter comes before them. (It was explained that the State will not have to abide by any Town zoning or other ordinances if they elect to come to East Windsor so they won't be before the IWC.)

Another citizen said that if PZC and/or IWC even attended the Ad Hoc meetings in the future, they could at least give guidance.

Ms. Perusse asked if all the information that has been developed by NEW and the Town, has been sent to the Connecticut State Police. We told her that the DESPP is in fact the State Police and they have the information we have.

Ms. Nelson stated that \$10,000 has been appropriated by the Town for Communications. She feels that the Town needs to address the communications problems between the Town and the citizens as not everyone looks at the Town Web site for information.

Mr. Dame stated that he has spoken with numerous people throughout Town and some of those in the sections beyond Broad Brook are unaware of the issue or think the matter is closed because of the Town vote.

Mr. Burt asked if the Town can buy the property targeted for the firing range and then develop it. We responded that we didn't believe the Town had that kind of money to buy it.

A citizen questions why the First Selectman has not gone to Hartford and demanded to see the Governor personally to discuss this matter.

A citizen asked if any Town Official has contacted the property owner to see if he will withdraw his agreement to sell the property. Steve Dearborn was in the audience and he said he had spoken with the owner and the owner will not take the property off the market.

Another citizen raised an issue regarding the zoning of the property. There was a lot of confusion as to what it is zoned and a comment was made that if PZC were here as part of the Committee they could have resolved this issue.

A citizen asks when was the last time the PZC was on site and inspected for compliance. They want the Board of Selectmen to get the last ten inspections of the property to insure there are no violations of any type.

Another citizen has asked if other locations been pointed out to the Commissioners. We affirmed that that information has been sent to them. Also asked what our "Regional" Elected Officials done for us and are they active in protecting us. Mr. Scalzo advised that all our elected officials in Hartford are part of NEW's mailing list and they get all the information that is sent out. It is our information that our elected officials in Washington have not been involved in this matter as it is purely a State issue. Can they help?

A citizen wants to know what will happen to property values and tax assessments if the facility is sited in East Windsor. How will the town react?

Another citizen stated they understood that the EIE has to be conducted seasonably to evaluate the impact on wildlife particularly breeding cycles, etc. As such do we have to wait for Spring/Fall 2016? Also noise sampling involves tree leaves, is this going to be more delaying? This all just leaves the town in limbo and the process is already damaging us from a real estate standpoint. What can the Town do about this?

Another citizen said that we need to gather all this information, form a strategy and put that information in front of Governor Malloy. The information must be technically correct and we need to demand he remove East Windsor from the list.

Another citizen stated that one of the Board of Selectman, Jason Bowsza is also a State employee. He believes he works for the Agriculture Department and is assistant to the Chief of Staff. He believes this creates a potential conflict of interest and if so, Mr. Bowsza should recuse himself from the gun range issues. It would be in his best interest to be a team player for the State and this would enhance his career development with the State going forward.

A citizen asked what was the position of our business community in East Windsor, regarding this matter. It was reported that business are concerned about taking a position as some of their customers are pro and some are con the siting.

A discussion ensued among the Committee to determine the future dates, times and locations for the Ad Hoc Committee to meet. The following meeting dates and times were agreed upon.

Wednesday, October 21, 2015

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Wednesday, December 16, 2015

All times are 7:00 p.m.

Location of meeting is yet to be determined as there are several options.

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn made by Gary Mazzone, seconded by Dale Nelson, opposed none. Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa G. Scalzo

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Recording Secretary