

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
11 RYE STREET
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Robert Maynard called the meeting to Order at 7:01 p.m., in the East Windsor Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, East Windsor, Connecticut.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

MOTION made by (Pippin) and **SECONDED** by (Dearborn) to approve moving item 11D Discussion of South Road Oil Spill to before Unfinished Business.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

MOTION made by (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** by (Nelson) to approve the addition of item 11F Update on information pertaining to the purposed roundabout on the 140 bridge in Warehouse Point.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

MOTION made by (Pippin) and **SECONDED** by (Bowsza) to approve the Amended Agenda, as set for the March 7, 2017 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen with moving 11D Discussion of South Road Oil Spill to before Unfinished Business and the addition of 11F Update on information pertaining to the purposed roundabout on the 140 bridge in Warehouse Point.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

4. ATTENDANCE

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

5. PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

Mr. Maynard reminded everyone not to interrupt people when they have the floor and only to speak when recognized. Mr. Maynard also reminded everyone that they should treat everyone civilly and respectfully.

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

MOTION made by (Nelson) and **SECONDED** by (Pippin) to accept the Special Meeting and Budget Workshop Minutes from the February 18, 2017 meeting, as submitted.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

MOTION made by (Nelson) and **SECONDED** by (Bowsza) to accept the Special Amended Meeting Minutes of the February 25, 2017 meeting, as submitted.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

7. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Maynard received an update from AECOM about the Broad Brook Mill Site. They continue to work with CT DEEP to put an addendum into the Remediation Action Plan. Notification letters were sent to abutting property owners notifying them of the impending demolition activities. Mr. Maynard called them and asked what they meant about demolition and they said they will be taking down the buildings. They also stated that they would have information to the Town in about a month about the acceptance of the Remediation Action Plan.

Mr. Bowsza asked if they would come talk to the Board and was told they would come in June sometime.

8. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr. Maynard went over the rules for speaking in Public Participation again for the new residents at the meeting.

Paul Anderson – Stated that at the Budget Workshop he attended to present the budget for the Broad Brook Library he was asked to find out the non-profit status of the library. He stated that after searching the library is non-profit. He would also like to know how and when the residents will know what the budget contains.

Mr. Maynard stated that the Board of Selectmen is going to present their budget to the Board of Finance on March 15th. It is public so he stated that it could be heard then.

Denise Terry – Would like the details of obtaining a Lobbyist for the casino, the financial part of it and who will be paying for it. She also asked about there being 2 different agendas for the meeting and they don't match.

Mr. Maynard stated that they would be discussing the casino further down on the agenda.

Mr. Bowsza stated that on is for the Town Meeting which will start at 7:30 p.m. and the other is for the Board of Selectmen meeting which starts at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Selectmen will recess to hold the Town Meeting and the reconvene after the Town Meeting.

Mr. Maynard stated that Mr. Bowsza could better answer the questions about the Lobbyist. Mr. Bowsza asked her specifically what she was asking so he could answer her. She wanted to know if the Board of Selectmen had contracted with a Lobbyist, who is the Lobbyist, what are the financial arrangements related to the Lobbyist and who is paying for that Lobbyist.

Mr. Bowsza stated they had not contracted with a Lobbyist. He stated that in the Development Agreement between the Town of East Windsor and MMCT, MMCT will be reimbursing the Town for costs associated with the Development Agreement to include the cost of representation in the General Assembly. He stated that there is an open RFP process at the moment until they are reviewed the Board can't answer what the cost related to the Lobbyist will be. Mr. Bowsza stated that the hope was to have someone in place shortly.

Neil Parlos – Was wondering if all of the meetings were on YouTube and could they all be reviewed.

Mr. Maynard stated that all of the Board of Selectmen Meetings are recorded and that they started this process recently and that there is a link on the main website's front page.

Mr. Steve Smith stated that on YouTube there are many meetings he can watch and to get to the just search East Windsor Board of Selectmen.

