Board of Selectmen
Municipal Office Complex
Meeting Room 1 & 2
September 3, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: I. Haines; T. Bourgoin; E. Dill

Also Present: J. Brinton, Washington, CT First Selectman; S. Deguzis; D. Denya; S. Denya; W. Denya; C. Gowac; S. Jezek; D. Massoni; C. Quinn; J. Rhoades; Mary Schirduan; L. Zemienieski and other members of the public

1. First Selectman Haines called the Board of Selectmen's meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

   Ms. Haines advised that she would like to amend the agenda as follows:

   - Add item 8.C. – New Business – Beer & Hard Cider Request – Moodus Drum & Fife Muster
   - Move item 7.A. up for discussion following the approval of the agenda.

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

7. Unfinished Business

   A. Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices (ATESD) Discussion: Ms. Haines stated that the First Selectmen of Washington, CT, James Brinton had agreed to participate remotely in this meeting to discuss Washington's experience with ATESDs. She noted that Washington was the first municipality in Connecticut to adopt the speed control program and then opened the meeting up for the Selectmen's questions to Mr. Brinton.

   In response to questions from Mr. Dill, Mr. Brinton advised that the program has clearly had a positive impact on speeding behaviors in his town, explained that the cost of third-party administrative work is included in the fines, and advised that the start-up was cumbersome and time-consuming; however, the in-house work has become much more efficient and streamlined. He noted that approximately 98% of the fines were paid routinely and 2% are contested. Responding to a follow-up question from Mr. Dill, Mr. Brenton advised that Washington's experience has been that 80% of the speeding infraction citations are issued to non-residents and 20% to local residents.

   In response to a question from Ms. Haines, Mr. Brinton explained his town's appeal process. He advised that three employees were appointed to the appeal board, himself

included, and that their decisions are generally subjective in nature based on the stated objection to the fine.

There was a brief discussion concerning Washington's ability to relocate its ATESD cameras. Mr. Brinton advised that it is expensive to relocate the devices and stated that mobile devises are available but with a higher up-front cost. He stated that DOT will approve up to three roads in a municipality on which ATESDs can be located and that the permitting application process is handled by the vendor.

In response to a questions from Ms. Bourgoin, Mr. Brinton confirmed that there is no way to track speeding behavior after they have gone through the ATESD camera zone; however, he emphasized that he has observed that the overall speed of vehicles in Washington has slowed down since the devices were installed. He advised that Washington has had its devices in play for 4 months and their baseline trigger for issuing a citation is 11 miles over the speed limit.

Ms. Haines thanked Mr. Brinton for his input regarding his town's experience with ATESDs and he left the meeting. Ms. Haines solicited the Board's thoughts about using the program in East Haddam after hearing from the First Selectman of Washington.

Ms. Bourgoin stated that her main objection, that no Connecticut municipality has had the program in place long enough to provide verifiable data, has not changed.

Mr. Dill stated that he had shifted his opinion in favor of the program; however, he would like to review the technology again and also understand how the Town would budget for the program. Ms. Haines agreed to pull together that information for the Board.

3. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of August 20, 2025 and Special Meeting of August 25, 2025

   Ms. Haines called the Board's attention to draft minutes in their meeting packets.

   Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Bourgoin, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2025 as written. Unanimous aye.

   Motion made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Bourgoin, to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of August 25, 2025 as written. Unanimous aye.

4. Correspondence

   Ms. Haines reported that she had received an email from Amalia Shaltiel, dated September 1, 2025, encouraging the Town "*to support and collaborate with businesses in adding more EV charging ports and advocating for the transition to Electric Vehicles for residents and for our municipal fleet*".

Ms. Bourgoin reported that she had received a letter from Lori D'Aquila, President of the East Haddam Ambulance Association, dated September 2, 2025, countering statements made in Ray Swol's email which was read into the record at the BOS's August 20th meeting. Ms. Bourgoin read Ms. D'Aquila's letter in its entirety which, in part, expressed her concern with Mr. Swol's "*history of making negative statements about EHAA in public meetings*" and her frustration that First Selectmen Haines has "*targeted our organization to meet your [sic] own agenda*".

5. First Selectmen's Report: This agenda item was postponed.

6. Public Comment: There was no public comment at this time in the meeting.

7. Unfinished Business

   A, Automated Traffic Enforcement Safety Devices (ATESD) Discussion: This agenda item was discussed earlier in the meeting and is reported on in the above minutes.

   B. Bashan Lake/Moodus Reservoir – Wake Surfing Potential Ordinance Discussion: Ms. Haines advised that she had received an opinion from the Town's attorney concerning the motion to rescind an earlier motion made at the August 20th Town Meeting concerning this agenda item. She stated that it is the attorney's opinion that, although not allowing a vote on the motion and second to rescind the earlier approved motion to adopt the draft wake surfing ordinance, it was a mis-step but it was not a big enough mis-step to undo the meeting and the results of the meeting. Consequently, she advised that, since the motion and second to approve the proposed ordinance had passed by a vote of 202 in favor and 49 opposed, the ordinance has been submitted to CT DEEP for their review. She noted DEEP has 60-days to approve or deny the ordinance.

   Ms. Haines responded to questions from the Board.

8. New Business

   A. Board/Commission/Committee Changes (CEM): Ms. Zemienieski advised that she had not yet received the paperwork for the appointment to the Cemetery Committee, therefore consideration of this agenda item was postponed.

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

   C. Beer & Hard Cider Request – Moodus Drum & Fife Muster: Ms. Haines called the Selectmen's attention to an email in their meeting packet from Patrick Murray, Moodus Drum & Fife Corps, requesting permission to serve beer and hard cider at their annual Muster on October 17 and 18, 2025.

   Motion made by Ms. Bourgoin, seconded by Mr. Dill, to approve the serving of beer and hard cider at the Grange Hall for the "Moodus Drum & Fife Muster" on October 17 & 18, 2025. Unanimous aye.

9. Selectmen's Discussion

   A. Liaison's Reports: Ms. Bourgoin reported that the Sustainability Committee had submitted its application for the Town's Gold certification and is waiting to hear back from Sustainable CT.

   B. Other: Ms. Haines recognized Carleen Quinn who stated that there were members of the public in attendance who would like to comment on agenda item 7.C., the Board's discussion of the Bashan Lake/Moodus Reservoir – Wake Surfing Potential Ordinance. Ms. Haines agreed to hear their comments.

      Mary Schirduan – In response to questions raised by Ms. Schirduan, Ms. Haines advised that Ms. Schirduan would have to ask the individual who made the motion to rescind the motion to adopt the proposed ordinance on wake surfing on what basis his motion was made; also, that she did not have an answer to Ms. Schirduan question about what would make the motion to rescind irreversible.

      Dave Denya – In response to Mr. Denya's question, Ms. Haines confirmed that she believed the motion and second to rescind would have been legal if the Clerk had allowed a vote, even though a majority of the public had left them meeting, since the meeting had not officially been adjourned.

10. Adjournment: There being no additional business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Dill, seconded by Ms. Bourgoin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 a.m. .

Recorded

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Dill, Secretary