Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
November 19, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: T. Gelston; E Dill; T. Sevigny
Also Present: E. Blaschik; L. Zemienieski and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Gelston called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Gelston reviewed the meeting agenda.

2. Approval of Agenda

   Mr. Gelston stated that he would like to add the following item to the agenda under New Business: E. Beer & Wine Approval – Rathbun Library – Light Up the Holidays Event.

   Motion made by Mr. Sevigny, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve the agenda as amended. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of November 5, 2025

   Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to the draft minutes in their meeting packets. He noted that, since there are two new members on the Board, there would not be a majority to approve the minutes. Consequently, he acknowledged that the minutes were taken but not approved.

4. Correspondence

   A. CTDOT Construction & Maintenance Activities Restricted for 2025 Thanksgiving Weekend: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to a communication in their meeting packets "*announcing that there will be no inspection, maintenance or construction activities on major highways over the 2025 Thanksgiving weekend from 6 a.m. Wednesday, November 26th, to 6 a.m. Monday, December 1st*".

5. First Selectmen's Report

   A. Appointment of Secretary: Mr. Gelston advised that Mr. Dill had agreed to continue in the role of Secretary for the Board of Selectmen, therefore, he appointed him to that position.

   B. Liaison Appointments: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to a list of liaison appointments in their meeting packets. There were no changes to the list.

6. Public Comment: Mr. Blaschik congratulated the new Board of Selectmen members on winning their elections.

7. Unfinished Business

A. Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices (ATESD) Discussion: Mr. Gelston advised that he is not prepared to make a recommendation on this agenda item at this meeting; however, he hopes to do so at the Board's December 3rd meeting.

B. Cell Tower Discussion – 440 Town Street: Mr. Gelston advised that he will be meeting with the Town's attorney to discuss the proposed contract for a cell tower at Firehouse Company 1. Ms. Zemienieski advised that a representative from Phoenix Partnership, LLC would like to attend an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting to present their plan.

8. New Business

A. Chatham Health District Representative: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to a communication in their meeting packets from former First Selectman Haines to the Chatham Health District tendering her resignation, as of November 16th, from their Board of Directors. He advised that, historically, the Town's First Selectmen have served as the Town's representative on that Board and, consequently, he volunteered for the position.

Motion made by Mr. Sevigny, seconded by Mr. Dill, to appoint Todd Gelston as East Haddam's representative to the Board of Directors of the Chatham Health District to complete the term to December 2025 and to reappoint Todd Gelston to an additional three year term to December 2028. Unanimous aye.

B. Beer & Wine Approval – Grange Hall – Ray of Light Farm Holiday Party: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to a copy of a letter in their meeting packets from Bonnie Buongiorne, Ray of Light Farm, Inc., dated November 4, 2025, requesting permission for attendees of their holiday party to bring their own beer or wine to the Grange Hall on December 21, 2025.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Sevigny, to approve beer and wine service at the Grange Hall for the "Ray of Light Holiday Party" on December 21, 2025. Unanimous aye.

C. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (AGC, RA):

Agriculture Commission

Mr. Gelston called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email, dated November 18, 2025, from Mark Henderson noting his resignation from the Agriculture Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Sevigny, seconded by Mr. Dill to accept, with regret, the resignation of Mark Henderson as a regular member of the Agriculture Commission. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Dill thanked Mr. Henderson for his long service on the Agriculture Commission and said he will be missed.

Redevelopment Agency

Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to a communication from Thomas Sevigny tendering his resignation from the Redevelopment Agency, effective immediately.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Gelston, to accept, with regret, the resignation of Thomas Sevigny from the Redevelopment Agency. Unanimous aye.

D. Tax Refunds: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to five tax refunds.

Motion made by Mr. Sevigny, seconded by Mr. Dill, to award tax refunds in the amounts as presented. Mr. Gelston noted that these refunds were the result of town overpayments

- $194.01 to Nissan Infinity LT LLC;
- $201.33 to Nissan Infinity LT LLC;
- $448.24 to James Otis;
- $223.84 to Robert Piacentini Jr., and
- $296.13 to Nissan Infinity LT LLC.

Unanimous aye.

E. Beer & Wine Approval – Rathbun Library – Light Up the Holidays Event: Mr. Gelston called the Board's attention to an email in their meeting packets from Evelyn Morgen, dated November 19, 2025. Ms. Morgen advised that the Library is co-hosting the annual Light Up the Holidays Silent Auction Party on December 5th and would like to serve beer and wine.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Sevigny, to approve beer and wine service at the Rathbun Library for the "Annual Light Up the Holidays Silent Auction Party" on December 5, 2025. Unanimous aye.

9. Selectmen's Discussion

A. Liaison's Reports: Ms. Zemienieski advised that the SustainableCT guidelines state that one member of a municipality's Sustainability Team must be a "municipal elected official". She stated that former Selectwoman Bourgoin is Co-Chair of the Town's Sustainability Team and was the Board of Selectmen's previous liaison to the Team. She reported that Ms. Bourgoin has agreed to continue as Co-Chair of the Team but that a member of this Board should also be appointed as a member and liaison to the Team.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Gelston to appoint Selectman Segivny as a member of and liaison to the East Haddam Sustainability Team. Unanimous aye.

Mr. Dill noted that he does not regularly attend the meetings of the Boards, Commissions or Committees to which he has been appointed as a liaison. He stated that if any of those groups need input from him or the Board of Selectmen, they should reach out to him to let him know that.

B. 2026 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule: Mr. Gelston advised that the former Board of Selectmen members regularly met at 8:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of every month and at 7:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month. He stated that he would like to change the meeting time for the first Wednesday meetings back to 7:00 p.m. which would require making the December 3rd meeting a special meeting. There were no objections from the Board.

Ms. Zemienieski advised that the Board should review the 2026 Meeting Schedule in their meeting packets and let her know if they have any scheduling conflicts. She stated that they would approve the final schedule at their December meeting.

C. Other
   1. Christmas in the Village (12/2/25): Mr. Gelston called the Board's and public's attention to this event.
   2. Kids Night on Moodus Green (12/5/25): Mr. Gelston called the Board's and public's attention to this event.
   3. Stuff a Cruiser Toy Drive (12/6/25): Mr. Gelston called the Board's and public's attention to this event.

10. Public Comment

Ms. Zemienieski read an email received from Noel Cherubino voicing his opposition to the installation of speed cameras.

In response to a comment from Mr. Blaschik, Ms. Zemienieski advised that the Town has the option to go to collections if speeding citation fines are not paid.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Mr. Sevigny, to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. .

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary