

# TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 3, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room

11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT. 06016

### Meeting Minutes

\*\*\* *These Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting*\*\*\*

#### Board of Selectmen:

Robert Maynard, First Selectman

Steve Dearborn., Deputy First Selectman

Jason Bowsza, Selectman

Andy Hoffman, Selectman

Charles J. Szymanski, Selectman

**ATTENDANCE:** Board of Selectmen: Robert Maynard, First Selectman; Steve Dearborn, Deputy First Selectman; Selectmen: Andy Hoffman; Charles J. Szymanski.

**Absent:** Selectman Jason Bowsza.

**GUESTS:** Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Town Entities:  
250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee: Rebecal Talamini, Chairman;  
Agricultural Commission: Albert Grant, Chairman; Kirk Monstream, Nick Laskos; American Heritage River Commission: Barbara Sherman, Secretary; Broad Brook Mill Remediation Committee: Jessica Bottomley, Chairman, Kirk Monstream, Tom Talamini, Keith Yagaloff; Charter Revision Study Committee: John Matthews, Co-Chairman, Keith Yagaloff, Co-Chairman; Bill Loos, Rachel Safford; Board of Finance:Kathy Pippin, Sarah Muska; Police Commission: Bob Leach, Chairman; Warehouse Point Fire Department: Jim Barton, Chief; Warehouse Point Fire Marshal: Rich Austin.

Public: Paul Anderson, Marie DeSousa; Bill Loos. Tom Talamini.

**Press:** No one from the Press was present.

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**TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING:**

First Selectman Maynard called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 .m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Everyone present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Agenda as presented.

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/*DISCUSSION:* None.**

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski**

**ATTENDANCE:** See page 1.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**Barbara Sherman:** Mrs. Sherman reported the American Heritage River Commission is celebrating Connecticut Trails Day on Sunday, June 3rd with a ribbon cutting ceremony of the opening of the new trail on the west side of the Melrose Road Bridge. The ribbon cutting ceremony will be followed by a guided 2 ½ mile hike. Mrs. Sherman provided the Selectman with an invitation to the event.

**Paul Anderson:** Mr. Anderson provided the Board with clarification of the purpose, appointment authority, and duration of *committee vs. commission* for their edification.

AND

Mr. Anderson also reported that Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> the Vintage Baseball Game will be held at 11:00 a.m. at the East Windsor High School. The game will be played under the rules of 1864. Mr. Anderson gave the Selectman a souvenir ticket for the game, which is being sponsored by the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee.

**Jessica Bottomley, Broad Brook/Chairman, Broad Brook Mill Site Remediation**

**Committee:** Ms. Bottomley reported the Broad Brook Mill (Site Remediation) Committee has the final report on the remediation plan for the mill. They are reviewing the report to determine what the numbers are with regard to the amount of chromium and other toxic materials, how much toxic material UTAS wants to keep in town, and the impact of that material on adjacent residents, businesses, and the Broad Brook Church.

Ms. Bottomley reported it's important for the people of the town to know about the report, and the intention of UTAS regarding remediation of the site. UTAS must hold public meetings to advise the public. Ms. Bottomley noted that no matter how much we want to save the building

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we can't do that unless we have clean land. She cited the need for the people to read the report, and support the Committee regarding their recommendations.

**Paul Anderson:** Mr. Anderson reported he received something in the mail recently from the Town which has excellent information about the budget. First Selectman Maynard gave credit for the flyer to Treasurer Amy O'Toole, who researched the information and created the flyer with the assistance of Amanda Schroll of the Selectman's Office.

**Keith Yagaloff:** Mr. Yagaloff, who is also a member of the Broad Brook Mill Site Remediation Committee, added that the report indicates that there are cancer causing materials on the mill property which they should clean up, but UTAS doesn't want to remove that material from the town; they want to leave that cancer causing material on the site and move it behind the (Broad Brook Congregational) Church and cover the rest of the site with soil and then walk away. Mr. Yagaloff reiterated UTAS is not removing the cancer causing material from the mill site. He clarified that what Ms. Bottomley is saying is the (Broad Brook Mill) Committee is looking for support from the Board of Selectmen (BOS), and the public.

