Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Rooms 1 & 2
September 6, 2023
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

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

2. Approval of Agenda: Ms. Haines advised that she would like to add the following item to the agenda:

    - 8.F. Grant Acceptance – CT Recreational Trails Grant

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

3. Approval of Minutes: Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (1pm), Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (5pm), Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (10:57pm)

    Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (1pm), as written. Unanimous aye.

    Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (5pm), as written. Unanimous aye.

    Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 16, 2023 (10:57pm), as written. Unanimous aye.

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

5. First Selectman's Report: The First Selectman's report was postponed.

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. Transfer Station Fee Schedule Changes – Solid Waste Ordinance Amendment: Ms. Haines called the Selectmen's attention to materials in their meeting packets concerning this agenda item. She advised that, after discussions with the commercial haulers and representative(s) from the Economic Development Commission, the proposed change to this ordinance failed at the August 29, 2023 Town Meeting per her request. She stated that, in response to the feedback received from the local haulers, the ordinance was then amended to include an annual 25% cap. Ms. Haines noted that the revised ordinance must go back to Town Meeting.

Ms. Haines and Mr. Dill discussed recommending language that a license fee of $500.00 for fiscal year 2023-2024 for commercial collectors that will not be increased more than 25% annually in subsequent years be included in the amendment to the Solid Waste Ordinance Article II, Section 296-6, Licensing of Commercial Collectors; Fees, Item B.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to recommend the adoption of the following resolution and send acceptance of said amendment to Town Meeting for approval:

RESOLVED: That the Solid Waste Ordinance Article II, Section 296-6, Licensing of Commercial Collectors; Fees, Item B. adopted July 24, 1990 and amended at Town Meeting on March 28, 2018, is hereby amended as follows:

B. All licenses shall be for a period of one year from date of issuance. The license fee shall be paid in advance of granting said license. The fee for a license shall be [DELETE: "$250 per year"] **ADD: <u>set by the Board of Selectmen. For fiscal year 2023-2024 this fee will be set at $500 and will not be increased more than 25% annually in subsequent years</u>.**

Unanimous aye.

8. New Business

A. Eversource Aerial Easement Request: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to materials in their meeting packets concerning a request from Eversource to obtain an aerial easement for a Town owned parcel. She stated that the Eversource Transmission team is in the design phase of a project between the East Haddam junction and Haddam Substation, including the southern CT River crossing for the 1772 and 348 lines. She advised that Eversource needs to obtain an aerial easement for the project from the Town and four other property owners and explained that an aerial easement is needed to ensure that a safe distance from the wires, which will move from side to side when the wind blows, can be maintained.

Ms. Haines stated that the easement is not ready to be voted on by the Board and she provided further information regarding her meeting with the Eversource Transmission Team.

B. Renewal of Agreement with Middlesex Hospital for Paramedic Service: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to a copy of a letter, in their meeting packets, from Middlesex Hospital's EMS Manager Santacroce, dated August 7, 2023 regarding the per capita charge for Paramedic Services to the Town She noted that there was no change to the charge and the Amendment to the Agreement extends the term of the Agreement by one year.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, that Irene M. Haines, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to sign a one-year renewal of the Agreement with Middlesex Hospital for Paramedic Services with a term from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Unanimous aye.

C. Beer & Wine Request – Rathbun Library: Ms. Haines called the Selectmen's attention to a copy of an email from Library Director Allison Murphy dated August 23, 2023, in their meeting packets, advising that the Rathbun Library is hosting an art show opening on Friday, September 8, 2023 and would like to serve beer and wine at the event.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to approve beer and wine service at the Rathbun Library for the "Art Show Opening" on Friday, September 8, 2023. Unanimous aye.

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

E. Tax Refunds: Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to three tax refunds.

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

- $ 76.76 to Nissan Infinity LT LLC,
- $187.82 to Hyundai Lease Titling Trust, and
- $649.59 to VCFS Auto Leasing Co.

Unanimous aye.

F. Grant Acceptance – CT Recreational Trail Grant: Ms. Haines advised that the State of Connecticut, Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, State Parks Division has been assigned the management of the $32,000 grant awarded for the preliminary design of a 9100' section of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Heritage Trail on Town Street (Route 82) in the Town of East Haddam. She stated that the funds will support data gathering, preliminary design, limited survey work along the trail, public workshops and an opinion of cost. Ms. Haines noted that this grant requires a 20% match ($8,000.00) which is already funded in the Economic Development Commission budget.

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to adopt the following resolution to be referred to the Board of Finance and then Town Meeting for approval:

RESOLVED: That a Lower Connecticut River Valley Heritage Trail/Bike Path-East Haddam grant in the amount of $32,000.00 is hereby accepted upon the terms and conditions set forth in a certain Personal Services Agreement between the Town of East Haddam and the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, State Parks Division. IN ADDITION the First Selectman, Irene M. Haines, is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant in the name and on behalf of the Town of East Haddam for the fulfillment of the Lower Connecticut River Valley Heritage Trail/Bike Path-East Haddam grant with the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, State Parks Division. Unanimous aye.

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

10. Selectmen's Discussion

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

B. Other

1. Executive Session – Police Department Memorandum of Agreement

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to enter into executive session at 7:15 p.m. to discuss the East Haddam Police Department (International Brotherhood of Police Officers Local 394) Memorandum of Agreement and to invite Linda Zemienieski, Executive Manager into this session.. Unanimous aye.

The Selectmen returned to regular session at 7:26 p.m. No motions or decisions were made.

2. Vote on Police Department Memorandum of Agreement

Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Haines, to accept the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Haddam and International Brotherhood of Police Officers Local 394 to reestablish the hiring of part-time officers and set wage rates for these positions. Unanimous aye.

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 7:28 p.m. Unanimous aye.

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary