

MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2009  
EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES

PRESENT: Paul Formica, Robert Kleinhans, Pam Rowe, Rob Wilson, Jack Hogan.

EXCUSED: Rose Ann Hardy.

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Ed O'Connell.

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 7:23 p.m. and led the Pledge.

1b. Additional Agenda and Consent Calendar Items

There were none.

1c. Delegations

There were none.

1d1. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of February 4, 2009

MOTION (1)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 4, 2009 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

1d2. Approval of Minutes, Special Meeting of February 9, 2009

Mr. Formica noted a correction to be made on Page 2, paragraph 5, should read 15% not 5%.

MOTION (2)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 9, 2009 as corrected.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 5-0.

1d3. Approval of Minutes, Special Meeting of February 11, 2009

MOTION (3)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting of February 11, 2009 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (4)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the Consent Calendar for the meeting of February 18, 2009 in the amount of \$2722.83.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 5-0.

2a. Special Appropriation \$500.00 – Reimbursable – Purchase of Chairs

Mr. Formica noted that this money was reimbursable and it was to be used for the purchase of three chairs for the East Lyme EOC.

**MOTION (5)**

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve and forward to the Board of Finance a special appropriation in the amount of \$500.00 for the purchase of chairs for Emergency Management, funding reimbursable by the Nuclear Safety Emergency Preparedness (NESP) fund.

Seconded by Ms. Rowe. Motion passed 5-0.

**2b. Industrial Park Road Improvements**

Attorney O'Connell stated that requests for the Board of Selectmen to accept highways usually come from the Planning Commission. This request is before the Board from site plan approvals and special permit approvals of the Zoning Commission. Improvements were made to the intersection and strips of land for highway purposes are dedicated to the Town in accordance with plans filed with the Zoning Commission.

**MOTION (6)**

Mr. Kleinhans moved the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION RE ACCEPTANCE OF HIGHWAY  
IMPROVEMENTS ON INDUSTRIAL ROAD**

WHEREAS, the East Lyme Zoning Commission granted a special permit regarding the use of property at 15 Industrial Road; and

WHEREAS, in connection with the special permit the Zoning Commission required that certain improvements be made at the intersection of the north-south and the east-west portions of Industrial Road; and

WHEREAS, the improvements include, among other things, the conveyance to the Town of a parcel of land approximately 0.20 acres in size, more particularly described in the attached Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the East Lyme Zoning Official and East Lyme Town Engineer have certified that the improvements have been constructed and installed in accordance with the special permit and the Town's highway construction standards;

IT IS RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen accepts the conveyance of said parcel of land and appurtenances for highway purposes, subject to review and approval of the conveyancing documents by the East Lyme Town Attorney.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 5-0.

**2c. Resignation – Smith Harris Commission – Denise Mackey-Russo****MOTION (7)**

Mr. Kleinhans moved to accept the resignation of Denise Mackey-Russo from the Smith Harris Commission effective March 1, 2009 and to request the First Selectman write a letter thanking her for her service.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 5-0.

## 5a. Ex-Officio

Ms. Rowe noted that the Board of Education had met on February 9<sup>th</sup> and reappointed John Sullivan for the 2009 / 2010 school year. The East Lyme Middle School presented a positive behavior program and the discipline report noted there were not as many suspensions as last year.

Mr. Wilson noted that Parks and Recreation met and the numbers at McCooks were up – 35,000 cars and 85,000 people.

Mr. Hogan stated that the Charter Revision Draft Report was just finished this week.

Mr. Kleinhans commented that the East Lyme High School girls basketball shared the ECC title.

## 5b. First Selectman's Report

-Mr. Formica said that he met with Ms. Holcomb regarding the Superintendent Leadership Qualities Search the previous week.

