

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
11 RYE STREET  
BROAD BROOK, CT 06016  
First Selectman's Office – (860) 623-8122**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

**Board Members**

Bob Maynard – First Selectman  
Richard P. Pippin, Jr. – Deputy First Selectman  
Jason Bowsza, Selectman  
Steve Dearborn – Selectman  
Dale A. Nelson – Selectman

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

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Bob Maynard called the Regular Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

**2. ATTENDANCE**

Present:

Bob Maynard, First Selectman  
Richard P. Pippin, Jr. Deputy First Selectman  
Jason Bowsza, Selectman  
Steve Dearborn, Selectman  
Dale A. Nelson, Selectman

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**4. ADDED AGENDA ITEMS**

**MOTION** made (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Pippin) to change the order of the agenda to take 10. New Business after Item 7. Public Participation.

Discussion: We have Channel 22 News and some reports and other people who have come to see the casino location.

**All in favor.**

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting Minutes of December 1, 2015**

**MOTION** was made (Pippin) and **SECONDED** (Dearborn) to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the December 15, 2015 meeting as amended.

Addition: Selectman Bowsza requested that the following addition be reflected in the minutes: After coming out of Executive Session in regards to the treasurer's

salary, he said that he thought the Town Treasurer was doing a fantastic job, but he thought that the Town would be unwilling to give any employee a raise of more than 10% at any one time and it was for that reason he opposed it.

**All in favor.**

**6. COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

**7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

*Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road*, stated that the article in the paper indicated that there was two other sites, one including the Walmart area and showcase cinemas, did the property owners put forth a bid to have the casino on that property?

*David Menard, 73 Miller Road*, representing Inland/Wetlands referred to the December meeting when First Selectman Maynard indicated that he was going to start interviewing for an Inland/Wetlands Agent and asked about the status of that. First Selectman Maynard responded that we have made a slight change; Laurie Whitten Town Planner is now the Inland/Wetlands agent since she is well qualified. He added that Laurie is rewriting a job description for Robin Newton's previous job. The new person will be a staff person for Economic Development. Selectman Bowsza asked for clarification on the job description for the Assistant Town Planner position. First Selectman Maynard stated that the new Inland/Wetlands staff person is Laurie Whitten and the new person will be the Zoning Enforcement Officer.

**10. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion of Warehouse Point Fire District (WHPFD) Tax**

Present from the Warehouse Point Fire District were, Fire Chief Barton, Commissioner Balf, Commissioner Barton, Sr., Commissioner Decapua and Commission Flynn. First Selectman Maynard explained that the reason he asked the fire commissioners to this meeting is because in the next fiscal year, the WHPFD will not be part of the Town Budget, they will be funded by taxing the property owners in the Warehouse Point Fire District.

Mike Balf, Chairman of the Fire Commission gave the Board an update on where they are as far as taxing the WHPFD residents. He stated that in the last 3 years, CIP never funded any capital projects for them as far as building repairs because the Town of East Windsor does not own their equipment or their building in Warehouse Point. He said they are here because on July 1 they are going to commence collecting a tax; they will be going off the grand list for the Town of East Windsor and they are in negotiations with the Town now for the collection of taxes. The Town of East Windsor will take the line item for the WHPFD and the Broad Brook Fire Department (BBFD) out of the budget. The non-Warehouse Point

residents will be taxed to pay for the Broad Brook Fire Department. The Town tax bill for residents will essentially decrease because of the Fire Departments being taken out of the budget. The Tax Collector will however, collect both the tax for the Town and for the Fire Departments. There will be a charge from the Town to the Fire Departments for the collection of their taxes. Commissioner Flynn said that the Town tax and the Fire District tax, in total, may balance out to be almost the same as when the Fire Departments were part of the Town budget. He added that it could be slightly more, but did not expect the increase, if any, to be significant.

Selectman Dearborn asked for clarification and a brief discussion was held. Selectman Pippin later asked if the Town was going to be reimbursed for the cost of the fire station and numerous trucks that were paid for with Town funds. The fire commissioners said the Town would not be reimbursed. Commissioner Barton, Sr. explained that this is just an effort to climb out of the hole that they have gotten into the past few years. The WHPFD informed the Board of Selectmen that eventually, the residents who reside in the Warehouse Point Fire District will be able to vote on this. Selectman Bowsza said that he understands what they are trying to do and he appreciates the effort. He questioned the statement about taking the Broad Brook Fire Department out of the budget. A brief discussion was held.

