

# TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, November 1, 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: Jason Bowsza, Andy Hoffman, Charles J. Szymanski.

**ABSENT:** All Selectmen were present.

**SPEAKERS/GUESTS:** David Cappiello, representing MMCT

#### Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Town

Entities: 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee: Rebecca Talamini, Chairman.

Water Pollution Control Authority: Paul Anderson, Chairman.

Public: Paul Anderson, Marie DeSousa, Bill Loos, Nick MacSata, John Mazza, Mike Scalzo, Jr., Tom Talamini, Bill Towers, Keith Yagaloff.

**Press:** Anthony Branciforte, Journal Inquirer.

#### TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING:

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

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First Selectman Maynard requested everyone to stand and share a moment of silence for the victims of the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Everyone present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** No change.

First Selectman Maynard noted the Board of Selectmen's Meeting will recess at approximately 7:30 p.m. to convene the Town Meeting.

**ATTENDANCE:** See page 1.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

First Selectman Maynard reported that he believes in communication; he believes communication is a primary factor in the health and growth of the community. First Selectman Maynard indicated public participation is a forum for the residents of East Windsor to help him and the Board to make plans and decisions to make East Windsor a better place in which to live and work. First Selectman Maynard suggested that to facilitate the constructive exchange of information this meeting will follow Robert's Rules as the Town Charter requires. First Selectman Maynard requested that you raise your hand and he'll recognize you; when you have the floor you can speak and you should not be interrupted. When you start to speak say your name and address, and when you're through speaking First Selectman Maynard indicated he'll recognize someone else.

**Rebecca Talamini, 34 Rye Street:** Ms. Talamini presented the Board with a plaque purchased by the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee. The plaque includes a laminated copy of the Journal Inquirer article summarizing the celebration events for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Ms. Talamini indicated the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee would like to have the plaque hung in Town Hall; she has spoken with Mrs. Calve of the First Selectman's Office regarding placement of the plaque.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** Mr. Anderson noted that on the Agenda tonight you have John Mazza as a new appointment; Mr. Anderson indicated he'd like to say something about Mr. Mazza. He's an outstanding citizen who has the best interest of the Town of East Windsor at heart. If you noticed in the JI tonight this Selectmen's Meeting was listed and you can thank him for following through and making that happen. That's the kind of guy he is; he wants things to work in this Town. Mr. Anderson indicated they're really looking forward to having him on the WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority).

**Marie DeSousa, (10 Rice Road):** Mrs. DeSousa recalled that two weeks ago at the meeting you guys approved, minus Jason – he wasn't there – you approved the proposal for the money for the

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casino and for it to go to Town Meeting. Mrs. DeSousa noted there's a Town Meeting tonight and the item is not on there. She was wondering why.

First Selectman Maynard suggested he didn't think they would bring it up until some more progress has been made on the casino. Mrs. DeSousa asked if that was following the Charter.

**John Mazza, 143 Winkler Road:** Mr. Mazza suggested he would like to make a suggestion. For anyone making a statement, they should not only face the Board of Selectmen, they should face the whole room. We can barely understand what they are saying most of the time. Mr. Mazza felt the audience would appreciate it if we could consider an audio system with some kind of a podium that these people stand at so we can all hear them. Mr. Mazza suggested this lady that just spoke – only a few words were caught. First Selectman Maynard agreed with Mr. Mazza's comments; he hoped that everyone in the room hears it because we're going into the budget process very soon and we need some money to pay for that.

**Bill Towers, 14 Maple Avenue:** Mr. Towers indicated there was some discussion last month on the meeting on October second – Mr. Towers indicated he "FOIed" that information on October 19<sup>th</sup> and in his FOI request form he asked for minutes of all Selectmen's notes, as an example, the First Selectman's notebook pertaining to the unannounced meeting that occurred on October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Town Hall Meeting from 9:30 to 11:30, meeting concerning the annual report, the meeting was reserved by Andy Hoffman, attendees were Robert Maynard, Charlie Szymanski, and Andy Hoffman, Amanda Calve, and Amy O'Toole. The meeting was referenced at the Board of Selectmens Meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>, and Mr. Towers indicated he just wanted to look at the documents. On October 19<sup>th</sup> Mr. Towers emailed – Mr. Towers then indicated that actually he dropped his request off to Amanda. She emailed him – "Hi, Bill: I'm in receipt of your FOI request; I should have that information to you by next week". Mr. Towers indicated that was October 19<sup>th</sup>. October 31<sup>st</sup> – "Any update on this request?" – nothing. November 1<sup>st</sup> – "Any update on this request?" – Nothing. Mr. Towers suggested you talk about communication, there has to be a sender, a receiver, and a message. Mr. Towers indicated he's doing the sending. Thank you.

First Selectman Maynard thanked Mr. Towers.

**Keith Yagaloff, 125 Depot Street:** Mr. Yagaloff indicated there was an application before the Planning and Zoning that's still pending for a gravel pit in town and one of the things they planned to do was bring in what appeared to be contaminated soil. Mr. Yagaloff wanted to thank the members of the Selectmen who came and spoke out about the issues of contaminated soils. All of you were involved in one way or the other but he recalled specifically Mr. Szymanski, Mr. Dearborn, and First Selectman Maynard. Mr. Yagaloff indicated he spoke out, and a lot of the community spoke out, and in fact, they removed their request to bring fill into the Town. Mr. Yagaloff felt the Town spoke up loudly and clearly about the contaminated soils. It shows that if everyone comes together and unifies around these issues we can have an impact on these sorts of pollution issues particularly. Thank you guys for coming out and doing the right thing. First Selectman Maynard thanked Mr. Yagaloff.

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**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Special Meeting Minutes of October 2, 2018:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Special Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated October 2, 2018 as presented.

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

**VOTE:** In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Regular Meeting Minutes of October 18, 2018:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated October 18, 2018.

Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/

**DISCUSSION:** Selectman Bowsza cited there was an omission that he thought we all heard from the public about that he thought really ought to be included, and that was the exchange between First Selectman Maynard and Mr. Towers with the pound sand comment. Selectman Bowsza said he's not one that generally adheres to meeting minutes as being transcripts but there is a video of that, there are certainly enough people who know that that happened and they're concerned that that happened to begin with, and that it was omitted from the minutes that he would move that that be added. Selectman Bowsza questioned that that would be incorporated in the minutes? First Selectman Maynard replied we will, and we should make a motion as amended. Selectman Bowsza questioned what that would be? That it will be amended in the public participation section? First Selectman Maynard said yes. Selectman Bowsza said ok.

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

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated October 18, 2018, **as amended:**

**Page 4, Paragraph 4:** Deputy First Selectman Dearborn thanked Mrs. Farmer for the CCM information, and questioned if anyone else wanted to slam the Board of Selectmen? Mrs. DeSousa suggested they not laugh. First Select Maynard suggested Mrs. DeSousa be recognized; noting the back and forth was getting out of control he ended public participation. Mr. Towers raised his hand to be recognized; First Selectman Maynard suggested Mr. Towers pound sand. Mr. Towers advised Ms. Muska to file an FOI request. Mr. Towers thanked Mr. Maynard for telling him to pound sand; he appreciated that. First Selectman Maynard said he appreciated what Mr. Towers had done this evening; Mr. Towers indicated First Selectman Maynard was welcome.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

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**COMMUNICATIONS:**

First Selectman Maynard noted the flyer available on the bulletin board and on the table from the German Club regarding their annual Thanksgiving Day Dinner. The dinner will be held on Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Cost is any monetary donation or a non-perishable food item. Please call the number listed on the flyer for reservations. (See Attachment A).

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

Resignations: None.

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

Reappointments: None.

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

Appointments: John Mazza (U), Water Pollution Control Authority, for a term expiring October 1, 2019:

**MOTION: To APPOINT John Mazza (U), to the Water Pollution Control Authority, for a term expiring October 1, 2019.**

**Szymanski moved/Dearborn seconded**

**DISCUSSION:** Selectman Hoffman felt Mr. Mazza will be a good member; he's the kind of person we need on the various commissions and committees. First Selectman Maynard agreed.

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski/Bowsza  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/A. Casino Discussion:**

First Selectman Maynard noted that John Mazza had said there hadn't been much mentioned in the JI about the casino, and the next day Anthony (Branciforte) published a good article. First Selectman Maynard read an excerpt of the article, noting, "that the following day the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe asked Wednesday to file an amended civil complaint against the Federal Government and MGM Resorts Global Development LLC, so they're moving forward in the Federal arena. The complaint alleges Secretary Ryan Zinke's decision to approve amendments to a revenue sharing agreement between the Tribe and the State has been the result of political influence. First Selectman Maynard noted that Selectman Hoffman has had conversations with Mr. Cappiello and he also spoke to Anthony.

Selectman Hoffman reported that Anthony had been very cooperative and agreed to write a pre-article to let people know that David Cappiello, representing MMCT, would be attending this Board of Selectmen's Meeting. Selectman Hoffman indicated that Mr. Cappiello is always

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cooperative on the phone, and he's always willing to give us the latest information that he can, and is always willing to speak to the Town. Selectman Hoffman indicated Mr. Cappiello is present tonight to bring the public up to date on the current status of the East Windsor casino.

Mr. Cappiello joined the Board to address the audience and the Board. Mr. Cappiello noted that last year Secretary Zinke of the Department of the Interior and The Bureau of Indian Affairs refused to publish the compact amendments of the Mashantuckets Pequots Tribe and the Mohegan Tribe. The State and Mashantuckets and the Mohegan tribes sued the Department of the Interior. Six months later, on June 1<sup>st</sup>, they relented on the Mohegan compact, and said that one was ok. They were led to believe the following week or so that they would also approve, or publish, the Mashantucket Pequot amendment. And then they decided not to do that. Mr. Cappiello indicated they are identical compacts; one (the Mashantuckets Pequots) is called a procedure because it predated compacts, the other is called a compact. They have been treated the same for the past 20 years but the Department of the Interior said they were treating them differently all of a sudden.

Mr. Cappiello suggested fast forward - the courts recently ruled against the Mashantucket Pequots temporarily and the Pequots are now modifying their challenge to the Department of the Interior's decision.

Mr. Cappiello also noted that there is a general investigation against Secretary Zinke because of what they believe is undue influence related to what they believe was taking place with MGM and the Secretary's Office. That's one of about 14 or 15 complaints against the Secretary with the Investigator General. Mr. Cappiello reported that just a couple of weeks ago Secretary Zinke tried to replace the Investigator General doing all of the investigations but it was exposed, and he wasn't able to do that.

Mr. Cappiello noted that just this week there were articles that the Investigator General has referred some issues to the Department of Justice for investigation. Mr. Cappiello indicated that they keep referring to our issue as one of those issues; we don't know which issues they referred to the Department of Justice so only time will tell what will become of those.

Mr. Cappiello indicated that MMCT, the joint venture, still meets on a regular basis. They have invested many millions of dollars in this project, and are still financially invested; they are emotionally and personally invested, both Tribes, to see this to fruition. Mr. Cappiello indicated we're still moving forward. We have to deal with this legal issue, they have different options legally, legislatively and administratively, at their disposal.

Mr. Cappiello then took questions from the audience.

**Nick MacSata, 24 Sullivan Farms Road:** Are you looking at any legislative options to amend the current State law to move this forward? Mr. Cappiello suggested they're looking at all options. There will be a new Governor next week, a new Attorney General, and new Legislators. There are some Legislators that are vehement to make that change. Initially, it was MMCT's

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belief that there was never any need to have the Bureau of Indian Affairs approval because years earlier, when the State wanted to pass Keno, because of the exclusivity with the Tribes there was a deal made so there was never a need to go to the Bureau of Indian Affairs. This was something that came up through the Attorney General's Office, and, there will be a new Attorney General and we don't know how they'll feel about it. Mr. Cappiello suggested they have a lot of options at their disposal.

**Bill Loos, Melrose Road:** Is there some question with the Mohegans going ahead with the casino, and the Pequots going in as a 49% partner? Mr. Cappiello indicated they're going to be partners; one or the other can't go it alone because of the exclusivity agreement with the State of Connecticut. They can't say yes to one Tribe, and no to the other; they're partners. It's a good deal that they're partners because they're also competitors. They were competitors well before they had casinos. But they've been working very well together and they're intending to continue working together because, otherwise, it blows up the entire compact.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** The referral by the Inspector General to the Department of Justice, isn't that public information? Mr. Cappiello agreed that it is, but he didn't think it was published what investigations were referred to the DOJ. They just know there are 14 or 15 ongoing investigations; in the several articles that were written about the referrals this issue was one of the issues that was written about – there was also a land deal in Montano that the Secretary had issues with but Mr. Cappiello didn't think the person writing the article knew which issues were being referred either. There are many ongoing investigations; it's really one after another after another.

Selectman Hoffman questioned if there was anything the residents and the Town could do to help? Mr. Cappiello indicated that before the next legislative session they will be having discussions how the Board of Selectmen and residents can be helpful in Hartford. Selectman Hoffman indicated that would be good; we do want to help. Mr. Cappiello indicated they appreciate it.

Selectman Szymanski questioned in terms of the two events going on, one, regarding the Department of Interior doing whatever they're going to do there as well as something with the legislature here, what would be, in your mind, the quickest way to have something happen, to have a positive note to say you can move forward? Mr. Cappiello indicated his personal opinion is that legislatively there is a beginning and an end. Legally, they can get dragged on forever. Mr. Cappiello suggested he wasn't sure what the best angle is but he indicated you can have conversations here in the State of Connecticut when you're dealing with something legislatively, when you're dealing with the courts, who knows how long things take?

**Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road:** Mrs. DeSousa felt Mr. Cappiello was here about five weeks ago at a Selectmen's Meeting and you said you would be attending a Planning and Zoning Meeting the following few days and then she read in the newspaper that they asked for it to be

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continued to March of 2019; is that accurate, or not accurate? Mr. Cappiello thought that before he was here the last time they did go to Planning and Zoning. Mr. Cappiello didn't know; he would have to see. What they can't move forward with, they're moving forward with things like design issues and other things behind the scenes. There is a law right now on the books that does say contingent on Bureau of Indian Affairs. So we can't open a casino until that's dealt with, either through the Department of Interior, the courts, or legislatively. But, we're still moving forward in any way we can other than breaking the law.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** That was a delay in the filing of the mylars; that was approved by Planning and Zoning. Mr. Cappiello indicated Planning and Zoning is a different world than his world.

**Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road:** When she read that, that's a delay tactic. And she knows we can't go over ..... but something like mylars, getting them approved ahead of time and have them sitting on the shelf is better than not having them sitting on the shelf; it's going to go forward but ... Mr. Cappiello indicated there are operations people that would know that.

**Mike Scalzo, Petticoat Lane:** How much damage has MGM done so far? Has Hartford reacted to that at all? Mr. Cappiello indicated that if they didn't interfere with, in his words, the Department of Interior, he would say they would be two-thirds of the way done building a casino. So financially, for the State of Connecticut it's costing millions of millions of dollars and many jobs. The impact that they're going to have on slot revenues and other revenues for the State of Connecticut are not minimal. When we're looking at a State budget with a 4 ½ billion dollar deficit in the next two years, every bit helps, and you want to grow jobs. This is a company, an organization, that wants to grow jobs in the State of Connecticut and fight what's going on in Massachusetts. For a company that did come in and say we want to go into Connecticut and attack, and their whole purpose was to take revenues and money out of the State to Massachusetts. We want to fight back, not just for the Tribes but for the State of Connecticut. There are clearly, there's a financial hit.

Selectman Hoffman wanted to clarify for the people present tonight that the MMCT people continue to do engineering drawings – that's going forward? Mr. Cappiello replied – correct. Selectman Hoffman suggested from that standpoint, the delay will make it possible to move forward more readily once the approval is given. Mr. Cappiello concurred. Selectman Hoffman suggested you haven't stopped doing real work? Mr. Cappiello replied – no. The entity is already in millions of millions of dollars; they are not looking to turn their backs; they want to move forward. The sooner they get a shovel in the ground the sooner they can recoup their dollars.

First Selectman Maynard called for additional questions; no one else requested to speak.

First Selectman Maynard and the Board thanked Mr. Cappiello for coming. Selectman Hoffman questioned if Mr. Cappiello would be returning next month; Mr. Cappiello replied affirmatively.



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First Selectman Maynard RECESSED the Board of Selectman Meeting at 7:30 p.m. to convene the Town Meeting.

**MOTION: To RECONVENE the Board of Selectmen’s Meeting at 8:00 p.m.**

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

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski/Bowsza  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/B. Discussion of Charter Revision Questionnaire:**

First Selectman Maynard read an excerpt from the Charter Revision questionnaire, which indicated the purpose of the survey. First Selectman Maynard called on Mr. Yagaloff, Co-Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission, to explain what the Charter Revision Commission is trying to accomplish.

Mr. Yagaloff indicated that the State requires every town that has a charter to review the document every several years. The Charter Revision Commission convened the pre-committee and is now working under a timeline to recommend changes to the public. Mr. Yagaloff noted that other towns are also addressing the needs of their charters; Ellington is sending thirteen questions to referendum while Somers is sending eight questions to referendum as well.

Mr. Yagaloff indicated some of the changes being proposed by the Charter Revision Commission are simple changes; as an example, he noted the Commission is proposing that the document be updated to reference the specific Connecticut General Statute associated with areas of the Charter. Other changes deal with the various boards and commission getting the knowledge and data and benchmarks they need for long range planning. The Charter Revision Commission is also discussing the need for a Town Administrator to acquire the necessary data and benchmarking to assist the Town with the long range planning. The Commission has also had discussions on how the Town performs its audits.

Mr. Yagaloff noted the Commission has conducted open meetings. Members of the public, including Bob Leach, and Andy Hoffman, have attended. The Commission has now decided to conduct a survey to get public input to give to the Board of Selectmen. The first survey, being conducted currently, is available electronically.

First Selectman Maynard noted copies of the current survey are also available on the table; copies will also be available tomorrow or over the weekend at the libraries and the Town Hall. These copies can be filled out and returned to the Town Hall rather than going online. First Selectman Maynard noted the Commission is asking that submissions include e-mail addresses to try to eliminate duplicate submissions. First Selectman Maynard indicated that the survey is to be completed by November 20<sup>th</sup>. The December 6<sup>th</sup> Board of Selectmen’s Meeting will include a forum to discuss the results of the survey. First Selectman Maynard invited everyone to attend the forum to discuss the results of the survey.

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First Selectman Maynard indicated that at the last Charter Revision Commission Meeting they felt that the online survey didn't enable all residents to participate in the survey. Selectman Hoffman indicated there was lengthy discussion of options to get the survey out to a larger number of people who have an interest in this, but either don't use or have access to a computer. Selectman Hoffman reported the Charter Revision Commission had discussed a town-wide mailing to each household. He indicated the Commission had estimated the cost to be approximately \$1,800 for a mailing to approximately 6,000 households. Selectman Hoffman felt the mailing was a good idea but the Commission needs funds to do the mailing.

Selectman Szymanski indicated the Commission would do the mailing in the same way Treasurer O'Toole did the mailing for the budget referendum. He felt the actual cost of the mailing would be less but the Commission has requested \$1,800 as the timeframe to complete the mailing is short. First Selectman Maynard felt the funding could come from the Selectmen's budget. He noted Co-Chairman Matthews is in agreement with the survey as presented as well.

**Rebecca Talamini, 34 Rye Street:** questioned how the responses would be returned to the Town? First Selectman Maynard suggested residents could return them to Town Hall, or mail them in; instructions should be included in the mailer. Ms. Talamini suggested putting drop boxes in the Town Hall and other locations.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** reported the Broad Brook Library has paper copies of the survey available currently. Mr. Anderson would be willing to return copies of surveys dropped at the library.

Selectman Bowsza suggested there are 7400 voters; he questioned why not mail surveys to all of them? Selectman Bowsza suggested doing a random sampling would save money. First Selectman Maynard felt that a more accurate identification of the survey is that it's a questionnaire to get information from the residents. Selectman Bowsza questioned that there is no binding percentage associated with the survey results? First Selectman Maynard concurred. Selectman Hoffman indicated he had the same concerns; he felt if the mailing went to each household then the Commission would be getting a random sampling which would give the Commission feedback. He suggested the results aren't binding; the purpose was to gather information regarding the people's feelings associated with this initial survey. Selectman Szymanski suggested the survey was a copy of what another town did successfully, the Commission is looking for direction as to what the Town wants to do; he suggested the Commission will get into the detailed questions later.

Selectman Bowsza suggested that with regard to word choices, what effort was made to remove objectivity from the survey? He noted some choices are predetermined, while other questions are open ended. What logic was used as to what were pre-determined questions vs. the open ended options? First Selectman Maynard understood the Commission had used a survey from another town as a model. Mr. Yagaloff reported Rachel Safford, who is a new person in Town and is a member of the Charter Revision Commission, put a lot of energy into researching and

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preparing this survey. Ms. Safford found a survey implemented by the Town of North Stonington; the Commission reviewed that survey in preparation of this survey. Some of North Stonington's questions were removed as they were relevant to North Stonington. The Commission felt the questions they chose were pretty neutral; the questions are asking for input to give the Commission direction rather than to give us a particular result. The survey was intended to be simple initially, but it's become something larger and is important to the community. The Commission wanted to include everyone in this survey, including those that don't have computers; the Commission doesn't want anyone to feel left out. Mr. Yagaloff suggested there will be another more detailed survey down the road that will have specific questions after the commission has begun to formulate its work. Mr. Yagaloff suggested that he didn't know how Selectman Bowsza was reading the subjectivity part of it but it didn't come from the Commission; it may have come from North Stonington. Selectman Bowsza suggested just repeating someone else's mistake doesn't make it not a mistake. Mr. Yagaloff indicated the Commission didn't see the survey or questions as a mistake; it's a survey to get feedback to set the compass rather than to put specific ideas into stone.

Selectman Bowsza continued to feel the questions were leading. In response to Mr. Yagaloff's request for an example Selectman Bowsza offered – "in our Charter today, Section 10-8 ..... states that any resolutions making an appropriation of more than \$20,000, not included in the Annual Budget, are required to be sent to Town Meeting. Should there be a threshold set to advance high dollar value items to a referendum?" Mr. Yagaloff indicated the Commission didn't see that as a leading question. Selectman Bowsza sees including it as a leading question; he didn't see how that particular section about sending a threshold item to Town Meeting was included in the survey. Mr. Yagaloff indicated that the Commission got feedback from the public at their meetings, including during their discussions, that people had questions whether or not there were limits on Town Meeting votes. For example, could a Town Meeting approve \$5 million; could five people come to a Town Meeting and approve an expenditure of \$5 million? And the answer is yes; right now you can have a Town Meeting and five people can spend \$5 million. Mr. Yagaloff suggested it's not a leading question; it's a question the community had, and it's a legitimate question. So then we questioned if people want a threshold where it goes to referendum? That's not a leading question, that's a question that people in the community had; many people don't realize five people can come to a Town Meeting and spend the entire Fund Balance. The only limitation is for bonding; if it's over \$1 million it goes to referendum. Anything over \$20,000 goes to Town Meeting. When people became educated about that there were questions. Mr. Yagaloff estimated that the majority of the people would like to have a threshold for expenditures to go to Town Meeting; people in this Town want to have a referendum to vote on large expenditures. Mr. Yagaloff questioned that Selectman Bowsza didn't want to know if people wanted to vote on large expenditures. Selectman Bowsza indicated he puts his views out for the universe to see. Mr. Yagaloff suggested that would be a potential change in the Charter – that expenditures of over \$500,000 can not be approved at Town Meeting, they must go to referendum. Mr. Yagaloff felt people in the community want a cap on spending; that's why the question is there.

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Selectman Bowsza referenced surveymonkey.com, which includes a margin-of-error calculator. He indicated for a population of 11,200, with a confidence level of 95%, if you got a response from 400 people you would have a margin of error of 5%. Selectman Bowsza didn't feel we need to spend \$1800 twice.

