

Board of Selectman  
April 7, 2014

The Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting Monday, April 7, 2014 in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Center, Newtown. First Selectman Llodra opened the meeting at 7:00pm explaining that Elizabeth Rallo, who as a GE employee, has been volunteering her time to help the town and unfortunately must now return to GE.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Llodra, Selectman William F.L. Rodgers and Selectman James O. Gaston, Sr.

**ALSO PRESENT:** Finance Director Robert Tait, Elizabeth Rallo, James Rallo, Geralyn Hoerauf, Amy Mangold, Capt. Rios, Anne Alzapiedi, Joni Capoccitti, Debbie Halstead, six members of the public and two members of the press.

First Selectman stated she has learned so much by working with Elizabeth. She has brought confidence, professionalism and fun to the environment that is full of knowledge.

Mary Ann Jacob, 65 Mohawk Trail said that Elizabeth's infectious smile and good nature left everybody with a sense of well being. Elizabeth offered herself and helped navigate through the donation process in the early days; an invaluable service. Ms. Jacob thanked Elizabeth for all she has given to Newtown.

Susie DeYoung, Sandy Hook Promise said Elizabeth's organizational skills are impressive. Elizabeth helped many groups come together and collaborate in a time when groups may have fractured. This makes us different from other communities and Elizabeth helped put us on the right track.

Geralyn Hoerauf, Diversified Project Management, said Elizabeth jumped right into the construction project team. Her work to facilitate meetings, update and keep everybody on task and organized was extraordinary. Elizabeth figured out where her place was in the process. The project management team will miss Elizabeth and wished her good luck.

Jennifer Barahona, Executive Director of the Newtown Sandy Hook Foundation, said where we are six months after first meeting Elizabeth is a real tribute to Elizabeth. Elizabeth has been so helpful and has helped Jennifer get a sense of community.

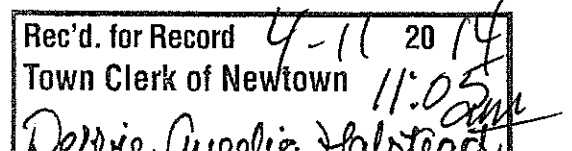
Capt. Joe Rios said Elizabeth was instrumental in helping to set up the access control system, surveillance system and worked through resiliency and mental health issues resulting from 12/14. Elizabeth fit right in at the Police Department. She has an infectious smile, high energy and is compassionate.

Elizabeth Goehring, United Way of Western CT said that Elizabeth came to town not only with skills and professional management but also with a heart. Elizabeth will be missed.

Amy Mangold, Parks & Recreation Director said the department was thin stretched when Elizabeth came to town. Elizabeth exceeded expectations, so competent and came with heart and warmth. Elizabeth was instrumental in planning Big Time Rush and so many other projects including Aid Matrix.

Bob Geckle sent a letter of heartfelt thanks saying it was a pleasure to work with Elizabeth on the major donor program and the C.H. Booth Library recovery project. Elizabeth's efforts will have a lasting impact on Newtown and Bob will remain forever grateful.

First Selectman Llodra said the range of diversity is extraordinary, from Big Time Rush, to project management to the school to helping the police department develop access control and surveillance. Elizabeth has demonstrated competence with every challenge. Elizabeth did all this with grace, a sense of



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humor and patience all the while maintaining her composure. First Selectman Llodra read a proclamation for Elizabeth (Att.).

Selectman Gaston said there was an advertisement that said GE brings good things to life. Selectman Gaston said that Elizabeth brought life to good things. Elizabeth was invaluable from the beginning in getting those good things processed. Elizabeth is experienced, compassionate and professional, she served and coordinated. Because of Elizabeth's dedication and hard work the town has been able to move forward efficiently, effectively and timely. Selectman Gaston thanked Elizabeth very much.

Selectman Rodgers admired Elizabeth's efforts with the town, the state and DOJ. Elizabeth is ubiquitous; everything Selectman Rodgers heard about, Elizabeth was involved in. Elizabeth is a capable person, a jack of all trades with a common interpersonal skill set that applies to all of them. Selectman Rodgers thanked Elizabeth for the range of activities she was called upon to assist in.

Debbie Halstead expressed thanks to Elizabeth for all she's done.

First Selectman Llodra said that Elizabeth is one of the unique people who have a strong moral fiber and a soul of deep compassion with so many talents and skills that make her shine in so many situations. There was never a lack of confidence as Elizabeth explored new territory. Elizabeth realized this was about people and about a community that needed to be nurtured, cared for and loved. We are in a much better place because of Elizabeth.

Elizabeth said she received more in her heart than she gave. She says the town has all the tools for success, the smartest, most dedicated people, with the kindest hearts; you will get there and it's going to be beautiful. Elizabeth thanked the town for taking a risk on her; everybody has been very kind.

# TOWN OF NEWTOWN

## Office of the First Selectman

### PROCLAMATION

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo joined our recovery effort voluntarily and with great enthusiasm and commitment for helping the community in response to the tragedy at Sandy Hook; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo established herself as an effective colleague and contributor to the overall efforts of the GE Newtown team leveraging her expertise and great energy; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo organized and managed large town-wide events and established criteria and guidelines for event sponsorship and management; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo created a sustainable process to manage, catalog, archive, track and disburse large numbers of donated goods and services; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo partnered with local officials to manage ongoing projects such as the Sandy Hook School demolition and rebuild process and worked with the Newtown Police Department in managing a construction project; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo assisted in the creation of a Community Resilience Organization and Plan and worked with the CT Office of Victim Services to ensure consistency and transparency in grant submissions; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo fostered a collaborative environment among fund and service providers by facilitating meetings to ensure awareness among organizations, share best practices, and review challenges faced by these organizations to develop soundness and sustainability plans; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo worked with local civic organizations to connect resources with residents in need; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo demonstrated great kindness and understanding of human emotion in dealing with families and individuals in states of stress and grief; and

*WHEREAS*, Elizabeth Rallo responded with sensitivity and compassion to all requests for guidance on donation, event, and funds issues.

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED*, that Elizabeth Rallo be justly honored on this Seventh Day of April in The Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Fourteen and

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Town of Newtown to be affixed.

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E. Patricia Llodra, First Selectman