#### **B. Discussion of CenterPlan Casino Site Location and Economic Development**

First Selectman Maynard handed out packets that showed the exact location that is proposed for the casino. The site is bordered by Wagner Lane, South Water Street, South Main Street and Route 5. He also said that we will schedule a referendum before any final casino decisions are made. He also touched on the possibility of new roads being constructed to help minimize the traffic at certain times of the day.

*Resident*, Is there any chance of widening Route 5 from South Street North to Prospect Hill? First Selectman Maynard said that the State has a quarter of a million dollar study that is going to be done of Route 5 in that area. The study will start around May 2016. He said we will see what happens in that study. Many residents agreed and voiced that every evening from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., that area is a "parking lot".

*Dave Menard, 73 Miller Road*, asked what impact is a casino that hires 300-400 people going to have on our school system, is our school system capable of absorbing that many kids? Will there be bilingual problems? He said there are whole lists of problems that we should be well aware of that need to be answered at the Town Referendum.

First Selectman Maynard responded that he too has questions and does not have answers yet, however, he is aware that he should have answers by the time of the referendum and he will. He said again that the purpose of this item on the agenda was ONLY to inform the public of the proposed location.

*Resident* asked Is CenterPlan the same developer that has done the Yard Goats stadium in Hartford? They have had a lot of negative press from that project. Are we concerned about that developer doing the same thing here?

First Selectman Maynard responded that he is concerned and he does not know how it will play out and he does not know for sure if the Tribal Nations will choose East Windsor as a site.

*Gary Mazzone, 5 Petticoat Lane*, asked if First Selectman Maynard knows why they rejected the sites of the movies and the old Walmart Plaza? It seems that they would have egress and ingress from two separate exit ramps and they would not need to build their own road, if they did they could build it on the west side of Route 5.

First Selectman Maynard said that it was not rejected, the Town never made the proposal to the Tribal Nations to consider the sites.

*Victor Decapua, 34 Tromley Road*, cautioned that we be careful because if Windsor Locks gets the casino, we will get the overflow in this Town without the tax benefit.

*Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street*, said on this property we have at least two currently functioning businesses that would have to disappear. He said losing something to gain something, we only get the difference.

*Frank \_\_\_\_\_, 46 Tromley Road*, asked if First Selectman Maynard is going to propose those two sites to the Tribal Nations?

First Selectman Maynard replied that it is too late to do that, but if he sees an opening or a way, he will definitely promote those sites. Selectman Bowsza asked if we know for certain that it is too late for us to suggest an alternative site. He told First Selectman Maynard that this is worth a conversation with the Tribal Nations and/or CenterPlan. He agreed to work with Selectman Bowsza on this.

*Tom Talamini, 23 Rice Road*, said when the church was going into La Renaissance, everyone was concerned about traffic from just the one day a week, and now we are looking at more traffic 7 days a week. He strongly suggests a traffic impact study.

Selectman Dearborn said that we all complain about the taxes. He made it clear that he is for the casino. He feels that everything that comes to this Town, everyone seems to be negative about it. First Selectman Maynard estimated the taxes with the low at approximately \$200M of taxable property and the high at approximately \$300M. Selectman Dearborn said, "If we are going to grow, we have to accept things, and we will have to put up with a little inconvenience."

*Dave Menard, 73 Miller Road* asked, do you truly believe the only traffic that were going to see is on Route 5? What about the people coming from I84? Or from Ellington?

*Marie DeSousa, Rice Road*, she does not have a problem with the casino coming to Town, she added, it's the one time she agrees with Selectman Dearborn. She has a concern with paying WHPFD Tax for the needs of the casino. She also has a concern with people possibly having to give up their business or home because someone else wants to benefit (the casino). In response to Selectman Dearborn she said, "just because people are asking questions or have concerns, does not mean that they are negative, people just have questions."

#### **C. Approval of Tax Refunds**

**MOTION** made (Pippin) and **SECONDED** (Dearborn) to approve the tax refunds in the amount of \$534.15 dated 12/30/2015.

**All in favor.**

**MOTION** made (Pippin) and **SECONDED** (Bowsza) to take Item 9C out of order.

**All in favor.**

### **9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **C. Review and approve the establishment of the East Windsor Youth Center Committee**

First Selectman Maynard read the document with the following changes: The date in Line 1 will be changed from January 19, 2016 to January 5, 2016. The last line should read, "the committee may meet with the Board of Selectmen when..." hereto Attached as Attachment A.