**Rebecca Talamini:** Ms. Talamini reported the video of this meeting isn't working. After review of the video equipment First Selectman Maynard noted the YouTube connection wasn't operational.

**Marie DeSousa:** Mrs. DeSousa suggested many people rely on the videos; she suggested getting someone trained to work it.

**Deputy First Selectman Dearborn:** Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested it's nice to have this Committee, and to have the BOS and other people's support but he felt the only thing UTAS will understand is a lawsuit to get the contaminated soil out of East Windsor. He felt we have to force these people to do the job right.

No one else requested to speak.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/April 19, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To ACCEPT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen dated April 19, 2018 as presented.

Szymanski moved/Hoffman seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None.

**VOTE:** In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/A.**

**Resignations:** None.

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**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/B**

**Reappointments:** .Historical Preservation Commission, Karla Bagdikian (D), regular member for a term expiring 11/15/2021.

**MOTION:** To APPOINT Karla Bagdikian (D), as a regular member of the Historic Preservation Commission for a term expiring 11/15/2021.

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/**

**DISCUSSION:** Selectman Szymanski thanked Mrs. Bagdikian for her service.

**VOTE:** In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/C. New**

**Appointments:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/A. East Windsor's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Report:**

Rebecca Talamini, Chairman of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, gave the following update:

- May 5<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, Vintage Baseball Game at 11:00 a.m. at the East Windsor High School. The 25 cent tickets given to the Board by Mr. Anderson represents the 1864 ticket price.
- May 19<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, Special Town Hall Meeting and opening of the Bicentennial Time Capsule. The Time Capsule for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration will be buried at the same location in September.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/B. Casino:**

First Selectman Maynard reported MMCT Venture applied for and was granted a permit to hook into the WPCA . First Selectman Maynard reported that the sewer plant has capacity for 2.5 million gallons/day; we are currently at 1.2 million gallons/day. The casino will produce 100,000 gallons/day. The plant will still be at approximately 50% capacity with the inclusion of the casino.

First Selectman Maynard also reported that MMCT has filed site plans for a Wetlands Permit; the anticipated date of the Public Hearing will be May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Town Hall. A Public Hearing for the Planning and Zoning Application will follow; the location for that meeting hasn't been finalized but may be held at the High School. Architectural drawings have not yet been submitted.

**NEW BUSINESS/A. Agricultural Ordinance:**

Kirk Montstream, of the Agricultural Commission, referenced a copy of the Farm Tax Exemption Ordinance for the Town of Ellington, and the supporting filing documents (See Attachment A). Mr. Montstream suggested East Windsor should mirror the Ellington exemption, which is for farm buildings and equipment. Mr. Montstream cited the Assessor indicated there is

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nothing of this type currently in East Windsor. He requested the Selectmen support the Agricultural Commission and copy Ellington's Farm Tax Exemption.

Selectman Szymanski indicated he's familiar with Ellington's exemption; it applies to farm buildings up to \$100,000. He cited that farming is a gamble; the exemption could keep people operating during the lean years. First Selectman Maynard reported the Board should consider creating a sub-committee to include a selectman and members of the Agricultural Commission to work on drafting an ordinance to bring back to the BOS. Mr. Montstream reported the Agricultural Commission meets monthly. He cited that every farmer knows the scenario for Route 5 but the Town must save the farmland as well.

**MOTION: To CREATE a Farm Tax Exemption Committee consisting of three to five members, with the charge of drafting a Farm Tax Exemption Ordinance to bring back to the Board of Selectmen. Meeting dates to be determined.**

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION:** Deputy First Selectman Dearborn volunteered to represent the Board of Selectmen.

