

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2009
MINUTES

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

EXCUSED: Rose Ann Hardy.

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 7:30 and led the Pledge.

1b. Additional Agenda & Consent Calendar Items

There were none.

1c. Delegations

Ron Rando of 194 Boston Post Road suggested burying the power lines while doing the Niantic Streetscape. He added that using \$10,000 to see what was wrong with the high school boilers was wrong and that he remembered that those burners were to have been dual fuel.

Bob Gadbois of 358 Boston Post Road said that a lot of money had been spent on the video and sound system here in the meeting room and those viewers still did not get to see and hear the meetings.

Tax Collector John McCulloch said that the collection rate over the last two years has been 99%, placing East Lyme as one of the highest collectors in the State.

Mr. Formica commented that there is a two step process for Dispatch when a meeting is to go live. Unfortunately, the sound part was not activated at the last meeting and was a result of human error that has been reported so that it can be corrected.

1d. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of October 7, 2009

MOTION (1)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of October 7, 2009 as submitted.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 4-0.

1e. Consent Calendar

MOTION (2)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to approve the Consent Calendar in the amount of \$9,997.30 for the October 21, 2009 meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 4-0.

2a. Discussion / Action – Plan of Conservation and Development

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Mr. Formica noted that there was a schedule that needed to be adhered to with this process. He said that the Board of Selectmen receive copies of the POCD and then they have the right to call a public hearing, approve all or part of the document, or forward to the Planning Commission and they will hold a public hearing. He said the Selectmen need to act on this document by our next meeting on November 4th. He said since two members are missing this evening, perhaps a decision should be made at the next meeting.

Planning Director Gary Goeschel was present and said that State Statute requires submission to the Board of Selectmen of this document 65 days before any public hearing by Planning. He was requesting any input by November 10th in order to keep the timelines and have the document ready for the first of the year. He stressed that the POCD (Plan of Conservation and Development) was an advisory document and a work in progress. He briefly reviewed the topics of each chapter.

Mr. Hogan said that the Planning Commission had taken the task of reviewing the POCD very seriously and they had not utilized a rubber stamp approach.

Attorney O'Connell said that the statute requires that the Board of Selectmen may hold a public hearing on the Plan, may submit comments to the Planning Commission and the Board of Selectmen must endorse or reject the Plan or any part thereof and the resolution must clearly state the action of the Board.

Mr. Hogan said that the Planning Commission is planning to hold a public hearing on November 10, 2009.

Mr. Kleinhans said that since two members were absent, a public hearing should be scheduled for November 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. and the Board could act on it at the next meeting.

Mr. Goeschel said that there is a copy of the POCD on the Town's website: www.eltownhall.com a copy in the Town Clerk's Office and one at the Library.

The consensus of the Board was to call a Public Hearing scheduled for November 4, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

2b. Resolution – Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (/479,119 – approved 10/7/09)

MOTION (3)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to authorize Paul M. Formica to sign as authorized representative for the Town of East Lyme and to submit an application for funding under the Office of Policy and Management Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant.

Seconded by Mr. Hogan. Motion passed 4-0.

3a. Discussion – Golf Cart Usage

Mr. Formica noted he would ask the Town Engineer for a list of the conditions of our town roads adding that some of the roads might not be the safest to operate on. He noted the Board might want to limit the use of golf carts to beach areas.

Mr. Hogan said the intent was for beach community use and that no state roads would be allowed. He said we also need to define what type of golf cart we want.

Mr. Formica suggested tabling this item until the November 18th meeting, which would enable all the Board members to be present.

Mr. Hogan suggested getting some feedback from the police department since they would be the ones enforcing any ordinance regarding golf carts.

Mr. Kleinhans noted that he had heard of a potential for tax incentives for golf carts.

3b. Resident Trooper Contract

Mr. Formica said that he had met with the Attorney General and he was working with the State Commissioner of Public Safety regarding language modifications which were not ready yet. He added that there was no repercussion for not signing the contract yet and we were continuing with the use of a Resident Trooper.

Mr. Formica passed out a letter received from DOT Commissioner Joseph Marie (identified as Attachment A) regarding support for expansion of Shoreline East in response to a letter that he had sent him. He added that he had suggested adding another station stop at Rocky Neck.

5a. Ex-Officio

Mr. Kleinhans had no report.

Mr. Hogan stated that the ½ marathon this year had operated very smoothly in Giants Neck. He said that the road had been kept open for one way in and out traffic and there were no real backups. He also attended the Flanders Fire House Open House.

Ms. Rowe said that the Board of Education was in the process of reviewing standardized testing and this was Spirit Week for the High School students. She added that Youth Services had no quorum for the last two meetings.

5b. First Selectman's Report

Mr. Formica said that the Niantic Streetscape was underway and that it would cost a few million dollars to bury the wires on Main Street.

He attended the CCM Annual Convention and spoke on Affordable Housing and the efforts and benefits East Lyme has experienced.

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He said the Vision Committee meetings were on-going and they were identifying long term plans for our facilities.

The Pension Committee had also met.

He had attended the Water and Sewer meeting where an adjustment to the charge for water users had been approved.

Mr. Formica stated that the Board of Finance had unanimously denied the \$10,000 special appropriation the Selectmen had forwarded for an engineering study of the high school boilers. He added that this brought them back to square one and the item would have to be revisited. He suggested having it on the next agenda for discussion.

He said that he hosted a dedication of the Hole in the Wall Stormwater Classroom and honored Bill Scheer for all his work.

He said that Cub Scout Pack 7 had toured the Town Hall and taped a meeting with him and they each had received a DVD of the meeting. He said that they were earning their citizenship merit badges.

He added that last week he had attended a Democratic Town Committee event honoring Rose Ann Hardy and he presented a proclamation and a Town flag that had been flown that day over Town Hall.

He said there was a dedication for the new kiosk built for the Oswegatchie Hills Nature trails last weekend.

He attended a Director's Meeting at Chapman Woods and one for Niantic Main Street.

He attended a meeting of the Council of Governments and a regional water committee meeting of which he is a member to discuss solutions for water supply issues.

Mr. Formica thanked all the families who came out tonight for the portrait unveiling.

Mr. Wilson entered the meeting at 8:14 p.m. He said that members of the Parks and Recreation Commission attended the dedication of the Hole in the Wall Classroom.

6. Public Discussion

Ron Rando said that he has been in areas like Phoenix, Arizona where the use of golf carts works well and it would be good for the beach areas around here.

MOTION (4)

Mr. Kleinhans moved to adjourn the October 21, 2009 meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 8:17 p.m.

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

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