- He had assisted the owner of the Black Hawk to get his sign on State property.
- He met with Mayor Jaskiewicz, First Selectman Steward and First Selectman Ross regarding the water shed initiative and they plan to work together regionally to protect the watershed.
- The Board of Selectmen are in the process of reviewing budgets and after deliberations, they will send the budget to the Board of Finance the first meeting in March adding that the Board of Finance must receive the budget 60 days before the Annual Town Meeting which will be on May 11, 2009. He added that he would again request that the Selectmen send the budget to referendum.
- The Plan of Conservation and Development is moving forward and they will be holding two meetings (February 23<sup>rd</sup> at Nett Hall, Camp Rell and March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the High School.
- He attended the East Lyme Business Meeting where the small businesses in town discussed the struggles they are encountering due to the economy.
- He sent a letter to all the local banks in town to convene a meeting to find out their needs and how to better serve the residents.
- Heather Calkins has agreed to Chair Celebrate East Lyme 2009 and he will ask the Board of Selectmen to take \$10,000 from the budget to help fund the event.
- He is continuing work on the parking issue downtown and new signs will be erected this week to identify public parking.

The Board took a recess at 7:52 p.m. while they awaited the arrival of Ms. Holcomb.

The Board reconvened their meeting at 7:58 p.m.

## 2d. Board Discussion / Input – Leadership Qualities – Superintendent of Schools

Ms. Eliza Holcomb, Senior Consultant of CABE Search Services said she was conducting a comprehensive search for the next Superintendent of Schools and she had met with the faculty, she had open meetings with the public and would soon meet with the students to gather their input. The position was advertised in Education Week a national publication, and on the ASA website along with the CT Superintendent website. She will be compiling a report on all the data she has received from her meetings and from the surveys that have been filled out. She added that the start date for the position is 7/1/09 and interviews of the candidates would start at the end of March. She asked the Board the following three questions about their wants and needs for the new Superintendent:

- What are the strengths of East Lyme Public School and its community?
- What are the challenges that this person will face as the new Superintendent of Schools?

-What are the qualities and experience level that you would want in this position?

She added that the deadline for applications was March 20, 2009.

Mr. Kleinhans stated that as a new comer he had two kids entering East Lyme High School and they did an excellent job of offering opportunities that his children did not have in their prior school systems. They enjoyed the chance to explore different opportunities and they were motivated by the teachers and the programs and by the involvement of the East Lyme parents. He added that the parents expect a lot from the school system.

Ms. Rowe noted that it is the strength of the faculty, the students and the parents that East Lyme enjoys and that education begins at home and the kids want to learn. She added that 900 out of the 1300 students participate in extra curricular activities and the system produces a very well rounded student.

Mr. Wilson said he was a product of this system and it starts with the elementary schools having the ability to do what they need individually and they have a lot of leeway and this freedom needs to continue. He added that the Superintendent and the High School principal need to be a team.

Mr. Hogan said that he has three grandkids in the system and they are excited to go to school everyday so the schools are doing something right. He added he would be looking for a Type A personality, willing to take the staff to task if necessary and able to write meaningful evaluations for a prime candidate for the position.

Mr. Formica stated that the best incident he could use to illustrate the system was when his daughter Ali started her freshman year at college. She called and said "I am so prepared for this; and he added that this speaks volumes for the educational system that we have. He suggested that the new candidate keep an eye on the future of public education and be willing to change when necessary. He should be able to take the steps that have not been taken before and question what has gone before. He should look at the potential of regionalization with Salem for K-8 and the potential of including Old Lyme or Lyme. He should also be a very strong communicator with common sense.

Ms. Rowe stated that she has received feedback from the parents and they are concerned with controlling how the finances are utilized and to be able to think outside the box and not be so segregated from the Town side. He / She should be able to think creatively.

Mr. Hogan commented that we cannot cut programs; we need sports, arts and music.

Mr. Wilson said that it is important that the applicant not be hungry to come to East Lyme as a stepping-stone in his career. He would like to see someone who will view the Town and the Board of Education maintenance issues together and have no more "us" and "them". He would like to see the Board of Education and Town services brought together for efficiency.

Mr. Hogan noted the person should be youthful and not using the position as a stepping stone toward retirement, but look for someone with a long term commitment.

Mr. Kleinhans said it is important the applicant know that he would answer to the Board of Education but also answers to the community and we need credibility in the position and he needs to partner with the community.

Mr. Hogan said that although not required, it would be nice if the candidate moved into town.

Ms. Rowe agreed noting that as a taxpayer, he would have a vested interest in how the taxes are spent.

Mr. Formica thanked Ms. Holcomb for the great work she was doing.

#### 6. Public Discussion

There was none.

#### MOTION (8)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to adjourn the February 18, 2009 Board of Selectmen meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Seconded by Ms. Rowe. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary