Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
November 3, 2021
Via YouTube Live
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: I. Haines; E. Dill
Also Present: D. Angersola; A. Blaschik; E. Blaschik; K. Blaschik; R. Casner; D. Dill; J. Dill; R. Dill; M. Gilroy; M. Goff; L. Stuhlman; P. Stuhlman; S. Wheeler; L. Zemienieski, and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Haines called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

   Motion made by Ms. Haines, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve the agenda as written. Unanimous aye.

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular of October 20, 2021

   Ms. Haines advised that, since neither she nor Mr. Dill were seated on the Board at the October 20th meeting, the minutes of that meeting would be filed as written.

4. Correspondence

   There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.

5. First Selectmen's Report

   Ms. Haines reported the following:

   - Mr. Jezek had conveyed his intention to resign from the Board of Selectmen and, consequently, it is expected that Ms. Govert, who was also on the ballot, would be seated in his place. She noted, however, that she had not yet received Mr. Jezek's letter of resignation.

   - She called the Board's attention to a copy of a flyer in their meeting packets for the Stuff A Cruiser holiday drive. She advised that, in order to mitigate Covid related risk, only monetary and/or gift cards would be accepted this year and noted that the deadline for donations is November 13th.

   - A ceremony honoring the Town's veterans will be held on the Moodus green on November 11th and the VFW will host a breakfast for veterans on November 14th.

   A. Appointment of Secretary: Ms. Haines and Mr. Dill agreed to postpone the appointment of the Secretary until there was a full Board in attendance.

   B. Liaison Appointments: Ms. Haines and Mr. Dill agreed to postpone the liaison appointments until there was a full Board in attendance.

C. COVID-19 Report: Ms. Haines reported that the Town's risk category had been lowered to gray. Therefore, she advised that she had lifted the mask mandate for Town buildings. She stated, however, that unvaccinated individuals are strongly encouraged to continue to wear masks in the buildings.

D. Responses to Previous Meeting Questions: There were no responses to previous meeting questions discussed at the meeting.

6. Citizens' Concerns

There were no citizens' concerns discussed at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

A. East Haddam Village Revitalization Committee Update: Ms. Haines reported that she had spoken with Mr. Riley and they were in agreement about moving up the proposed date of the referendum to December 14th. Mr. R. Dill, Chairman of the Village Revitalization Committee, agreed with the recommendation and Ms. Zemienieski stated she would re-schedule the Town Meeting and referendum for the sale of 1 and 7 Main Street to the Centerbridge Group conditional on the execution of all resolutions from the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

B. State of Connecticut – Proposed Property Acquisition – Bridge No. 01138 Replacement Project: There was no new update on this agenda item.

C. New Library Study Committee Charge Discussion: Ms. Haines stated that there is no new update on this agenda item. She encouraged the meeting participants to spread the word that the Town is looking for volunteers for this committee.

8. New Business

A. Chatham Health District Representative: Ms. Haines advised that the First Selectman is generally the Town's representative on the Chatham Health District; however, she and Mr. Dill agreed to postpone the appointment until there was a full Board in attendance.

B. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (REC): The following Board/Commission/ Committee changes were considered at the meeting:

Recreation Commission

Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to materials in their meeting packets regarding several changes on the Recreation Commission.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to accept Ms. Larson's decision not to renew her term on the Recreation Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to reappoint Fern Tremblay and Margy Roberts as regular members for three-year terms, to expire on July 1, 2024, on the Recreation Commission. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, appoint Barbara Free as a regular member to fill a vacancy on the Recreation Commission with a term to expire July 1, 2024. Unanimous aye.

C. Tax Refunds: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to five tax refunds.

Motion made by Ms. Haines seconded by Ms. Dill, to award tax refunds in the amounts presented.

- $ 51.14 to Toyota Lease Trust,
- $ 420.84 to Honda Lease Trust,
- $ 57.22 to CT Septic & Inspections LLC,
- $1,547.42 to Toyota Lease Trust, and
- $ 148.15 to Timothy Varrial.

Unanimous aye.

9. Public Comment: The following public comments were discussed at the meeting:

- In response to a question raised by Ms. J. Dill regarding the charge for the Library Committee, Mr. Gilroy provided some history and clarification regarding the goals for the proposed committee. Ms. Dill expressed her concern that purchasing property and constructing a new library building could be more costly than retro-fitting one of the existing libraries to be ADA compliant. Ms. Haines suggested she expected the Committee to consider alternative, potentially less expensive, locations for a new library.

- In response to a question raised by Mr. R. Dill, Ms. Haines advised that, since Ms. Govert had also been on the ballot, she will fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen created by Mr. Jezek's resignation. There was a brief discussion on how the vacancy would be filled if Ms. Govert also resigns.

- In response to an inquiry from Ms. K. Blaschik, Ms. Haines advised that the State will be purchasing 637+ square feet for its Bridge No. 01138 Replacement Project.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

A. Liaison Reports: There were no liaison reports provided at the meeting.

B. Other: In response to question raised by Ms. Haines, Ms. Zemienieski provided background on the East Haddam Schools Capital Improvement Project Charge Amendment Resolution and stated that it would be on the agenda for consideration at the next Town Meeting.

Ms. Haines thanked the participants for attending tonight's meeting and encouraged citizens to attend the Board's meetings on a regular basis and to "bring their voices".

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Haines
First Selectman