

Town of East Windsor
Special Town Meeting
February 24, 2016

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on February 24, 2016. The meeting was called to order by First Selectman, Bob Maynard at 7:30 P.M.

First Selectman Maynard made an announcement before the election of a moderator. He said, "Today at 1 p.m. the representative of the two tribal nations came to my office and told me that East Windsor is no longer in consideration for the casino and they gave me their press release. One of the things in the press release was, "although a solid location for a variety of economic development projects, it was not the right fit for our project that we are planning". First Selectman Maynard feels that they did well by us and he appreciates what they did.

Motion was made by Linda Sinsigallo and seconded by Richard P. Pippin, Jr. to nominate Jason E. Bowsza to preside as Moderator. Motion was made by Linda Sinsigallo and seconded by Bill Loos to have nominations cease. Both motions passed. Jason E. Bowsza presided as Moderator. Amanda Schroll, Recording Secretary read the call to the meeting. Moderator, Jason E. Bowsza read the statement of eligibility to vote.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Tom Stremper.

Item #1: Resolved: To consider and approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$63,856 for Police Department contract settlements.

Tom Stremper moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Bob Leach.

Discussion: Dale Nelson asked Mr. Stremper to clarify the dollar amount.

Bill Loos, Melrose Road objects giving the Police Department any more money. They have a budget they established, he thinks the Police Commission should have made sure the contract did not become effective until July 1st when the new budget was appropriated, not come back to Town Meeting to ask for more money. He hopes they do not do the same thing for the Dispatchers union. He does not think that the Police Commission acted in good faith in the Town of East Windsor. Jason Bowsza raised the point that the contract approved by the Board of Selectmen is legally binding and we do have an obligation to pay that. His point is that a supplemental appropriation for that is not appropriate, he believes there are other lines within the budget that have been currently adopted that have sufficient surpluses not likely to be used that would accomplish both funding the contract and not requiring an additional appropriation. He pointed out using the workman's compensation line and the heart and hypertension line. He said that maybe we consider this as a transfer instead of a supplemental appropriation.

Linda Sinsigallo made a motion to table this and seconded by Bill Loos.

Tom Stremper, Chairman of Police Commission, said he thought where the money was coming from was approved by the Town Treasurer and the Board of Finance. First Selectman Maynard said that he was correct but workman's comp is going to be used for something else for the Police Department.

Linda Sinsigallo amended her motion to postpone this to the proper time, until we have sufficient information to make the transfer and seconded by Bill Loos.

The motion passed by a voice vote.

Bob Leach said that he sat in on the Board of finance meeting and from what he understands the workman's comp line has been encumbered for and Jason Bowsza said the heart and hypertension line has \$200,000 still in it.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Janet Goode.

Item #2: Resolved: To consider and approve a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$71,030 for town wide phone upgrades.

Janet Goode moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Dale Nelson.

Discussion: Tom Stremper asked where that money was coming from. Jason Bowsza said it is coming from the undesignated fund balance.

First Selectman Maynard said there are many good things about replacing our existing phone system. He added that the one thing that impressed him was we are currently paying \$2,000 a month. With this new phone system we will only be paying \$1,000 a month, we net a gain of \$10,000 a year so this phone system will not only bring us into the current century but it will pay for itself in 8 years.

The motion passed by a voice vote.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Angelo Sevarino.

Item #3: Resolved: To consider and approve a supplemental appropriation for the dollar amount liable by the Town not to exceed \$29,000 for a 12-passenger bus and a 20-passenger bus for the Senior Center to cover 20% of the cost. The remaining 80% of the cost to be paid by a grant.

Angelo Sevarino moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Richard P. Pippin, Jr.

Discussion: First Selectman Maynard said this is a bargain for the town. The figures indicate that 80% of the cost of the busses would be paid for by a grant and we need to replace the busses because they are costing us a lot of money to repair them.

Mrs. Stremper asked what would happen to the older vehicles. Jason Bowsza said there is a possibility that they will be sold off through Southern Auto Auction. He was told from a resident expert they can actually bring a nice premium, they are sold overseas where the value increases.

Linda Sinsigallo asked how many busses the Senior center has. Joseph Sauerhoefer responded that they have 4 busses.

Dale Nelson asked when last time we replaced one of those. Mr. Sauerhoefer said in 2012.

The motion passed by a voice vote.

Dale Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Richard P. Pippin, Jr. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda Schroll
Recording Secretary