Tom Talamini – Wanted to thank the Selectmen for all of their time and effort that they put into coming up with the Development Agreement with MMCT. He felt that it took a lot of their time and that they did a good job.

9. BOARD AND COMMISIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A. Resignations:

NONE

B. Reappointments:

NONE

C. New Appointments:

NONE

11D. Discussion of South Road Oil Spill:

Len Norton gave an update on the South Road oil spill. He stated that the homeowner's insurance denied the claim because it is the Town's property. Mr. Norton stated the oil leaked under the foundation and a vacuum system may need to be placed under the house. The hole has been dug and the contaminated soil removed.

MOTION made by (Pippin) and **SECONDED** by (Bowsza) that the Board of Selectmen recess their meeting, at 7:29 p.m., for a Town Meeting.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

MOTION made by (Pippin) and **SECONDED** by (Nelson) that the Board of Selectmen reconvene their meeting, at 7:44 p.m.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

Mr. Norton continued with his update after the Town Meeting. He stated the hole is still open waiting to hear about the vacuum system and inspections. The bills are already around \$100,000. Mr. Pippin feels the hole needs to be filled in right away, he feels that if it is left open too long it could become a liability to the Town. Mr. Norton stated that the Town's insurance is going to fight this whole thing. They think that the homeowner is liable for this cleanup.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. East Windsor's 250th Anniversary Commission Report:

Rebecca Talamini reported that the slogan contest has ended and they reviewed the submissions they have chosen the 3 winners. She would not reveal the winners until the next Board of Selectmen meeting because the winners have not yet been notified. She stated that the hats are finally in and they have begun to sell them. She gave out a few important dates:

1. December 31, 2017 - Masquerade Ball
2. May 19, 2018 – The Time Capsule will be opened
3. June 16, 2018 – Food Truck Festival & Reenactment, Scout Hall
4. September 22, 2018 – Community Day

B. Discussion of the Casino:

Mr. Maynard stated there is a meeting at the Legislative Office Building on Thursday afternoon. He recommends that you get there early; it starts at 8:30 a.m., to sign up if you want to speak. The public may speak and he stated that he was also going to speak.

Marie DeSousa – Stated she just wanted to remind everyone to get to the meeting early if they are going to attend. She also wanted to know about “school use”. She was wondering about the extra people for parking at the school last night. She stated that she doesn’t care if it is a Town event but this was a coalition group not housed in East Windsor. She was wondering if the group should have had to pay for the extra people for parking.

Mr. Maynard said that was a good question and that he would look into it.

Denise Terry – She stated that she was the one that reserved the auditorium for the meeting, she hosted it and she is a resident of East Windsor. She invited the people that came and spoke and she went through the proper channels. She asked about extra people and was told the amount of people she was expecting was not enough for extra people. She stated that the school changed the day of the basketball tournament and that is why so many people were there and why they had the extra people on.

Selectman Dearborn - Wanted to know if the auditorium could be used by anyone. He had no idea that you could reserve and use the auditorium. He was told yes anyone could reserve and use the auditorium.

Marie DeSousa – Stated that as this process goes on she hopes that everyone is honest with what they say and that they aren’t spreading misinformation. She stated that there was misleading and misinformation stated at the meeting held last night.

Denise Terry – Stated that she still has the same four questions from earlier. She is wondering if the Board is going to converse with the public about a Lobbyist. She wanted to know what the process was if they were going to vote about it in Executive session or would it be voted on in front of the public. Mr. Maynard explained the process to her. She also wanted to know how the Town would be advised of the use of the \$150,000. She wanted to know how often the Town would be told about how the money was being spent. Mr. Maynard stated that he was not sure of the answer to that question. He stated that they should have the answer to that question at the next meeting.

First Selectman, Robert Maynard – He wanted everyone to know that they have been talking about the casino since October 18th. It has been on the agenda since then. They have not been hiding anything and have been quite open about everything.

Neal Parlos – He feels that he will have to move out of town if the casino comes to town. He is not happy about the casino and feels that property values will decrease. He feels that the Town needs to listen to the voters.