**MOTION** made (Pippin) and **SECONDED** (Nelson) to accept the East Windsor Youth Center Committee Establishment as corrected.

Discussion: Selectman Bowsza suggested in the last sentence that we consider having some sort of report or update from the Youth Center. The Board agreed to have the Youth Center to update the Board quarterly.

Selectman Pippin amended his motion to read, "the committee may meet with the Board of Selectmen quarterly or when they have information to report, need assistance or guidance."

**All in favor.**

**MOTION** to return to the call of the agenda to take up Item 8B.

**All in favor.**

**8. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS**

**Resignations: None.**

**Reappointments:**

**MOTION** made (Nelson) and SECONDED (Dearborn) to reappoint Donna House (U) and Wendy Parker (U) as regular members to the East Windsor Youth Center Committee for a term expiring 7/19/2017.

**All in favor.**

**New Appointments:**

**MOTION** made (Bowsza) and SECONDED (Nelson) to appoint Janet Goode (D) and Sara Vincent (U) as regular members to the East Windsor Youth Center Committee for a term expiring 7/19/2017.

**All in favor.**

**9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A. Discussion of Ad Hoc Committee for Opposition to Connecticut State Police Training Facility Recommendations**

Gary Mazzone and Chris Rogers-Lemeris were present. First Selectman Maynard read an article from one of our State Representative supporters. Selectman Bowsza added that he had long conversations with Senator Larson about this and Senator Larson agreed to work with Senator Guillermo to hold an information hearing with DAS and the State Police on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Legislative Office Building. This is an informational forum and there will not be an opportunity for the public to participate in this. Selectman Bowsza said that depending on the outcome of that hearing and where they are, in doing their due diligence, their public safety committee may introduce legislation that would potentially direct this a little more hands on. At that point there would be a public hearing. Mr. Mazzone thanked Selectman Bowsza for the information.

Mr. Mazzone said the Lt. Governor told the previous First Selectman she would keep touch with Ms. Menard on a monthly basis and he wondered if First Selectman Maynard had heard anything from the Lt. Governor. First Selectman Maynard said that he has not heard anything and would make an effort to contact her. He also informed Mr. Mazzone that Dr. Kane and the Board of Education have

allowed us to add some information to their newsletter and that NEW will be a part of the information.

### **B. Discussion and Approval of Social Media Policy**

First Selectman Maynard had the Town Attorney review the proposed Social Media Policy and was informed that the policy was acceptable and they could go ahead and establish it. Selectman Bowsza said that he appreciates that First Selectman Maynard checked with Town Council, but he does not like his First Amendment issues being limited. No motion was made.

## **11. SELECTMEN'S REPORTS**

### **A. Richard P. Pippin, Jr.**

Selectman Pippin reported on the following:

- 12/16 Board of Finance – Auditors appeared and explained the way the audit was performed and presented a draft audit, found a few discrepancies with the Board of Education posting, he said the Treasurer and the Board of Education office are working on it and it should be corrected shortly. Town financial reports, bonding capacity and major projects were discussed. Supplemental appropriation was approved and recommended to Town Meeting for the roof repair at the Public Works Garage.
- 12/21 – Building Commission – Nurses station completed. Broad Brook School: Foundation done, units moving along at the factory in Pennsylvania, should be here by the end of January, Public Works Roof was discussed. The Commission discussed the option for winter construction and they are going to continue as planned, however, masonry work will wait for fair weather.

### **B. Jason Bowsza**

Selectman Bowsza read his report hereto attached as Attachment B.

### **C. Steve Dearborn**

Selectman Dearborn spoke to First Selectman Maynard, regarding Christmas tree pick up. Selectman Dearborn has offered to let the Town dump at his place at no cost. He added that if anyone misses the pick-up, they can discard their trees on his property as long as they are clean.

### **D. Dale Nelson**

Selectman Nelson read her report hereto attached as Attachment C.

### **E. Robert Maynard**

First Selectman Maynard reported on the following:

- We now have a Town Facebook page. You can search “Town of East Windsor, Government Organization” and it will come up with a picture of a green field.

- We also have an Economic Development phone number, it is listed on the front page of the website.
- The transfer of 7 acres to the Housing Authority is completed, he signed the deed.

## 12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

*David Menard, 73 Miller Road*, asked the WHPFD commissioners what they received last year from the Town. Commissioner Barton, Sr. responded, \$244,000 for operating expenses plus other expenses paid by the Town. Mr. Menard asked what amount they plan on taxing the people in their district. Fire Chief Barton, Sr. said that is what their budget workshops are for. They are still figuring out the exact amount that they will need to operate.

*Paul Anderson, Main Street*, said the Water Pollution Control Authority is a taxing authority, they set a budget and collect from their users. WHPFD is doing a similar thing. He said this is a situation where the users pay for whatever they get, whatever it costs. You pay what it costs to operate and everyone can participate in that budget process. This is a non-issue. People will pay for what it costs to do what has to be done, and fire protection is not an option. He believes that this is going too far in the wrong direction, "it's not 'too many pennies' and it's not who's going to and who's not going to pay for it, it costs money to do things and somebody's got to pay for it and it should be the people who use it."

*Gary Mazzone, Petticoat Lane*, what the boundary of the service area of the WHPFD? Commissioner Barton, Sr. said that its 200' off of Wells Road and at the intersection of Wells and Winkler it shoots a straight line through properties, it does not follow the road to 140. Mr. Mazzone asked if the WHPFD is sure that the people that they are going to tax, are officially part of their district. Mr. Flynn responded, yes.

Carol Madore, Assessor helped to explain this topic to clarify for those still with questions.

*Cathy Simonelli*, conducted research and looked into the impact that casinos have had on schools in the same town. She found that workers have brought children and have come from numerous areas that had multiple languages which resulted in more costs for the schools.

*Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road*, questioned the job description for the new person in the Planning and Development Office and wondered if Laurie Whitten was taking on the responsibilities of the vacant position. First Selectman Maynard said no, the commissions they staffed are just reversed.

*Bill Lois, Melrose Road*, he said as a taxpayer, it seems to him that the people in this town do not realize what they are getting from the fire departments. He also stated when we have a fire during the day, it is almost impossible to get at least 6 firefighters out from each department. He feels that the Town has to look into getting paid firemen for during the day and that it's time the Town pay for maintenance to Town Buildings and give departments the money they need to operate.



The Board recessed at 8:57 p.m. for a 5 minute break.

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:08 p.m.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn made (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Pippin). Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Schroll  
Recording Secretary

## **East Windsor Youth Center Committee**

The Board of Selectmen establishes an East Windsor Youth Center Committee effective January 5, 2016.

### **MEMBERSHIP AND TERM**

The Committee will be an eighteen month committee consisting of 7 regular voting members, all electors of the Town. The Committee will be governed by the Town Charter and State Statutes. The Committee will serve without compensation.

### **CHARGE**

The East Windsor Youth Center provides an all-inclusive, safe substance-free environment where it is our mission to motivate youth to succeed in every aspect of their lives. Our programs provide a wide range of activities for children enrolled in grades five through twelve designed to develop social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills in an all for one, one for all atmosphere. Through partnership with the community and families of our youth, it is our belief in the strength of the human spirit that guides us to treat everyone with dignity, compassion and respect as we prepare them to respond to and resolve life's challenges. The hope is that each person who walks through our door is able to have a positive experience where they feel friendship and acceptance.

The Committee shall meet with the Board of Selectmen quarterly, when they have information to report, or need assistance or guidance.

1/5/16 - Selectmen's Report

12/16/15 - BOF meeting. Auditors presented the audit. Fund balance is now funded at 20.5%. Two deficiencies noted, one between the town and BOE regarding the timing of purchases. The other is on the year end cut off for purchases, delineating between encumbrances and accounts payable.

Cindy Herms raised an interesting point when the board was discussing the taxing authority of the Warehouse Point Fire District. When the total town budget fails three times, the charter reverts to the previous year's budget plus a 2% increase. Is there any such protection for the residents who live in Warehouse Point, considering that a taxing district has the same powers as a sovereign government?

The board reviewed proposed budgetary guidelines for FY16/17. They discussed their commitment to holding departments within their budgets throughout the year, and would look very carefully before approving any mid year adjustments.

They also discussed a funding request to replace the roof at the Public Works Garage. The project is long overdue and expected to cost less than \$70,000. Public Works mentioned that the Town needs to be more diligent about roof maintenance. Less expensive solutions early avoid very expensive solutions too late. The proposal was unanimously approved.

I missed the special Planning and Zoning Commission meeting held on December 29, but I understand from speaking with members that they continue to look at the revitalization of the warehouse point district. This commission has continually been inclusive and constructive as they lay out a roadmap for our town's future over the next 10 years. I encourage anyone interested in the long-term planning of East Windsor to make every effort to attend these meetings.