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski**

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested that people feel the Town isn't making money on the farmland because of the "490" tax break. He felt that the Town makes more money from the agricultural uses than from residential uses. He cited the new subdivision going up in Windsorville; he cited he isn't against supporting the schools but each homeowner that has a couple of kids going through the East Windsor school system – you'll need three times the tax revenue of the home to offset the cost of education for the kids.

Selectman Hoffman noted he recently talked to the developer (Hamlet Homes) of the Windsorville subdivision; he's putting in 21 homes in that subdivision and already has sold 11. The developer reported he recently built 10 homes in Suffield; they were purchased primarily by young people of child-bearing age. In discussing the mix of potential sales for the Hamlet Homes project the developer felt half are young people. Selectman Hoffman suggested each of those homes could have 2.2 children; at a cost of \$17,800/child to educate those children that would translate into a cost of \$400,000. When he recently had a discussion with the Board of Finance he suggested for the cost of education to be revenue neutral the taxable value of each of those homes must be \$1.3 million dollars. Selectman Hoffman suggested the best way to achieve that would be for East Windsor to bring in businesses, and the next thing is to maintain the agricultural land. He suggested that somewhere along the line the Town has to achieve the correct mix or it will be a disaster in the future. He referenced a discussion with a member of the South Windsor Planning and Zoning Commission who has indicated South Windsor will be facing expanding their school system to accommodate the new construction of homes and apartments. Selectman Hoffman agreed with Deputy First Selectman Dearborn and Mr. Montstream; the Town needs to retain a substantial amount of farmland. He cited the development opportunities along Route 5, I-91, and Route 140; we need to retain the farmland to the east or it will be consumed by developers.

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First Selectman Maynard RECESSED the Board of Selectmen Meeting to Call to Order the Town Meeting.

**MOTION: To RECONVENE the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 7:55 p.m.**

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None.**

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski**

**NEW BUSINESS/B. Fire Department Funding Subcommittee:**

Selectman Hoffman reiterated there is inequity between the funding for the two fire departments. It would seem to do it correctly there should be a townwide fire district, or leave it alone but that places a bigger burden on the people of Warehouse Point. From an operational perspective, the two departments work well together. Selectman Hoffman cited previous attempts to reach a resolution; he felt there should be an independent review by people who stand outside the loop of the fire departments. Selectman Hoffman felt paying for the Broad Brook Fire Department out of the Town coffers and paying for the Warehouse Point Fire Department from their own pockets was wrong.

Selectman Szymanski agreed, noting he has been attending meetings with the Warehouse Point Fire District. He understood there have been some preliminary discussions between the departments; he felt he and Selectman Hoffman can work with the two departments to come up with something that's the right thing for both organizations and the Town. To be able to accomplish that Selectman Szymanski cited the discussions need to begin to be able to have this done before the next budget season.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn cited a fire district has considerable power. He recalled the funding for the Warehouse Point Fire District was \$400,000 the first year, then it went up to \$600,000; he questioned what it went up to this year? Deputy First Selectman Dearborn noted that this current fire district funding was voted in by a vote of 26 in favor and 1 opposed; that tells him that the people within the Warehouse Point Fire District don't care that they pay for that funding. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn cited examples of fire districts taxing as they choose; he cited he doesn't want to be involved in this subcommittee.

Discussion continued; Deputy First Selectman Dearborn felt enlarging the district wasn't the way to go – for Broad Brook to have a district, it won't happen. Selectman Hoffman and Szymanski clarified they have no preconceived ideas regarding enlarging the district townwide or eliminating it and funding the departments through the budget. Selectman Szymanski cited the need to review the issue again to bring equity to the people. First Selectman Maynard cited his concern is that both fire departments are funded properly; Deputy First Selectman Dearborn agreed that it takes more money to fund Warehouse Point than Broad Brook.

**MOTION: To CREATE a Fire Department Funding Subcommittee of the Board of Selectmen. The Fire Department Funding Subcommittee shall consist of**

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**Charlie Szymanski, Andy Hoffman, and Bob Maynard. The Subcommittee is charged with providing equitable fire department funding for the Town of East Windsor. The Subcommittee will meet as determined.**

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/**

**DISCUSSION:** Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested that whatever you decide it needs to go to Town Meeting; it will never survive. Tom Talamini, speaking from the audience, questioned that having the three Selectmen as subcommittee members would make it a meeting of the Board of Selectmen? First Selectman Maynard noted he would have to notice the meetings as a Special Meeting. Discussion followed regarding options for creating the committee; Deputy First Selectman Dearborn noted the previous Fire Protection Committee, those recommendation were never acted on.

**VOTE:        In Favor:     Maynard/Hoffman/Szymanski  
              Opposed:     Dearborn  
              Abstained: No one.**

**NEW BUSINESS/C. Charter Revision Commission:**

First Selectman Maynard reported he would like the BOS to form the Charter Revision Commission at the Board's next meeting scheduled for Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. He noted the First Selectman's Office has received 13 applications; he will stop taking applications on May 11<sup>th</sup>, the Friday before the next BOS Meeting.

First Selectman Maynard provided the Board with a list of nine areas of review which potentially comprise the charge to the Charter Revision Commission (*See Attachment B*). First Selectman Maynard reviewed the charges.

Selectman Hoffman cited his belief that there should be line item votes on major budget expenditures; he cited a recent Hartford Courant article noting New Britain is giving it's voters the opportunity to vote on budget expenditures rather than voting on the total budget. Selectman Szymanski questioned what happened to an expenditure that was defeated? Selectman Hoffman referenced an example of a similar situation in a small town in Maine; a defeated item was returned to the Board of Finance for optional funding considerations. Discussion continued. John Matthews, Co-Chairman of the Charter Revision Study Committee suggested line approvals add some complexity to the budget process but could be achievable. First Selectman Maynard suggested adding "Consider line item approval on budget going to referendums" to the proposed charge #5.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn questioned if the budget could be separated so the voters could vote on the school budget and the Town budget separately? Selectman Szymanski noted the Charter Revision Study Committee had discussed that recommendation as well; Mr. Matthews suggested that recommendation had been among the 25 original considerations. He suggested that division of the budgets leads to controversy and divides the voters. He suggested it also

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goes to the issue of how many referendums the Town wants to hold; in 2007 it was concluded that it wasn't effective to extend the referendums through to August.

Selectman Szymanski suggested adding an additional charge that the recommendations be “inclusive of other alterations and recommendations”; First Selectman Maynard suggested adding that language as charge #10. Discussion followed regarding the Charter Revision Commission's ability to include items other than those indicated in the charge approved by the BOS. Mr. Matthews cited that the Statute requires the Commission to review each of the charges and provide a written report; they are not obligated to go forward with any of the charges and are free to add others, but the recommendations approved are the recommendations presented to the voters. Mr. Matthews noted there will be several Public Hearing during the revision process, with open participation occurring at each of the meetings during which the Selectmen and others can give opinions.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the Charter Revision Commission charge from the Board of Selectmen dated May, 2018 as amended.**

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None.**

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski**

**NEW BUSINESS/D. Tax Refunds:**

**MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$410.75 as identified under Tax Refund Report dated April 27, 2018.**

**Dearborn moved/Hoffman .seconded/DISCUSSION: None**

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski**

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/A. Charlie Szymanski:**

Selectman Szymanski suggested he would like to see some recognition within the Town Hall as acknowledgement of the school system and its accomplishments. He suggested maybe setting up a bulletin board titled “Pride in East Windsor's Schools” to list recent student achievements. Selectman Hoffman concurred, suggesting that once people acquire the right mindset they want to belong to the cause. He suggested an electronic sign outside Town Hall. First Selectman Maynard indicated he'll add this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/B. Jason E. Bowsza:**

Selectman Bowsza is not present this evening.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Steve Dearborn:**



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Deputy First Selectman Dearborn reported he attended Jim Stremper's Plowing Event on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Community Gardens. He noted four or five teams attended the event. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn reported on a similar event he attended in Canterbury where a gentleman in his 90s participated by walking behind a plow team. He reported the Community Garden event had a good crowd.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn also reported the Wetlands Commission is considering a request for timber harvesting in Melrose. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn indicated he didn't know if the permit had been granted but it's an As-Of-Right Activity.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/D. Andy Hoffman:**

Selectman Hoffman reported the May meeting of the Economic Development Commission hasn't occurred yet but Town Planner Laurie Whitten, EDC member Bob Lyke, and he held a telephone conversation with a representative from CERC to set priorities for their assistance. Initially CERC will assist with the following items:

- Setting up the Economic Development webpage and populating it with information
- Developing a property inventory
- Developing a business listing

Selectman Hoffman suggested setting up the website may be the easiest of the tasks. Developing the property inventory is a more substantial task, as it involves meeting with landowners to discuss bundling parcels for marketing to new businesses. Selectman Hoffman noted that it's also difficult to develop a list of businessowners. He reiterated the EDC has only \$10,000 to spend this fiscal year so CERC's assistance will be limited. Selectman Szymanski noted the Warehouse Point Fire Department has been visiting businesses in their area to acquire contact information; he suggested Selectman Hoffman contact the Warehouse Point District Fire Marshal regarding sharing that information.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/E. Robert Maynard:**

First Selectman Maynard had nothing to report this evening.

**SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL OF CHECK RESIGTERS:**

The Selectmen reviewed the registers presented and took appropriate action.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-210 (b-1) (b-4) Litigation & Negotiations 0**  
**Possible action:**

**MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION after a five minute break. (The break began at 8:40 p.m.). Attending the Executive Session were First Selectman Maynard, Deputy First Selectman Dearborn, Selectman Hoffman, and Selectman Szymanski.**

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**Dearborn moved/Hoffman .seconded/DISCUSSION: None  
VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski**

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:21 p.m.

**MOTION** made (Dearborn) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) to authorize the First Selectman to engage one or more qualified attorneys to provide legal services for the Town of East Windsor for matters which Pullman and Comley has discontinued service or for which Pullman and Comley is engaged in litigation against the Town and other matters for which the Board of Selectmen or the First Selectman deem it advisable.

All in favor.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION** made (Dearborn) and **SECONDED** (Szymanski) to adjourn. The Board adjourned at 9:25 p.m. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted



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Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Attachments A and B

STATE OF CONNECTICUT - COUNTY OF TOLLAND  
INCORPORATED 1786



# TOWN OF ELLINGTON

55 MAIN STREET - PO BOX 187  
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187  
TEL 870-3100 FAX 870-3102  
www.ellington-ct.gov

## TAX EXEMPTION FOR FARM BUILDINGS:

Pursuant to the authority granted by Connecticut General Statutes, Section 12-91(c) that gives the Town the option to provide an additional exemption for farm buildings, the Town hereby provides that the Assessor shall grant a reduction on the property tax assessment for any building used actually and exclusively in farming, as defined in Section 1-1, or for any building used to provide housing for seasonal employees of such farmer in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) in the assessed value of each eligible building. The exemption shall not apply to any residence except for a building used exclusively as a residence for seasonal employees. On or before the first day of November on which the Assessor's Office is open, the owner shall make written application on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture or as adopted by the Assessor identifying each building for which this exemption or reduction in assessment is claimed listing the then current assessed value of the building and the claimed exemption. The application shall include a notarized affidavit certifying that the owner, derived at least fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in gross sales or incurred at least fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) in expenses related to such farming operation, with respect to the most recently completed taxable year of such farmer prior to the commencement of the assessment year (October 1) for which such application is made. In the event the farm is owned by one person or entity and leased to another who actually farms, then the lessee shall also file the financial affidavit and it is the lessee's income or expenses that must meet the minimum amount. Any rental expense shall be a lessee expense except rent paid to an immediate family member or entity owned by an immediate family member. The owner shall file an affidavit attesting to the identity of the lessee. Failure to file the application on or before the first day of November on which the Assessor's office is open shall be considered a waiver of the right to such exemption for the assessment year. Any person aggrieved by any action of the Assessor shall have the same rights and remedies for appeal and relief as are provided in the General Statutes for taxpayers claiming to be aggrieved by the doings of the Assessor.

