

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF
SELECTMEN**

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Thursday, February 25, 2016

6 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Workshop Minutes

Board of Selectmen:

Robert Maynard, First Selectman
Richard P. Pippin, II, Deputy First Selectman
Jason E. Bowsza, Selectman
Dale Nelson, Selectman
Steve Dearborn, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: **Board of Selectmen:** Robert Maynard, First Selectman; Richard P. Pippin, II, Deputy First Selectman; Jason Bowsza; Steve Dearborn
Absent: Dale Nelson

GUESTS: **Board of Finance Members:** Cindy Herms; Kathy Pippin
Treasurer: Kim Lord

Call to Order:

First Selectman Maynard called the Meeting to Order at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

Budget Presentations:

Broad Brook Library - 710300

William Dove and Beverly Percoski represented the Broad Brook Library Association and presented a modified copy of last year's funding request. Mr. Dove said the library has been living off endowment funds and not town funds. Without funding they will be forced to close. He stated they do not qualify as a 501C3 because they receive less than \$5,000 annually.

Mr. Dove said town funding has been flat since 2011 and the endowment balance is down to \$18,000. The library needs a new roof and furnace. He said the library gives a lot to the town and asks for very little. They have been in town for nearly 100 years. Mr. Dove thanked the Board of Selectmen for their consideration and requested \$10,000 to keep the Broad Brook Library open as it is a part of the fabric of this town.

Selectman Dearborn said the library deserves more than the \$2,500 it was given last year.

First Selectman Maynard said he is looking forward to the towns 250 year celebration and the Broad Brook Libraries 100 year celebration and he supports the \$10,000 budget requested.

Selectman Bowsza questioned the hours of operation of the Broad Brook Library and asked if longer hours would be considered to accommodate more people. Mr. Dove said he will take the question back to the library board.

Warehouse Point Library – 710300

Vincent Bologna and Alice Spielberg joined the Board. Mr. Bologna said the requested increase is the same as last year. He would like to increase the hours the library is open, add kids programs, additional staff, books and databases.

First Selectman Maynard asked about the \$23,000 salary increase. Mr. Bologna explained the money would pay for two part time employees to be on staff Wednesday and Thursday evenings and all day Saturday and Sunday in the summer. They have asked for this increase for the past eight years. Mr. Bologna said it will cost \$87,000 for the Warehouse Library parking lot to be redone.

Selectman Bowsza attended the open house that was held at the library and it was fantastic. He appreciates the historic collection, it is a town treasure.

Parks & Recreation Department – 710200

Melissa Maltese gave a power point presentation for her budget proposal. She is requesting an increase in the salary line to hire a full time person. She is the only full time employee in the department and she needs another full time person to facilitate programs. Mrs. Maltese is on call 24/7. The summer camp at the Reservoir is open 57 hours per week and 460 hours for the summer. A recreational professional is needed. The salary would be \$43,862 per year per the clerical contract.

There was discussion about accredited programs and requirements for Certified Water Safety Instructors and Lifeguards. Lifeguards must pass all levels and Instructors must meet ADA requirements.

Mrs. Maltese said she applies for every grant available and receives donations from businesses but her budget steadily decreases while there is growth in programs. There is great potential for more growth but no money to pay for the programs. The Parks & Recreation Department administers seven parcels and 34 acres.

There was discussion regarding algae at the Reservoir and the man hours required to remove the algae. They need funds to pay for copper sulfate treatments. Selectman Bowsza said there is a state soil scientist in Tolland that tests the soil for free. Mrs. Maltese said the algae is an aesthetic issue, not a safety issue. The pond passes inspection yearly.

Selectman Bowsza asked Mrs. Maltese what her core mission and wish list is. She said she needs a full time person to bring new ideas. They currently do not have youth services available and she would love to see a Community Center for the Town of East Windsor.

Town Clerk – 410300

The largest increase is in the salary line and they are contractual increases. There was discussion about the supplies and equipment line and Kim Lord was going to verify the items with the Town Clerk.

Building - 411300

There was discussion regarding a part time person to cover the hours when the building inspector is out of the office due to sick/vacation time. It was suggested that they use officials from other towns and be regionalized. The request is for \$3,000 in the salary line.

Kim Lord stated that the HSA saved the town \$4,000 per person during contract negotiations.

The Board of Selectmen discussed their role in the budget process and the need to tell the Board of Finance what the town needs without being governed by the 2% spending cap.

The Board discussed adding an additional budget workshop. They agreed to hold the workshop on March 10th at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Heidi Vane, Recording Secretary for East Windsor Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop
dated February 25, 2016