I was very pleased to see the Senior Property Tax Relief Ordinance approved at the annual town meeting. This was something that I had promised I'd work on during a campaign 8 years ago, and have worked on it ever since. I'm very grateful to the participants in last week's meeting for finally putting this in place.

We had a great time at the New Years Day hike sponsored by the AHRC. It's always a wonderful event, and somehow they (almost) always have great weather. Thanks to the commission members for all of their hard work.

Senator Tim Larson and I spoke at length about the concerns of residence pertaining to the sighting of the state police training facility here in East Windsor. I urged Senator Larson to consider ways of taking legislative action to Address the concerns of many of us. He is as concerned about this as we are. Senator Larson agreed to work with Senator Guglielmo to organize an informational hearing with DAS and the state police to further review the due diligence that they have performed in this process. To that end, The Public Safety committee in the legislature will host an informational hearing on February 2 at 10 AM in the legislative office building. Depending on that informational hearing, there may be legislation introduced, and an opportunity for the public to weigh in on legislation at a later date. This is extremely encouraging, and I'd like to thank Senator and Larson for taking the initiative to address our concerns.

I would ask for a correction to last meeting's minutes. Concerning the raise for the Town Treasurer, I had said that the Town Treasurer was doing a fantastic job, but also that I thought that the Town would be unwilling to give any employee a raise of more than 10% at any one time. It's just too much. I'd like that added to the minutes.

Happy New Year

Monday December 21<sup>st</sup>

East Windsor Housing Authority 700 PM

Resident Services Coordinator reported that next year the 5 Corner Cupboard Food Pantry would consider providing on-site outreach to assist residents with the intake application process. Residents requested to have a guest speaker to address coping with the loss of several residents of Park Hill. December 2<sup>nd</sup> the Annual Holiday party was held. A "Meet and Greet" was arranged with the first Selectman, Bob Maynard on December 17<sup>th</sup>. I requested in the future all BOS members should be invited. Executive Director's Report stated that the Executive Assistant and Linda attended the Small Public Housing Committee meeting. The topic was the new proposed budget and financial reporting format. More meetings and trainings will be scheduled before the actual implementation of the new format for 2017. Recently there was an issue with the relay switch and the repair cost \$3,375. Linda is researching to see if converting to the local water system is possible. Connecticut Housing Finance Authority has funding available for urgent projects and threatens the health or safety of the residents; Park hill sidewalks qualify for this funding. Small Cities Grant application for the upgrade of the fire alarm system in each building and renovate the Laundry Rooms ADA compliant

Tuesday December 29<sup>th</sup>

Town of East Windsor Public Town Meeting 730 PM  
All 6 items were adopted

Wednesday December 30<sup>th</sup>

Special Meeting for the Police Commission 700 PM  
All done in Executive Session – did not attend

Monday January 4<sup>th</sup>

Warehouse Point Fire District Meeting 700 PM

Total expensed on budget is 46% - some lines are over. **New Business** – Auxiliary would like to allow 14 year olds to be able to join with supervision – there was discussion then tables to check on insurance liability. The service maintenance group continues to find broken parts prior to the department finding them when on a call. Meetings have been on going with Chair person Balf, Commissioner Barton, Atty Landolina, 1<sup>st</sup> Selectman Maynard along with our treasurer have been in meetings to discuss and plan for the District to implement tax in the district. Mr. Maynard will look into why the agenda and minutes have not been posted on the town website, per the district secretary they have been sent to the clerk's office. During this time of change with the impending tax issue – it is very important to keep the citizens updated. 2 budget meetings are scheduled for Thursday Jan 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> at 630 Station 1. Budget has to be presented to BOS and BOF by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2016. Fire Marshall Ordinance has passed, there will be fees applied to certain services. There is a grant application in process – must be completed by October 15<sup>th</sup>. Budget is the priority, with the update of charter and by-laws

next in line to work on. **Fire Chief Report** – they responded to 444 calls last year, fire house software working well, waiting on new hydraulic apparatus to arrive (jaws of life). Simsbury has changed their Scott air packs and are selling the bottles. There is over ½ of the life left and only \$300.00 each (new are \$800.00). Commissioners approved a quote from Progressive Light to install a light package in the Chief's vehicle (had to replace as the lights from the old vehicle, accident, will not fit in the new one).

Wednesday January 13<sup>th</sup>

Police Commission Cancelled