Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
August 16, 2023
Special Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: I. Haines; E. Dill; T. Govert
Also Present: D. Angersola; Eric Kolasinski; Craig Mansfield; L. Zemienieski; and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Haines called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting of August 2, 2023

   Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 2, 2023, as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence: There was no correspondence discussed at the meeting.

5. First Selectman's Report

   Ms. Haines reported that the Swingbridge project is now scheduled to be completed in the spring of 2025. She noted that, as of late fall 2024, the contractor projects only occasional overnight closures to address punch-list items.

6. Public Comment: There were no public comments made at the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

   A. Board of Selectmen and Treasurer Term Length Ordinance Discussion: Discussion of this agenda item was postponed.

   B. Open Space Award Discussion – Kronberg Property: Discussion of this agenda item was postponed.

   C. Bond Authorization for Open Space: Discussion of this agenda item was postponed.

   D. Resident State Trooper Contract: Ms. Haines reported that the board had met with Lt. Litwin and Sgt. Ruppar of Troop K, and Trooper Gary Allen, the Town's new resident state trooper in executive session earlier in the day. She stated that they were very supportive of the Town's need for more trooper coverage.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, that Irene M. Haines, the First Selectman, be and is herewith authorized to execute a contract on behalf of the Town of East Haddam with the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of State Police for the services of one (1) Resident State Trooper for a two-year period from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025. Unanimous aye.

E. Transfer Station Fee Schedule Changes: In response to an inquiry from Ms. Haines, the Selectmen confirmed that they had received Public Works Director Velez's responses to their questions concerning items related to this agenda item.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve an annual Commercial License Permit Program for any business owner using the Transfer Station for business trash at a fee of $50.00 per year, to become effective September 15, 2023, as proposed by the Public Works Director. Unanimous aye.

Ms. Haines advised that she met with Director Velez and EDC Chairman Casner and discussed the Temporary Contractor License Permit Program. She stated that it is Director Velez's opinion that most contractors will rent an on-site dumpster for disposal of demo waste for large projects but contractors doing smaller projects would potentially use the permit to dispose of demo waste. Ms. Haines confirmed that the Board could revisit the temporary permit fee in the future and adjust it if necessary.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve a Temporary Contractor License Permit Program for contractors doing business in the Town of East Haddam, to be able to dispose of demo or other building related trash for a 30-day period at the cost of $150.00 per application (with proof of location of work and building permit), to become effective September 15, 2023, as proposed by the Public Works Director. Unanimous aye.

8. New Business

A. Grant Acceptance – FY22 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG): Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to a copy of an award notice in their meeting packets from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security regarding this agenda item. The letter advised of the grant award and stated that, as a condition of this grant, the Town is required to contribute non-Federal funds equal to or greater than 5.00%, or $956.43, for a total approved budget of $20,085.00.

Motion made by Ms. Govert, seconded by Mr. Dill, to accept a grant in the amount of $19,128.57 for the FY 2022 Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, for the purpose of acquisition and implementation of 3 radio base stations, and send acceptance of said grant to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting for approval. Unanimous aye.

B. Board/Commission/Committee Changes: There were no Board, Commission, or Committee changes considered at the meeting.

C. Tax Refunds: There were no tax refunds considered at the meeting.

9. Public Comment: Ms. Haines read an email sent in by Mr. Moreau, who inquired about the status of any Town actions regarding Commissioner Reynolds and Deputy Fire Marshal Sarnik. Ms. Haines

noted that this relates to a personnel matter and can't be discussed in a public meeting. She stated she would speak with Mr. Moreau regarding the disclosure process of these matters.

10. Selectmen's Discussion

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

    B. Other

        1. Budget Public Hearing (August 16, 2023 @ 7:00pm – HS Auditorium): Ms. Haines reminded the Board and the public of the Budget Hearing scheduled at 7:00 p.m. this evening in the High School auditorium.

           Ms. Haines noted there appeared to be some confusion about the posted times for the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen meetings following the Public Hearing. She clarified that, since it was unknown at the time of posting how long the Public Hearing would run, the subsequent meetings were each scheduled for 15 minutes after the meeting preceding it. She noted that it was handled this way because public meetings cannot start earlier than posted; however, the start of the meetings can be delayed if necessary.

        2. Town Meeting (August 29, 2023 @8:00 p.m. – HS Auditorium): Ms. Haines reminded the Board and the public that, depending on the outcome of tonight's Budget Public Hearing, a Town Meeting would be held at 8:00 p.m. on August 29th at the Nathan Hale Ray High School Auditorium.

11. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Govert, to adjourn the meeting at 5:14 p.m.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary