

Town of East Hampton
Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 8, 2014
East Hampton Town Hall Meeting Room

Minutes

Present: Chairperson Barbara Moore, Vice Chairman Kevin Reich (arrived at 6:36 p.m.), Council Members Patience Anderson, Ted Hintz, Jr., George Pfaffenbach, Mark Philhower and Philip Visintainer and Town Manager Michael Maniscalco.

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Chairperson Moore called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Adoption of Agenda

A motion was made Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, to adopt the agenda as amended, adding Discussion of Fern Lane and Discussion of Library Hours for Old Home Day under New Business. Voted (6-0)

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Visintainer, to approve the minutes for the Town Council Regular Meeting of June 24, 2014 as written. Voted (6-0)

Public Remarks

Karen Asetta, 5 Fern Lane, Rich Knotek, 10 Fern Lane, Mike Piergallini, 16 Fern Lane, Jane Knotek, 10 Fern Lane, Theresa Fishman, 13 Fern Lane, Delores Luberto, 33 Fern Lane, Todd Hatfield, 37 Fern Lane, Michelle Levy, 28 Fern Lane, Lon Fishman, 13 Fern Lane and Pam Hatfield, 37 Fern Lane, commented on the condition of Fern Lane, noting the large number of potholes in the road and their safety concerns.

Bids & Contracts

Parks & Recreation Mower Purchase

A new mower was approved for Parks & Recreation in the 2014-2015 capital budget. The department would like to purchase the mower off State bid from Cofield's Sport & Power Equipment, Inc. in Glastonbury.

A motion was made by Mr. Pfaffenbach, seconded by Mr. Reich, that the purchase contract for the Scag Turf Tiger riding mower be awarded to Cofield's Sport & Power Equipment, Inc., 46 Kreiger Lane, Glastonbury, CT 06033 in the amount of \$11,900 using the DAS price schedule. Voted (7-0)

Continued Business

2014-2015 Public Water System Operating Budget and Water Rate Recommendation

Annually, the WPCA provide the Town Council with a proposed budget for operating the town owned water systems. The new water rate would bring the cost per user to approximately \$600 per year. The Hampton Woods water system would be brought in the public water systems at the rates presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to adopt the 2014-2015 Public Water System Operating Budget as presented and adopts the following rate structure effective July 15, 2014: Equivalent Meter Units: \$17.15/EMU; Commodity Charge: \$5.58/1000 Gallons. Voted (7-0)

Hampton Woods – Public Water System Agreement

The Town is the exclusive service provider for water in East Hampton so all new systems that will be turned over to the control of the East Hampton WPCA need the approval of the Town Council.

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mrs. Anderson, to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement to own and operate the public water system known as Hampton Woods by the Town of East Hampton through the WPCA. Voted (7-0)

New Business

Discussion of Fern Lane

The Town Manager and Public Works Director are reviewing the road standards which outline the process for private roads to become town roads. Due to the condition of current private roads, most would not meet the road standards currently in place. They are working on a process for existing private roads to possibly become town roads. Mr. Sissick will be invited to the next meeting to discuss the issue.

Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) Boundary Alteration Letter

Currently the State is divided up into multiple small coordinating committees. These committees act as regulating agencies over Exclusive Service Area providers. There has been a proposal from the State to reduce the number of WUCC's down to four for the entire State. The Water Task Force disagrees with this reduction and has drafted a letter for the Town to send as testimony for the State to consider regarding this change.

A motion was made by Mrs. Anderson, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to authorize the Town Manager to sign a letter for the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) Boundary Alteration. Voted (7-0)

Memorial School Air Handler

Superintendent of Schools Diane Dugas provided an overview for the need to replace the Memorial School air handler unit. The item was in the original capital budget request but was taken out. The Board of Finance recommended transferring \$16,000 from the Capital Contingency Account and making an additional appropriation from the General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance in the amount of \$24,400. Council members discussed other options for allocating the funds and discussed the cost of the replacement. Some members felt the funding should go to a Town Meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Pfaffenbach, to allocate \$35,000 from Capital Contingency for the Memorial School Air Handler. Voted (4-3) Mrs. Moore, Mr. Reich, Mr. Pfaffenbach and Mr. Visintainer in favor. Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Hintz and Mr. Philhower against.

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Pfaffenbach, that the remaining \$5,400 for the Memorial School Air Handler be taken from the Board of Education operating budget. Voted (4-3) Mrs. Moore, Mr. Reich, Mr. Pfaffenbach and Mr. Visintainer in favor. Mrs. Anderson, Mr. Hintz and Mr. Philhower against.

Discussion of Library Hours for Old Home Day

Mr. Hintz indicated that the Library wants to close for Old Home Day so they can participate in the parade. Mr. Maniscalco explained the issues of closing related to the bargaining units and the current list of town closings that were agreed to by the bargaining units. He also noted that there are 11 staff members and only 3 are needed to open the Library so there is the ability to open and still have some participate in the parade. In the past it was an arbitrary decision by the Library

Director to close on Old Home Day, not an approved decision by the Town Manager. Mr. Maniscalco stated that it is not in the Town Council's jurisdiction to address day to day town operations.

Town Manager Report

Final Review of 2013-2014 Priorities and Goals

Mr. Maniscalco provided a packet of the information related to the 2013-2014 Priorities & Goals including the Memorandum of Understanding, the summary document and all documents listed in the Priorities & Goals list. The Council will need to discuss and determine the percentage of completion for the project. Council members agreed that this should be done at a separate meeting, possibly on July 29th.

Other

Mr. Maniscalco reported on the Brewer Road project and the local road paving project. The details will be attached to the minutes filed in the Town Clerk's office.

Appointments

Clean Energy Task Force

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Philhower, to remove Gregory Cataldo from the Clean Energy Task Force as he does not meet the requirements as noted on the Board and Commission application. Voted (7-0)

Tax Refunds

A motion was made by Mr. Hintz, seconded by Mr. Pfaffenbach, to approve tax refunds in the amount of \$501.53. Voted (7-0)

Public Remarks

Ted Turner, Board of Finance Chairman, defended the Board of Finance's work on the recommendation of funding for the Memorial School air handler.

Mary Ann Dostaler, Board of Finance Member, noted that the role of the Board of Finance is to recommend funding mechanisms for projects.

Pam Hatfield, 37 Fern Lane, thanked the Council for their consideration of Fern Lane and asked what the next step is.

Theresa Fishman, 13 Fern Lane, commented that there should be a short term solution for Fern Lane and then a long term solution.

Mary Ann Dostaler, 56 William Drive, commented that the State and Federal government are watching the road projects and the Town could lose funding if non-town roads are being funded with State and Federal funds.

Lon Fishman, 13 Fern Lane, commented that funds to fix potholes doesn't need to come from federal funding.

Workshop with Board of Finance

All members of the Board of Finance were in attendance: Ted Turner, Dean Markham, Don Coolican, Mary Ann Dostaler, Alan Hurst, Dave Monighetti and Lori Wilcox.

Capital Improvement Policy

Town Council and Board of Finance members discussed the Capital Improvement Policy changes including dollar amounts, the makeup of the committee, sinking funds, rolling stock, dates and the approval process. The revised draft will be sent to all members once edited.

Long Term Strategic Planning

Mrs. Moore noted that she will send her thoughts on the Long Term Strategic Planning to all members to review and a Tri-Board Meeting will be scheduled.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Reich, seconded by Mr. Pfaffenbach, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.
Voted (7-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Sirois
Recording Secretary