Selectman Pippin – States he talked to his realtor and they think the property values will increase. He says he hopes Mr. Parlos does not move out of town.

Denise Terry – Would like to know if the casino would have to stop serving alcohol at a certain time. She was told yes because it is not on tribal land so it has to go by laws of the State.

Natalie Ryan – She is concerned that the budget will be kept low to a 2% increase and the agencies that need the money, such as, police, fire and emergency services, it won't be there for them. Mr. Bowsza stated that this is exactly why the Town is looking into retaining a Lobbyist. They will make sure that those and other protections are considered and put into any legislation adopted by the General Assembly. Mr. Maynard stated that the Town will get \$3 million a year annual payment for the sole purpose of mitigating the impact of the casino. It is a grant so it is outside of the budget.

Denise Terry – Stated that an addict won't really be enticed to go 12-15 miles out of their way to go to a casino but they sure would be enticed if they have to pass it every day on their way to and from work. The casino is a trigger for addiction.

Marie DeSousa – Stated that she would like to apologize to Mr. Parlos for the Man that approached him at the meeting last night. She stated that that is not what all of this is about and she is going to speak to him when she sees him and hopefully it won't happen again.

Joe Malenfant - Wanted to know after the 5 years of getting \$5.5 million in taxes what the prediction of what it might be. Mr. Maynard stated that it will be assessed again after the 5 years and he can't really give an answer because he doesn't know if it will grow or not. Therefore if it stays the same it will be about \$5.5 million.

C. Broad Brook Mill Site Remediation:

Nothing to report

11. New Business

A. Update from Social Services Director Regarding Powerpack Program:

They started the Powerpack Program last Friday and have had a great response to the program. The bags are being packed on Thursdays and delivered on Fridays. They have received grants

from Walmart and Food Share and the program is off to a good start. They are running an incentive program to get the bags back. They sent out 12 bags and are hoping to expand that number. The Transitional Learning Class from the High School helped pack the bags which help with their learning.

B. Discussion and Approval of Youth Service Bureau:

After a lengthy discussion about starting a Youth Service Bureau it was stated that to ensure funding the Town of East Windsor needed to commit to \$7,000 of funding, which is half of the \$14,000 to start the process. After some more discussion Mr. Bowsza made a motion.

MOTION made by (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** by (Nelson) to pursue funding opportunities to and include grant funding and State aid to establish an East Windsor Youth Services Bureau.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

C. Discussion of FY 17-18 Proposed Budget to Present to Board of Finance:

It was decided another meeting was needed and it would be held Saturday, March 11 at 9 a.m. at the Town Hall in East Windsor.

E. Approval of Tax Refunds:

MOTION made by (Nelson) and **SECONDED** by (Pippin) to approve all of the Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,752.49.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

F. Update on information pertaining to the purposed roundabout on the 140 bridge in Warehouse Point:

Mr. Maynard stated that he spoke with a representative from the DOT and he said they were struggling with what to do with the intersection between 140 rails and Main Street, Windsor Locks. He stated that he was willing to come out and address the residents of East Windsor. Mr. Dearborn says this whole thing does not make any sense. Mr. Dearborn thinks that the Town should fight it and not allow it. Laurie Whitten stated that they should come in and explain to the Town what they are planning and hear what concerns the Town has and how they can address them. She stated that they now know that the Town has been out of the loop and they are willing to try and find money to do some surveys on the East Windsor side of the river. Mr. Bowsza is concerned that they are coming in and telling East Windsor what they are going to do and not keep an open mind.

12. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORT

- A. **Steve A. Dearborn** – The only thing he has to report is that he will be at the meeting on Thursday.
- B. **Jason E. Bowsza** – Hereto attached as Attachment A.
- C. **Dale A. Nelson**- Hereto attached as Attachment B.
- D. **Richard Pippin, Jr.** – The Building Commission meeting they discussed the floors, the plantings and the concrete work around the modular classrooms. They voted that no retainage money will be released to the General Contractor until these jobs are done. They did ok to pay for the playground mulch. Alliance Grant for the window project, they have a bid and do have a contract and are waiting on submittal and shop drawings and everything is on schedule. At the Planning and Zoning meeting they talked about the casino. R&R Tool and Die was granted a one year extension on their application to add on to their building. A man from 192 Scantic Road came in for an application. Thorton Crossing Sub-Division and Hayfield Lane request to release bonds, \$56,800. Warehouse Point Project seems to be a big one for them especially with the casino coming. No Wetlands Meeting. He was not very happy about limiting the public on the discussion at the meeting last night. Both sides should have been allowed to be heard and he feels that is not what East Windsor is about. He received a flyer in the mail put out by MGM and they conveniently left out a lot of facts.
- E. **Robert Maynard** – He stated he went to the Blue and Gold Banquet for the scouts and was impressed at how many there were. He went to the Warehouse Point Fire District meeting last night. They were working very hard on their budget and it looks like they will come in very close to last year's budget.

13. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (Another opportunity for the public to make comments)

Denise Terry – Was wondering about the 11 police officers that are going to be added to the police force and how many vehicles and equipment will have to be added also. Mr. Maynard stated he did not have that answer off the top of his head but he did know that it would come out of the initial \$3 million. She asked a similar question about fire and emergency personnel.

First Selectman, Maynard - stated he was not sure about that either but he heard that the casino will buy an ambulance that will be staged at the casino. The \$3 million will go to police, fire, education and social services. He stated this was all dependent on what the Legislature decides.

Denise Terry - Stated that the Selectmen did not foresee any increase in crime so why are the additional 11 officers needed. Mr. Maynard stated that they are needed for the amount of people that will be coming in. They will be needed for traffic control and in the casino. She said a number of Selectmen stated tonight that a lot of misinformation was given out. She wanted to know what misinformation they thought was given out.

Selectwoman Nelson – Stated that she could give an example of some misinformation. She stated that Big Y had decided a while ago to leave so no one was being forced out like it was made to sound.

Denise. Terry - Wanted more examples of the misinformation but the Board stated they were not going to go back and forth about this subject.

Selectman Dearborn – Stated he tried to speak last night at the meeting and was shut off. He was not allowed to speak and he did not say there was any misinformation given out. What he did say was that the facts were not being given out to the people and only the information that the people from that venue wanted people to know was spoken.

Denise Terry – Tried to make more back and forth comments and was reminded that the rules prohibit back and forth banter.

Bill Loos – Wanted to talk about the Pension Board. He thinks that the Town should take all of the public employees on the pension plan and put them all on a different plan. He stated that the State of Connecticut and Hartford and in the process of eliminating the current pension plan and are switching over to 401K type plans. He thinks that the Pension Board should look into that to try and save some money.

Marie DeSousa – States that she is in opposition of that comment. She thinks that there are contracts that need to be adhered to and feels that if Unions want to negotiate for new employees for something like that is fine, but, don't take it away from existing employees when they are counting on it.

Cathy Simonelli – Wanted everyone to know that the East Windsor Boys fought hard tonight but lost by 4 in double overtime. She stated it was a great season for both the boys and girls.

14. SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTERS

Completed

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION made by (Pippin) and **SECONDED** by (Bowsza) that the Board of Selectmen enter into Executive Session at 9:28 p.m. pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200 (6)(A), (E), and Section 1-210 subsection (b-1) negotiations to include Carol Madore, Rand Stanley, and Laurie Whitten.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:33p.m.

MOTION made by (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** by (Pippin) to add the following agenda item:
To authorize the town attorney to contract for lobbying representation on behalf of the town.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

MOTION made by (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** by (Pippin) on the agenda item: To authorize the town attorney to contract for lobbying representation on behalf of the town in an amount not to exceed \$8,500/month plus taxes and fees.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

Mr. Bowsza stated he didn't expect this to require more than three months.

16. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION made by (Nelson) and **SECONDED** by (Pippin) to adjourn at 10:35 p.m.

