Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
April 22, 2022
Special Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: I. Haines; E. Dill; T. Govert
Also Present: C. Hughson; L. Zemienieski and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Haines called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of April 13, 2022

   Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 13, 2022, as written. Unanimous aye.

4. New Library Study Committee Charge and Appointments: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to a resolution to establish a New Library Study Committee.

   Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

   RESOLVED, The Board of Selectmen shall appoint a committee of seven (7) members and two (2) alternates, effective April 22, 2022, to undertake and complete, within one hundred-eighty (180) days of the date of their appointment, a study and evaluation of constructing a consolidated new library for the citizens of East Haddam or modifying the existing libraries to serve the growing needs of the Town of East Haddam. Members shall appoint a chairman and secretary at their first meeting. Members shall serve with no compensation. The Committee shall meet on a regular basis and their meetings shall be open to the public.

   The Committee will evaluate whether the two libraries can be modified to serve the growing needs of the Town of East Haddam or whether a new library site should be chosen. If the latter is proposed, then the Committee will also recommend how the existing two libraries shall either be used for Town services or whether they should be sold. Establishing real estate appraisals of the two existing libraries will be part of the charge of the Committee. Funding sources for the appraisals will be the responsibility of the First Selectman's office.

   Should the Committee recommend the purchase of a privately owned property for the new library, the estimated cost of the property should be indicated. Should the Committee recommend use of a Town-owned property, the Committee should specify any programs, activities or personnel potentially impacted by this recommendation.

   The New Library Study Committee may reach out to any Town department, Commission or Committee, as well as any outside agency or organization that they feel will assist it in their decision-making process.

The Town of East Haddam Library Director will be an advisory member of the Committee. The Finance Director, Facilities Director and Land Use Administrator may also be advisory members. The First Selectman shall be an Ex-officio member.

The Committee shall report their findings and make recommendation to the Board of Selectmen, in writing, within the 180-day period.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the following persons are appointed to said committee to serve until the completion of the study: Marissa Lehmacher, John Bielot, James Leatherbee, William Barney, Ralph Parady, Elizabeth Dillon and Michael Callahan as regular members and Clare McCarthy and Mary Mazur as alternate members.
Unanimous aye.

5. Request for Qualifications – Retirement Plan Advisor Search: Ms. Haines advised that she wants to make the selection of the Town's advisers transparent and is, therefore, issuing RFQs for any required counselors. She stated that she recently issued an RFQ for an adviser for the Town's retirement plans and received a response from only one qualified candidate.

   Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to award the contract for the Town of East Haddam's retirement plan adviser to Integrity Benefit Partners based on their qualifications submission and proposed fee structure assumed by the client assets. Unanimous aye.

   There was a brief discussion regarding the types of retirement plans in place for employees of the Town and the Board of Education and the adviser services offered by Integrity Benefit Partners.

6. Tax Refunds: There was one tax refund presented at the meeting.

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

   - $296.91 Chase Auto.

   Unanimous aye.

7. Adjournment:

   In response to questions raised by Mr. Dill, Ms. Zemienieski stated she would forward the regular police reports to all the Board members when she receives them, and Ms. Haines advised that the interim Resident State Trooper is Kristina Vivino and noted that Trooper Vivino has applied for the permanent position.

   In response to an inquiry from Mr. Dill, Ms. Haines agreed that the Board could discuss the possibility and the pros and cons of separating the Town's budget from the Board of Education budget. She noted that there has been some interest expressed in establishing a charter for the Town and suggested the Board also discuss that proposal.

   There being no additional business to discuss Mr. Dill made a motion to adjourn the meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary