Special Town Meeting
August 3, 2022

Town Clerk, Debra H. Denette called the Special Town Meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. at the Municipal Office Building, Meeting Rooms 1 and 2. Eighty (80) people were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Brad Parker motioned to nominate Deb Denette as Moderator, Patricia Stricker seconded the motion. Mrs. Denette inquired if there were other nominations, hearing none she called for a motion to close nominations. Mr. Parker motioned to close nominations, said motion was seconded by Rob Smith. The motion closing nominations carried unanimously via voice vote. The motion approving Deb Denette as Moderator also carried unanimously via voice vote.

The Moderator read the call of the meeting and accepted a motion from Mr. Parker accepting the call as read. Mrs. Stricker seconded the motion accepting the call as read which carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 1: Mr. Parker motioned, Mr. Smith provided the second that the Legislative Body herein assembled consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a gift in the amount of $10,000 from Consumer Reports for the Senior Meal Program (revenue account 29545-44877 and expense account 29544230-58400). Opportunity for comments or questions was offered. Mr. Parker stated that this gift will have a huge impact on the senior meal program and he extended his sincere appreciation to Consumer Reports for their generosity. There being no further discussion, the Moderator called for a vote.

The motion accepting a gift in the amount of $10,000 from Consumer Reports for the Senior Meal Program (revenue account 29545-44877 and expense account 29544230-58400) carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item #2 Mrs. Stricker motioned, Mr. Smith provided the second that the legislative body herein assembled consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to accept a grant in the amount of $1,000 from the M. Jones Fund at the community Foundation of Middlesex County for the purpose of supporting summer youth camps (revenue account 28045-44709-R1040 and expense account 28045033-56900-R1040). Opportunity for discussion was offered, none was held. Accordingly, the Moderator called for a vote.

The motion accepting a gift in the amount of $1,000 from the M. Jones Fund at the community Foundation of Middlesex County for the purpose of supporting summer youth camps (revenue account 28045-44709-R1040 and expense account 28045033-56900-R1040) carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item #3: Mrs. Stricker motioned, Mr. Smith provided the second that the Legislative Body herein assembled act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED: Pursuant to Chapter 130, of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the "Town of East Haddam Ordinance to Create the East Haddam Redevelopment Agency for the Development of the Former town Office and Garage property and certain surrounding properties" (the "Ordinance") the Board of Selectmen corrects the map attached to the Ordinance to include and show on the map the labels of privately owned properties, and recommends the ratification of this corrected map for approval of the town meeting.

Copy of the revised map showing the privately owned properties is on file in the town clerk's office during normal business hours.

Opportunity for discussion was offered, none was held. Accordingly, the Moderator called for a vote.

The motion accepting the following resolution carried unanimously via voice vote.

RESOLVED: Pursuant to Chapter 130, of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the "Town of East Haddam Ordinance to Create the East Haddam Redevelopment Agency for the Development of the Former town Office and Garage property and certain surrounding properties" (the "Ordinance") the Board of Selectmen corrects the map attached to the Ordinance to include and show on the map the labels of privately owned properties, and recommends the ratification of this corrected map for approval of the town meeting. Copy of the revised map showing the privately owned properties is on file with the minutes of this Town Meeting.

Item #4: Mrs. Stricker motioned, Bob Casner provided the second that the legislative body herein assembled act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED: Pursuant to Chapter 130, of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the "Town of East Haddam Ordinance to Create the East Haddam Redevelopment Agency for the Development of the Former Town Office and Garage Property and Certain Surrounding Properties" the Board of Selectmen hereby appoints the following electors of the Town of East Haddam to the Town of East Haddam Redevelopment Agency, to serve for their respective initial terms as set forth herein, and subject to approval of a town meeting:

Jacqueline Nowell (D), for a one (1) year term
Gary Laskowski (D) for a one (1) year term
Caitlin Taylor (D), for a two (2) year term
John Cotter (R), for a two (2) year term
William DiCristofaro (R), for a three (3) year term
Andrew Lord (R) for a three (3) year term
Melanie Kolek (D), for a four (4) year term
James Curtin (D), for a four (4) year term
Thomas Sevigny (D), for a five (5) year term
Randolph Dill (R), for a five (5) year term

The Moderator opened the floor for comments or questions.

Mr. Smith stated that he is in favor of developing the parcel and in agreement that proceeding with a redevelopment agency is appropriate. However, he stated that due to the lack of a public hearing the creation of the redevelopment agency has been tainted. He disagreed that there should be an even number of members, he disagreed with the way the terms are staggered, he disagreed that the appointees needed to be approved as a block and he noted that only 30% of the appointees were women. Accordingly, he motioned to vote each member individually and by secret ballot. Marilyn Gleeson seconded the motion.

The Moderator stated that she could not entertain the motion to vote each member individually and cited the following from the Town's attorney: "CGS Section 8-126 is clear, the members of any redevelopment agency… shall be appointed by … the board of selectmen of a town with the approval of the legislative body. The appointment authority rests with the Bord of Selectmen, not the town meeting. The function of the town meeting is simply that of an approval or ratification of the Board of Selectmen's action

appointing the members. The Town Meeting is not statutorily authorized to pick which members get appointed and those which do not. The vote at the town meeting can thus only be for an approval or rejection of the full slate as appointed by the board of selectmen.

Mr. Smith argued that such action was short sided as the entire slate could be rejected and the Board of Selectmen would have no direction as to how to proceed. He further stated that he has also been working with a lawyer and that attorney disagreed with the town attorney's opinion that the appointees could not be determined individually. Mrs. Denette stated that the attorney's were free to settle the dispute through the Court's, however, she would not act contradictory to the advice of the Town's attorney.

Mrs. Denette emphasized that it would be the prerogative of the legislative body to vote the action yeah or nay, as it was presented on the call. She stated that she was prepared to vote by paper ballot, if that was the pleasure of the people. Mr. Smith amended his motion to vote by paper ballot, Ms. Gleason amended her second. There was no discussion on the request to vote by paper ballot. The vote to conduct the vote by paper ballot failed 67 to 13 by a show of hands.

Mrs. Denette inquired if there was additional discussion on the Resolution? Mrs. Stricker thanked all those willing to serve.

Amalia Shaltiel stated that she felt that the Community should be able to learn about the members that were chosen.
At the request of the Moderator, Mrs. Haines reviewed the strengths and qualifications of each of the appointees. There being no further comments or questions, the Moderator called for a vote on the following resolution:

RESOLVED: Pursuant to Chapter 130, of the Connecticut General Statutes, and the "Town of East Haddam Ordinance to Create the East Haddam Redevelopment Agency for the Development of the Former Town Office and Garage Property and Certain Surrounding Properties" the Board of Selectmen hereby appoints the following electors of the Town of East Haddam to the Town of East Haddam Redevelopment Agency, to serve for their respective initial terms as set forth herein, and subject to approval of a town meeting:

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Andrew Lord (R) for a three (3) year term
Melanie Kolek (D), for a four (4) year term
James Curtin (D), for a four (4) year term
Thomas Sevigny (D), for a five (5) year term
Randolph Dill (R), for a five (5) year term

Five hands were raised in opposition.
The Moderator declared the motion carried.

Item 5: Mrs. Stricker motioned, Cindy Hughson provided the second to act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen and adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Irene M. Haines, First Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam, be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of East Haddam a Personal Service Agreement/Grant Contract under the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection with the State of Connecticut for a $1,400,000 grant for the Nathan Hale-Ray High School Track and Field Athletic Complex. IN ADDITION, that Irene M. Haines, First Selectman, is

hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

The Moderator provided opportunity for comment or questions:

Ms. Hughson advised that the track and field athletic complex was approved at referendum, however, the language in this motion is as directed by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection for processing of their $1,400,000 grant. There being no other discussion The Moderator called for a vote on the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that Irene M. Haines, First Selectmen of the Town of East Haddam, be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of East Haddam a Personal Service Agreement/Grant Contract under the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection with the State of Connecticut for a $1,400,000 grant for the Nathan Hale-Ray High School Track and Field Athletic Complex. IN ADDITION, that Irene M. Haines, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to enter0 into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

The motion carried unanimously via voice vote.

There being no further business to discuss the Moderator called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Smith provided the motion, Marilyn Gleeson seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm upon a unanimous voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Deb Denette
Town Clerk