

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Public Hearing Minutes

Tuesday, February 2, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.
East Windsor Town Hall
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Public Hearing to include Board of Education

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEMBERS

Robert Maynard – First Selectman Steve Dearborn - Selectman
Richard P. Pippin – Deputy First Selectman Dale A. Nelson - Selectman
Jason E. Bowsza – Selectman

(These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting)

CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Robert Maynard called the Public Hearing to order at 6:33 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Board of Selectmen (BOS)

Present: Robert Maynard, First Selectman, Dale A. Nelson, Selectman, Dick Pippin, Selectman

Board of Education (BOE)

Present: Scott Morgan, Cathy Simonelli, Kathy Bilodeau, George Michna

First Selectman Maynard read the public notice. He stated that the purpose of this public hearing is for the Board of Education and Board of Selectmen to listen to the public's input on the budget process.

First Selectman Maynard informed the residents that the budget process for the Town government began last December and at that time the heads of the departments met with himself and Treasurer Kim Lord. The budgets were reviewed and they will be presented to the Board of Selectmen tonight.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street – He said that he sees in the budget that the Broad Brook Library has requested a \$10,000 line item and they never get it. He feels it's a travesty and that cutting that from the budget is despicable. He does not understand why it is always cut to nothing.

Wendy Parker, 171 Greenwoods Lane – She said she is thankful that the Town is considering giving the Youth Center \$10,000 this year. She said that the Youth Center did open and there were 74 kids that attended in the first three months. They offer a safe, substance-free place. She feels that the \$10,000 would significantly help them since it costs approximately \$15,000 to fund the Youth Center.

Superintendent Theresa Kane arrived at 6:38 p.m. and apologized for being late. She said the budget they have created is a level service budget and will be presented to the Board of Education for consideration. She announced that tomorrow is the first budget workshop at the East Windsor High School. She will be presenting different cost centers to the Board of Education at that time. She explained that at this point, they have had to put in a higher number for health insurance which is driving up the cost right now. There was an 11% increase but they are in negotiations with the insurance company to lower it. According to Andy Paquette, Financial Consultant, they are currently at a 5.2% increase. She reminded the residents that the workshops are open to the public if they would like to come and listen.

Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street – Directed his question to Superintendent Kane. He asked why the number that is showing in the proposed budget is identical to last year. He wanted to know if it is a place holder at this point. Superintendent Kane turned the question over to Town Treasurer Kim Lord. Ms. Lord said they do not currently have any Board of Education information yet, so the number is a place holder.

Dale Nelson, Selectman asked where we are with negotiations on the Town's side as far as health insurance. Ms. Lord said that we received our increase notice about 4 days ago. She was not pleased because we negotiated with Cigna last year and they promised they would not be coming forward with a large increase this year. She added that we are working with our broker, Ovation to crunch numbers and to reduce the increase.

Cathy Simonelli added that usually this happens every year. The insurance comes in high and we always manage to talk them down.

Denise Menard, 73 Miller Road – asked First Selectman Maynard if there are printed copies of the budget available. First Selectman Maynard showed Ms. Menard how to find the budget online.

Frances Neill, Melrose Road – asked a question regarding the Warehouse Point Fire District tax. First Selectman Maynard asked her to hold onto her question until the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION to adjourn made (Pippin) and **SECONDED** (Nelson).

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Discussion: First Selectman Maynard concluded this public hearing and said that March 23rd will be the second public hearing. The Board of Selectmen will also have workshops, the dates are attached. He added that we will put on the website which departments will be discussed at which workshops.

Cathy Simonelli said that the Board of Education budget workshops do not appear on the Town calendar but on their website. There is one tomorrow, at 6:00 p.m., February 17th and March 2nd.

All in favor.

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Schroll
Recording Secretary

FY 2016-2017 Calendar

Charter date	Actual date		Times	Notes
9/15/2015		CIP Budget requests due		
11/1/2015	12/15/2015	Submit CIP recommendations to BOS		
12/1/2015	12/7/2015	Distribution of Budget Request Spreadsheets to Departments		
	12/31/2015	Budget Requests to First Selectman- Final Deadline		
Discretion of BOS & Treasurer	1/1/2016-1/15/2016	Bob to meet with Department Heads- Finalize budget requests		
	1/29/2016	Budget Packets ready for Board Members		
At onset of deliberations	2/2/2016	BOS Public Hearing - invite BOE to join, if they'd like	6:30 p.m.	Budget available online and in Town Clerk's Office
	2/2/2016	First Selectman submits budget to BOS at BOS mtg.	Immediately following Public Hearing	
	2/8, 2/11, 2/18 & 2/20	BOS to hold Budget Workshops	6:00 p.m.	Sat. 2/20, 9-12:00 pm
	3/16/2016	BOS and BOE presents budget to BOF	7:30 p.m.	
	3/23/2016	BOF Public Hearing	7:00 p.m.	
	3/28, 3/31, 4/4, 4/7 & 4/18	BOF to hold Budget Workshops	5:30 p.m.	
	4/20/2016	BOF approve final budget for Referendum		
	4/28/2016	Budget to Town Clerk for processing ballots (needs in the morning)		
2nd Tues. by Charter, sec. 8-5 a.	5/10/2016	1st Budget Referendum	6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.	Town Hall & Annex
Per Charter, sec. 8.5 b.1.	5/11/2016	Public Hearing, if needed, or BOF to set mill rate	Time and location to be posted	
	5/12/2016	Budget to Town Clerk for processing ballots (needs in the morning)		
4th Tues. by Charter, sec. 8-5 b.3.	5/24/2016	2nd Budget Referendum (if needed)	6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.	Town Hall & Annex
Per charter, sec. 8.5 b.2.	5/25/2016	Public Hearing, if needed, or BOF to set mill rate	Time and location to be posted	
	5/26/2016	Budget to Town Clerk for processing ballots (needs in the morning)		
Per charter, sec. 8.5 b.3.	6/14/2016	3rd Budget Referendum (if needed)	6:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.	Town Hall & Annex
Per charter, sec. 8.5 b.4. budget & mill rate has to be adopted no later than 6/15.	6/14/2016	BOF to set mill rate		after Budget Referendum results