In Favor: J. Bowsza, D. Nelson, S. Dearborn and R. Pippin Opposed: None Motion: PASSED

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca D'Amicol, Recording Secretary

Attachment A

Selectmen's Report - March 7

By now, almost everyone is aware that on February 25th we presented and ratified the development agreement between the Town and MMCT. I did want to take a moment to thank the twelve police officers who attended, in uniform, on their own time to support the agreement. It was just one more example of the classy police department and professional officer corps that we have.

Out of curiosity, on February 28th I attended the Windsor Locks Board of Selectmen's meeting and they brought up the ongoing issue of the proposed roundabout that is being considered on the East Windsor side of the Rt. 140 bridge. I am very concerned about this project and what it would mean for residents immediately next to that area, as well as the additional wear and tear that it would bring to our infrastructure. I'm hopeful that a mutually beneficial solution can be found. I've asked the first selectman to update us on this project as soon as possible.

On March 5, Bob, Dale and I attended the Pack 89 Blue and Gold banquet at Scout Hall. It was a great night to celebrate the young scouts, and especially the parents and volunteers who put so much work into scouting all year long. I'm told that this year's attendance at the banquet was nearly double what it was last year. A big "thank you" to our volunteers!

On March 6, I attended the anti-casino forum at the East Windsor High School. About 120 people showed up, and support and opposition was clearly mixed. Former congressman Bob Steele, who served during the Nixon Administration, was on hand to provide a history of gaming in the United States. He was selling his book as well.

The most troubling thing about last night's forum was that the moderator repeatedly spoke over anyone who tried to speak in favor of the project. It's very troubling to see diversity of opinion rudely and consistently suppressed in a public forum. There has to be a place for friendly disagreement amongst neighbors.

Congratulations to the East Windsor girls basketball team on a great playoff campaign. The girls went 21-5 and made it to the quarter finals before losing a close game to Thomaston. Incidentally, 21-5 is a school record. Four hundred and seventy eight people attended last night's game - great show of community support! Congratulations to the players, the coaches and the parents!

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza

Sent from my iPad

Board Of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
3/7/17

Attachment B

2/22/17 Board of Education 7:00 PM
Natalie O'Connor, Stephanie Rodrigue and Martin Resto each recited their choice for Poetry Out Loud. BBES Modular the sidewalks and planting will start in June and be completed by the end of July. Alliance Grant must be completed by June 30th – window replacement is on target for completion, there are a few projects that Dr Kane and Roger Baker will submit before March 31st for consideration. Budget concerns at this time it appears to be a 12.05 increase (\$725 K in reductions to grants Shief, Alliance and ECS) meetings are on going, BOE will present the final budget 3/15 to the BOE.

2/23/17
MMCT presentation to the Public Safety and Security Committee at the Legislative Office Building, Hartford 11:00 AM
Youth Center 1:00 PM discussion with Melissa Maltese, Dr Kane, Kristen Formanek, Jimbo Richards, Bob Maynard, Wendy Parker and Jamie Thrall discussing a "Youth Service Bureau" – there is grant money available if this group is formed. Melissa is looking into this.
BOS budget meeting 6:00 PM
Public works, town property, road improvements, IT and sanitation
Broad Brook Fire Department
Building department
Planning and development, planning and zoning, zoning board of appeals, economic development, inland wetlands

2/26/17 Abby's Helping Hand 4:00 PM
April 22nd Walk for Abby at the reservoir 1000 kick off – come join us
Unified sports basket ball game at the High School on 2/27/17 at 3:00

3/02/17 Public Works Negotiations 9:30 AM
MMCT agreement signing 2:00 PM
BOS budget hearings 6:00 PM
Warehouse Point Library, Cemetery Association and Police Department

3/03/17 BOS meeting 4:00 PM

3/05/17 Blue and Gold Banquet – Scout Hall 4:00 PM

3/016/17 No Casino meeting at the High School 7:00 PM
Misinformation
Did not attend WHIPFD meeting – same time

Regards,
Dale Nelson
EW Selectwoman