

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
11 RYE STREET  
BROAD BROOK, CT 06016**

**Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 4, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

**I. Call to Order**

First Selectman Denise Menard called the Regular Meeting to Order at 7:04 p.m. in the Town Hall Conference Room.

**II. Attendance**

Present:

Denise Menard, First Selectman

Steve Dearborn, Selectman

Dale A. Nelson, Selectman

James C. Richards, Selectman

Absent:

Jason E. Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman

**III. Added Agenda Items**

None

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**Regular Meeting of February 4, 2014**

It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards) that the Board of Selectmen approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 4, 2014. Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**V. Communications**

None

**VI. Selectmen's Reports**

**A. Denise Menard**

Ms. Menard informed the Board of Selectmen that the Town is in the process of updating the website.

The hiring process has begun to fill the position of Treasurer. Ms. Menard reported that Linda Savitsky will be helping with the process. Linda is the Interim Director of Finance in Wethersfield and she knows East Windsor well, having been an advisor in the past with pension funding. Interviews will be scheduled this month.

Ms. Menard distributed the Assessors Report, Summary of Activity on the Broad Brook Mill, and Parks and Recreation Program Information.

Leonard Norton, Director of Public Works, gave an update to the Board of Selectmen on the Facilities/Maintainer Inspections position. Five interviews were held on February 3, 2014 with a panel consisting of Mr. Norton, the Directors of Public Works from Stafford and Windsor Locks and the Public Works Union President. The applicants were scored by the panel members based on their answers to 13-14 questions. The scores were averaged and ranged from a low of 26.75 to a high of 49.0. The applicant with the highest score will be offered the position.

**B. Jason E. Bowsza**

Mr. Bowsza's report is hereto attached as Attachment A.

**C. Steve Dearborn**

Mr. Dearborn attended the WPCA Special Meeting at Park Hill on January 23, 2014. They discussed conservation and development. He also attended the WPCA regular meeting on January 29, 2014. He reported that Art Enderle, WPCA Superintendent, received an award from the New England Water and Environmental Association for his outstanding professionalism and performance.

On January 30, 2014 Mr. Dearborn attended the Economic Development and Conservation Meet and Greet. He said that Mr. Richards did a good job with the event and it was nice to meet new people and see old friends. Mr. Dearborn said the Merlot on the River is a beautiful place and a nice asset to the town.

The Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on February 3, 2014 was canceled.

**D. Dale A. Nelson**

Ms. Nelson attended the January 22, 2014 Pension Board meeting. She stated Jerilyn Corso did a great job running the meeting in Joe Pellegrini's absence.

Ms. Nelson was unable to attend the Warehouse Point Fire District meeting on February 3, 2014 so she does not have anything to report.

On January 28, 2014 Ms. Nelson attended the Housing Authority meeting and she attended the Capital Improvement Planning Committee meeting on January 29, 2014.

Ms. Nelson did attend the Economic Development and Conservation Meet and Greet at Merlot on the River on January 30, 2014. She said it was a nice event and a good chance for people to mingle.

**E. James C. Richards**

Mr. Richards said the Parks and Recreation Department is having their Annual Panther Plunge and encouraged donations. The money raised at this event benefits the East Windsor Fuel Bank. This year they are going to have the warming center at the Reservoir.

The Economic Development Commission met before the Meet and Greet on January 30, 2014. They are busy creating a business list. There was discussion of affordable housing and assistant living facilities in town. They continued discussion of getting involved in the Bradley Corridor and have approached State Representative Christopher Davis to see what needs to be done if the town does want to get involved.

Mr. Richards said the Meet and Greet was great. It was very successful and they are looking at ways to make it even better next year. The Governor was unable to attend the event but our State Senator and State Representatives did attend.

**VII. Public Participation**

Kathy Pippin, 37 Woolam Road, suggested that the schedule of Board and Commission meetings be put in the Chamber of Commerce Newsletter.

The Board of Selectmen took a recess to allow for the Town Meeting scheduled at 7:30 p.m.

**XII. Executive Session**

Pursuant to C.G.S. Section 1-200 (6) (a) Personnel & (b) Litigation. It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards) to take Executive Session out of order to include Town Attorney Joshua Hawks Ladds. The Board of Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m.; came out of Executive Session at 8:48 p.m.

Motion was made to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:48 p.m. It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**VIII. Board and Commissions Appointments**

**Resignations: None**

**Re-appointments: None**

**New Appointments: None**

Motion was made to take Item IX (B) out of order. It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**IX. Unfinished Business**

**B. Discussion of Barber Hill Schoolhouse**

John Burnham and Jay Ussery attended the meeting to provide information to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Burnham spoke to Alex Thim, an Eagle Scout who began restoration of the property and he is on board with moving the schoolhouse. He also spoke to the two developers who did the Griffin Road subdivision ten years ago, Richard Corrado and Robert Gengras, and they are willing to remove the deed restriction.

Several people have come forward to volunteer to help move the schoolhouse. The East Windsor Historical Preservation Commission was somewhat reluctant but did vote to support Mr. Burnham's proposal for the Barber Hill Schoolhouse project. Mr. Burnham asked the Board of Selectmen which proposal they would be most likely to pursue? Mr. Ussery distributed a map of the Rye Street property and options for that proposal. He said there are opportunities for walking trails, classrooms and an additional 60 space staff parking lot at the Broad Brook Elementary School.

Mr. Burnham told the Board of Selectmen they have an obligation to preserve the history of the Town of East Windsor. Moving and restoring the Barber Hill Schoolhouse is something good for the town. If nothing is done and the building collapses, the town will be left with nontaxable property and the schoolhouse will be gone. He said there should be value put on the Barber Hill Schoolhouse.

There was discussion about each of the proposals and Ms. Menard read a letter from First Selectman Bowsza who was unable to attend the meeting. He agreed with taking the necessary steps to preserve the schoolhouse.

Ms. Menard will research the viable options and move forward on obtaining information. She will bring that information to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Peg Hoffman, 28 Church Street, said this is the last chance to save the Barber Hill Schoolhouse and honor where the people of East Windsor came from.

Nichole DeSousa, 10 Rice Road, thanked Mr. Burnham for what he does.

Scott Morgan, 106 South Main Street, said if something is not done now we will lose the building. He thanked John Burnham.

Mr. Burnham said he will be at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting to keep this issue on the table. Time is of the essence.

Rich Tuller, 1713 Canyon Ridge, has no vested interest in this but thinks it is a very expensive project and wonders if the town can perform a task like moving a schoolhouse without going out to bid?

Motion was made to go back into order of business. It was MOVED (Richards) and SECONDED (Nelson). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

## **IX. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Discussion of Selectmen's Priorities**

Motion was made to postpone Item IX (A) Discussion of Selectmen's Priorities to the next meeting. It was MOVED (Richards) and SECONDED (Nelson). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**X. New Business**

**A. Discussion of Farm Leases**

Motion was made to postpone discussion of town owned farm leases until the February 18, 2014 Board of Selectmen meeting when Selectmen Bowsza will be present. It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards).

Discussion of the motion. Mr. Richards wanted to verify that there were no leases that need to be signed between now and the next meeting and none that need to be signed for the next year? Ms. Menard stated there are not.

Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**B. Approval of Tax Refunds**

Motion was made to approve tax refunds of January 29, 2014 in the amount of \$621.24. It was MOVED (Nelson) and SECONDED (Richards). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**XI. Budget Matters**

Motion was made to approve the transfer # S2013-70 in the amount of \$6,400.00, to be forwarded to the Board of Finance and Town Meeting if needed. It was MOVED (Richards) and SECONDED (Nelson). Motion PASSED. In favor – S. Dearborn, D. Nelson and J. Richards; Opposed – None.

**XIII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn, made by (Nelson) and seconded by (Richards). The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Vane  
Recording Secretary

Selectmen's report: 2/4/14

I apologize for missing tonight's meeting, but I am out of state at a conference for work. Below please find my regularly submitted selectmen's report.

On Wednesday, January 22nd the Pension Boards met for its regular quarterly meeting. Webster bank reported a continued strong performance over 2013. Looking ahead, once a new treasurer is in place, we may reexamine the investment guidelines policy to allow for some consideration of international investments, a market that is showing signs of strong gains in the next year. Our 2013 return on investment exceeded 11%.

That same night, Denise and I attended the East Windsor Condo Associations' meeting, where the discussion focused predominantly on process questions. I believe now that all members of the Board of Selectmen have been invited to participate, although I'm not sure that schedules have allowed that to happen yet. Hopefully they will.

On Thursday, 1/23, the Conservation Commission met and elected officers. They are:

Election of officers

Chair: Albert Grant

Vice Chair: Janice Warren

Secretary: Kirk Monstream

The rest of their discussion focused on their role in the land of Conservation and Development.

After the Conservation Commission, the Agriculture Commission met. They also elected officers. Those elected were:

Chair: Albert Grant

Vice: Jim Stremper

Secretary: Kirk Monstream

The Agriculture Commission would like to attend the next selectmen's meeting to work on building a relationship between our board and theirs, to discuss leases for town owned farmland and to discuss having a more active advisory role.

On Tuesday, 1/28, I attended the PZC meeting. The major point of discussion was the POCD, specifically dealing with housing. Interesting documents were provided comparing East Windsor, Hartford County and the state of Connecticut. I believe these we're put together by CERC and are available through the Planning Office.

One issue that was discussed at length was the total absence of assisted living facilities in town. (Touch point and Kettlebrook are actually considered rehab facilities). Broad consensus emerged for a future focus on elder care.

There was also discussion about encouraging more density development in appropriate areas (Broad Brook center and certain parts of Warehouse Point would be appropriate, while Melrose, Scantic and Windsorville would not be.)

On March 8, from 5-9pm Literacy Volunteers of Northern Connecticut will have their annual wine and ale tasting at *Golden Gavel*.

On Thursday, January 30th, I attended the BOS/EDC/Chamber State and Local Officials Meet and Greet with the other selectmen. It was a very good event, and an opportunity to network.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza

Sent from my iPad