**Tom Talamini, 23 Rice Road:** Mr. Talamini reported that the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee sent out a mailing which cost over \$2000; they were extremely disappointed with the return rate.

**Dick Pippin, 37 Woolam Road:** agreed with Mr. Talamini, to send a mailer to everyone in town, especially the initial survey, if anyone is really concerned they're either going to get on the computer or pick up one of these forms. To spend the money now, you're way ahead of the game. They haven't really proposed anything yet; they're still fishing a little bit. You're right to send a mailer out to the whole town, but when you've got something to really discuss. Mr. Pippin felt the Commission had the process right the way they're doing it now.

First Selectman Maynard indicated he supported sending out a mailer to get feedback for the December forum. If the mailer is sent to every household it will get people talking about it; discussing it at the Board of Selectmen Meeting doesn't always reach the majority of the community. Selectman Hoffman suggested people always criticize government for not being transparent. Here's an opportunity, at a pretty low cost, to send a document of great importance to our general public.

**John Mazza, 143 Winkler Road:** First Selectman Maynard acknowledged Mr. Mazza is a member of the Charter Revision Commission. Mr. Mazza indicated this is communication; we're going to send a mailer. That's communication to the Town telling them that we're working for their interest. Don't you want to tell the people – give them something to think about? All we're doing is making something so you can suggest what you want. Communication is important. You're getting them to think now. Even though you send one to a house there might be two voters; they're going to be sitting down together talking this over. Let's think about communication. \$1800 – we throw more than that away on many things, if it comes to \$1800. Let's show the people we're concerned about them. Let's communicate with them, tell them what we're doing. Don't keep this a secret. People will be talking about this all over town once you put a mailer out.

First Selectman Maynard called for additional public comment; no one requested to speak.

**MOTION:** I move to authorize the First Selectman to fund up to \$1,800 from the Selectmen's budget to mail one Charter Revision Questionnaire (Survey) to each East Windsor household.

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

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – November 1, 2018  
MEETING MINUTES -**

*(See Attachment B for copy of current survey).*

**NEW BUSINESS/A. Discussion of Beautification Committee:**

First Selectman Maynard indicated the Board had agreed to discuss creating a Beautification Committee. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn questioned the ability to get five people who would be interested in serving on this committee. First Selectman Maynard suggested he had hoped for one person from each of the villages. In response to Selectman Szymanski's question First Selectman Maynard noted the Garden Club members thought this was a good idea; they felt it would draw in more members. Selectman Hoffman questioned if the DPW would be able to offer assistance? First Selectman Maynard indicated the need to discuss this with them as they have many projects. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn questioned if this would involve Town buildings or islands, or what? First Selectman Maynard suggested the committee would come to the Board to discuss projects. Selectman Szymanski cited Ellington and Somers have similar committees; they're way ahead of us. In some towns they have hanging baskets on poles. Selectman Szymanski noted Ellington's Beautification Committee has worked on the five corners in Ellington and also at Crystal Lake. Selectman Szymanski suggested the committee can come to the Board of Selectmen with ideas that interest them to make different areas attractive. Deputy First Selectmen Dearborn suggested the committee will need funding for plants and mulch; Selectman Hoffman suggested will need some kind of budget for maintenance of the projects. Selectman Szymanski suggested the Town also needs upgraded signage. Selectman Hoffman noted the projects won't all be done at once, the committee can prioritize their projects. Selectman Hoffman suggested making the town look good is a good thing. If this committee works out the Board should consider making it a permanent commission.

**MOTION: I move to create by resolution a temporary Beautification Commission on this first day of November, 2018 pursuant to the Town Charter, Section 7-4. The Beautification Commission is charged by the Board of Selectmen with working with the Board of Selectmen to plan and effect the beautification of East Windsor. The Commission shall report to the Board of Selectmen quarterly. The Commission shall consist of 5 to 9 members and two alternates. The Commission shall cease its existence in 18 months of its creation, unless said Commission is extended by further resolution of the Board of Selectmen or made permanent through an ordinance. The Commission shall follow the Connecticut General Statutes and Town Charter, Section 7-1, regarding the way minutes are filed and posted and notice of meetings are filed and published and other relevant produces.**

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

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski/Bowsza  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

**NEW BUSINESS/B. Discussion of Broad Brook Mill Remediation:**

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – November 1, 2018  
MEETING MINUTES -**

First Selectman Maynard presented a slide show of the current condition of the Broad Brook Mill. First Selectman Maynard then reported that this past week three people went through the building; they included State Representative Chris Davis, First Selectman Maynard, and Beth Ackley, a structural engineer. Building Inspector Stanley and Barbara Smiegel were also present. First Selectman Maynard reported there's been some vandalism and graffiti since the building was visited a couple of years ago. There's a hole in the roof that's allowed plants to grow inside and mold to accumulate. The building has good solid beams, the floors are 3 inches thick, the third floor is suspended from the roof, the basement has sandstone rather than bricks. Building Inspector Stanley has said you could do anything with the building if you strip out the insides and remove the mold. First Selectman Maynard estimated a cost of approximately \$400,000 to remove the mold. First Selectman Maynard said the structural engineer has said the building is worth saving; it would be worth more if the insides were stripped out. First Selectman Maynard suggested the structural engineer will submit a report shortly.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn questioned the purpose of the inspection? First Selectman Maynard indicated it was to see if the building is worth saving. He noted that the Mill is on the National Register; it will cost UTC money to take it down. If UTC puts that money towards stripping it and putting a roof on it and marketing it the Mill could produce tax revenue. Selectman Szymanski said that Ms. Smiegel had said there were grants available for repair of the roof; First Selectman Maynard concurred, noting grants are available for brownfields and historic buildings.

Selectman Hoffman indicated he had spoken with Martin Eramo of UTC; Mr. Eramo has said that DEEP has a list of ten to twelve developers that they would start talking to regarding development of the Mill. Selectman Hoffman suggested this would be something the Town, by seeking grants, and the developers could work on together. Selectman Hoffman indicated Mr. Eramo will provide the Selectmen with a report; there will also be additional discussions with DEEP which he would like to include members of the Broad Brook Site Remediation Committee. Selectman Hoffman indicated there is still a question regarding where issue of the resolution of the removal of the consolidation area stands. Selectman Hoffman indicated Mr. Eramo has indicated UTC is still looking at that. Mr. Eramo is to submit his report shortly.

**NEW BUSINESS/C. Discussion of Budget Schedule:**

First Selectman Maynard cited the next budget season is coming up. He'll be discussing the budget workshop schedule with Board of Finance Chairman Jerilyn Corso and Treasurer Amy O'Toole shortly. First Selectman Maynard indicated he'd like to start the process earlier this year, with department submissions to begin in mid-December 2018.

**NEW BUSINESS/D. Discussion of Training Seminars:**

Selectman Hoffman suggested that as a new member of the Board of Selectmen the Town should have had some training for new members. The training should also be offered to members of other boards, including the Board of Education, the Board of Finance, and the Board of

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
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Selectmen. He felt it's important for each member to have a good understanding of the processes which go on in government. Selectman Hoffman noted he's read the Charter, Robert's Rules, and FOI information, and solicited information from the Town Attorney but he felt the Board should have Amanda schedule training for people coming into office. He suggested it's not only the training but it also offers the boards and commissions to exchange ideas. First Selectman Maynard referenced the flyer in the Board's packet, noting that had been provided by Amanda. Selectman Hoffman cited he attended CCM training, which was useful, when he served on the Economic Development Commission, but he was looking for something more focused for the Town. Selectman Szymanski requested something be scheduled for early December.

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

**MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,153.32 as identified under Tax Refund Report dated October 29, 2018**

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

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

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

Selectman Hoffman had nothing additional to report this evening.

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

*(See Attachment C)*

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Charles J. Szymanski:**

Selectman Szymanski had nothing additional to report.

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

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn noted there's an election coming up. If you don't get out and vote don't complain.

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

First Selectman Maynard reported that November 12<sup>th</sup> will be the launch of a new Town website, which will allow us to be much more dynamic in our presentations. He noted this now also allows the Town to develop a sub-website for the Economic Development Commission which will be available in about six months.

**SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTERS:**

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
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The Selectmen reviewed the registers presented and took appropriate action.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200 (6-a), Sec. 1-210 (b-1) (b-4)  
Employment, Litigation and Negotiations** – Action is possible:

No Executive Session held this evening.

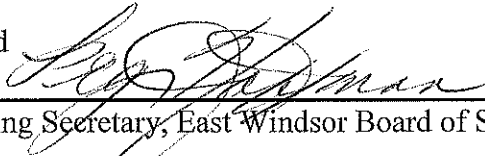
**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** To ADJOURN this Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

**Bowsza moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION:** None

**VOTE:** In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)

Respectfully submitted



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Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Enc: Attachment A – German Club Thanksgiving Dinner  
Attachment B – Charter Revision Commission Resident Survey  
Attachment C - Selectman Bowsza's Report



*BN 11/1/2018 Attachment A*

# German Club

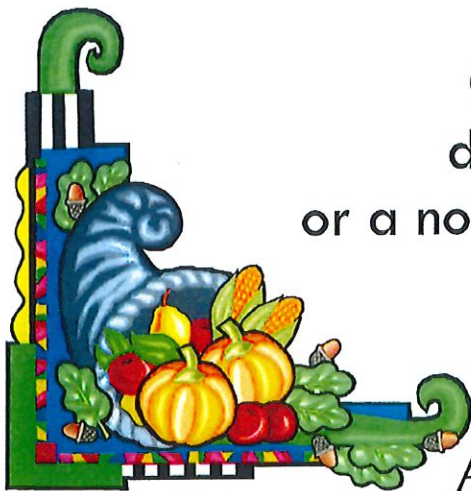


75 DEPOT STREET, BROAD BROOK, CT 860-627-7735

## Thanksgiving Day Dinner Thursday, November 22, 2018 1-4 PM

*No-one to spend the holiday with?  
Come join us for a  
Traditional Thanksgiving Dinner.*

**COST:** Any monetary  
donations appreciated  
or a non-perishable food donation.



Call for Reservations  
After 3pm 860-627-7735

*EW 11/2018 Attachment B*

In order for your responses to be considered, please provide either your email address or full name.

Thank you.

### East Windsor CT Charter Revision Commission Resident Survey

The Charter Commission has defined 4 objectives (areas of improvement for the East Windsor Town Charter):

1. Improve Government Structure and Efficiency
2. Improve Voter Participation In Town Decisions
3. Improve Transparency and Communication
4. Improve Checks and Balances

The Commission would like your input on areas of improvement for the Charter with the following survey. Please complete only one response per person.

\* Required

Email address \*

Your email

Q1. Would you like the opportunity to vote line items on our town budget ballot vs the yes/no for total budget we have today? For clarity, line items would be the opportunity to vote for the larger department budgets individually (i.e. Police, Education etc...)

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Q2. The East Windsor Town Government is a traditional small town form of government utilizing a Town Meeting as its legislative body. If you could change/add something to enhance its governing effectiveness, what would it be? (Select all that apply)

- Hold regular joint meetings of Selectmen, town boards, commissions & department heads to share goals, needs & accomplishments
- Work more closely with other towns to share information, part time jobs & other resources for cost savings
- Ensure town boards/commissions have up to date comparative information
- Other:

Q3. In your view, what areas involving town government need more focus and support?

Your answer



## East Windsor CT Charter Revision Commission Resident Survey

Q4. Should there be a provision in our charter to petition for a referendum to override Town Meeting decisions?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Q5. In what ways could our town improve communication with residents and businesses? (Select all that apply)

- Hold a bi-annual "State of the Town" meeting
- Place a dozen strategically placed sandwich type boards around town to warn of important votes
- Provide accurate and relevant meeting materials a week in advance of public meetings
- Use social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) to inform people
- Use video, YouTube, newspaper & Cable TV Access channel to share more on important topics
- Other:

Q6. Are you satisfied with the town's progress in increasing economic development?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Q7. If you could change one thing about how our town government currently works, what would it be?

Your answer

Q8. Do you feel there is a lack of "checks and balances" in our town government today?

- Yes
- No
- Unsure

Q8a. If yes, what is the biggest area of improvement?

Your answer



## East Windsor CT Charter Revision Commission Resident Survey

Q9. In our charter today (Section 10-8 Actions Requiring a Town Meeting subsection A) states that any resolutions making an appropriation of more than \$20,000, not included in the Annual Budget, are required to be sent to Town Meeting. Should there be a threshold set to advance high dollar value items to a referendum?

- Yes – Establish an amount to send appropriations not included in the annual budget to referendum
- No – The Town Meeting approval is the appropriate way to approve all dollar amount expenditures not included in the annual budget

Q9a. If Yes, What should the dollar threshold be to hold a referendum?

Your answer

Thank you for your time in completing this survey. - The East Windsor CT Charter Revision Commission

Survey Close Date: November 20, 2018

Note: Most questions structured from North Stonington Town Government Structure Committee Study Recommendations March 6, 2017

SUBMIT

Page 1 of 1

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Google Forms



*EN 11/1/2018 Attachment C*

**Selectmen's Report - November 1, 2018**

**It's been noted by several people that the meeting minutes from the last meeting omit the unfortunate exchange between members of this board and the public. This is an important omission that should be corrected, and here's why:**

**There is no distinction, in my mind, between whitewashing meeting minutes to remove interactions we wish hadn't happened, eliminating an opportunity for the public to express themselves during a second public participation, and holding secret meetings. All of these actions demonstrate an alarming lack of transparency. We need to be giving people confidence that decisions being made on their behalf are happening in the light of day. Recent behavior needs to change.**

**The public has a right to know when we are meeting, where we are meeting, and what we are meeting about.**

**The public has a right to hold elected and appointed public officials accountable, and to question them.**

**The public has a right to be treated with dignity and respect.**

**If this board wishes something embarrassing or some inappropriate exchange be left out of the official record, the members involved should at least apologize for the interaction.**

**If this board chooses to hold meetings, where only some members are even invited, they should at least be publicly noticed and recorded. In all cases, this board - any board - should show respect for the public that they represent.**

**The current board has done a poor job of being open and transparent, and should be held accountable for that. That is how our system is supposed to work.**

**Looking ahead, Tuesday is Election Day. Polls are open from 6am - 8pm. It's important that people research the candidates, know who best represents their values, and GO VOTE.**

**On Saturday, November 10, the Veterans Day Road Race will be held starting at 10am at Town Hall. Please come and support the runners (or run yourself!) and our veterans.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

  
**Jason E. Bowsza**  
**Selectman**