## APPROVAL RECORD FOR ORDINANCES:

Board of Selectmen Approved for Public Hearing:	October 15, 2012
Public Hearing Notice Published On:	October 25, 2012
Public Hearing Held On:	November 5, 2012
Board of Selectmen Recommend Adoption:	November 5, 2012
Town Meeting Notice Published On:	November 29, 2012
Approved by Town Meeting On:	December 10, 2012
Town Clerk Published Legal Notice upon Passage On:	December 13, 2012
Effective Date of Ordinance:	January 3, 2013

ARTICLE X

**Exemption for Farm Buildings**

**[Adopted by Town Meeting 12-10-2012, effective 1-3-2013]**

**§ 160-22. Statutory authority; amount of exemption; applicability; application requirements; appeals.**

- A. Pursuant to the authority granted by Connecticut General Statutes, § 12-91(c), that gives the Town the option to provide an additional exemption for farm buildings, the Town hereby provides that the Assessor shall grant a reduction on the property tax assessment for any building used actually and exclusively in farming, as defined in C.G.S. § 1-1, or for any building used to provide housing for seasonal employees of such farmer in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 in the assessed value of each eligible building.
- B. The exemption shall not apply to any residence except for a building used exclusively as a residence for seasonal employees.
- C. On or before the first day of November on which the Assessor's office is open, the owner shall make written application, on forms prescribed by the Commissioner of Agriculture or as adopted by the Assessor, identifying each building for which this exemption or reduction in assessment is claimed, listing the then current assessed value of the building and the claimed exemption. The application shall include a notarized affidavit certifying that the owner derived at least \$15,000 in gross sales or incurred at least \$15,000 in expenses related to such farming operation, with respect to the most recently completed taxable year of such farmer prior to the commencement of the assessment year (October 1) for which such application is made.
- D. In the event the farm is owned by one person or entity and leased to another who actually farms, then the lessee shall also file the financial affidavit, and it is the lessee's income or expenses that must meet the minimum amount. Any rental expense shall be a lessee expense, except rent paid to an immediate family member or entity owned by an immediate family member. The owner shall file an affidavit attesting to the identity of the lessee.
- E. Failure to file the application on or before the first day of November on which the Assessor's office is open shall be considered a waiver of the right to such exemption for the assessment year.
- F. Any person aggrieved by any action of the Assessor shall have the same rights and remedies for appeal and relief as are provided in the General Statutes for taxpayers claiming to be aggrieved by the doings of the Assessor.

**§ 160-13. Crediting of excess payments.**

Any such excess payments shall be credited to the over/short account.

ARTICLE VII

**Exemption for Farm Equipment**

**[Adopted 10-7-2002, effective 11-2-2002]**

**§ 160-14. Purpose; exemption granted.**

The Town of Ellington wishes to foster its heritage as a farming community and to encourage the same hereby grants an additional exemption from property tax for farm machinery and equipment to the extent of an additional assessed value of \$100,000 pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 12-91(b), in addition to the exemption of \$100,000 provided under Connecticut General Statutes § 12-91(a), for a total possible exemption of \$200,000, and subject to all of the same limitations as provided under Connecticut General Statutes § 12-91(a) as well as the application and qualification process provided in Subsection (d) of said statute.

ARTICLE VIII

**Exemption for Veterans**

**[Adopted 6-21-2004, effective 7-16-2004]**

**§ 160-15. Statutory authority; additional exemption granted.**

Pursuant to the authority granted by Connecticut General Statutes § 12-81f, any veteran entitled to an exemption from property taxes in accordance with Subdivision (19) of § 12-81 shall be entitled to an additional exemption applicable to the assessed value of property up to the amount of \$5,000, provided that the total of such veteran's adjusted gross income as determined under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 12-811, as the same may be amended from time to time, for purposes of the federal income tax plus any other income of such veteran not included in such adjusted gross income, individually, if unmarried, or jointly, if married, in the calendar year ending immediately preceding the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is allowed is not more than the guidelines established by the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 12-170aa.

**§ 160-16. Exemption for surviving spouse.**

Any veteran's surviving spouse entitled to an exemption from property tax in accordance with Subdivision (22) of § 12-81 of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be entitled to an additional exemption applicable to the assessed value or property up to the amount of \$5,000, provided that the total of such spouse's adjusted gross income as determined under the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes § 12-811, as the same may be amended from time to time, for purposes of the federal income tax plus any other income of such spouse not included in such adjusted gross income in the calendar year ending immediately preceding the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is allowed is not more than

the guidelines established by the Office of Policy and Management pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 12-170aa.

**§ 160-17. Application for exemption.**

Any such veteran or spouse submitting a claim for such additional exemption shall complete such application forms and provide such supporting information as may be required by the Assessor under the applicable statutes.

**§ 160-18. Applicability.**

- A. This article shall become effective on the 21st day after publication following its passage and shall be applicable with respect to the assessment year commencing October 1, 2004, and each assessment year thereafter.
- B. Any veteran or spouse who has submitted an application and been approved for the additional veteran's exemption under § 12-81g of the Connecticut General Statutes shall be entitled to such exemption.

ARTICLE IX

**Waiver of Interest on Taxes Due from Property Owners Serving in Iraq  
[Adopted 2-6-2006]**

**§ 160-19. Qualification for waiver; term of waiver; applicability.**

Any person who is domiciled with and the spouse of a member of the armed services of the United States or of any state or of any reserve component thereof who has been called to active service in the armed forces of the United States for military operations that are authorized by the President of the United States that entail military action in Iraq, and who is serving in the Middle East on the final day that payment of such property tax or installment or part thereof is due, shall not be charged any interest for a period of one year on any property tax or installment or part thereof that is payable for real property assessed on the 2003 Grand List.

**§ 160-20. Proof of status.**

The Tax Collector is authorized to require written proof of the above-described status in order to implement the above-described waiver of interest.

**§ 160-21. When effective.**

This article shall be effective for real property accrued on the 2003 Grand List.

**Charter Revision Commission charge from BOS May 17, 2018**

1. The changes to the charter should be separated so residents can vote on the changes separately in a referendum and if one change is defeated, the defeat change will not affect other changes that pass the referendum vote.
2. Examine the budget default. Consider:
  1. Should the number of budget referendums be limited?
  2. If the number of budget referendums is limited, what should the number of referendums be?
  3. If the number of budget referendums is limited, what should the default be?
  4. Clarify the method of allocating default budget money across departments.
3. Address existing ambiguities in the Charter as follows: utilize Municode system for maintaining Charter and Ordinances online; identify specific state statutes applicable to Charter provisions; identify specific state statutes for the establishment of boards and commissions; codification of all ordinances.
4. Consider a Charter provision for a position that will research, organize, save and make available information that is of value the Town
5. Revise/clarify requirements for budget narratives throughout the budget process describing, requests, the reasons for budget increases and decreases and the reasons for cutting and increasing requests.
6. Clarify the Town Attorney selection process and term of service.
7. Consider Charter provisions for a Shared Services Commission
8. Reduce the number of signatures required for a petitioning referendum.
9. Clarify the Town's procurement, purchasing, and external department operations audit procedures.