

July 21, 2015

Town of East Windsor
Special Town Meeting
July 21, 2015

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Broad Brook School, 14 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on July 21, 2015. The meeting was called to order by First Selectmen, Denise Menard at 7:30 P.M. Motion was made by Linda Sinsigallo and seconded by Steve Dearborn to nominate Denise Menard to preside as Moderator. Motion was made by Linda Sinsigallo and seconded by Jason Bowsza to have nominations cease. Both motions passed. Denise Menard is presiding as moderator. Town Clerk, Joanne M. Slater read the call to the meeting. Moderator, Denise Menard read the statement of eligibility to vote.

A motion was made by Gary Mazzone and 2nd by Patricia Nelson to vote by paper ballot. A hand vote resulted in yes, 102 and no, 66. Motion to have paper ballot passed.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Jason Bowsza.

Item #1: Resolved: To accept the petition entitled "Petition to compel the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to act in their official capacity in opposition to the relocation of Connecticut State Police Firearms Training Facility to East Windsor" and submit said petition with a letter of support on behalf of the Town to relevant agency commissioners and legislative delegation. (copy of petition attached).

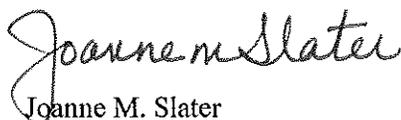
Jason Bowsza moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Dale Nelson.

State Senator Timothy D. Larson and State Representative Christopher Davis spoke to the voters and stated that they along with Representative David Kiner would jointly send a letter on behalf of the community. Six voters spoke about their opposition to the facility. One voter spoke in support of the facility.

Denise Menard, Moderator stated that the results of the paper ballot are, Yes – 161 votes and No – 8 votes. The resolution passed.

Jason Bowsza made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mike Savelyev. Meeting adjourned at 9:42pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Joanne M. Slater
Town Clerk

Town of East Windsor

Petition to compel the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to act in their official capacity in opposition to the relocation of Connecticut State Police Firearms Training Facility to East Windsor.

Section 1. Title

Official action in opposition of the relocation of the Connecticut State Police Firearms Training Facility within the Town of East Windsor.

Section 2. Purpose

To compel Board of Selectmen (BoS) to;

1. Take immediate action to deny the Connecticut State Police relocation efforts in building a new firearms training facility within the town of East Windsor.
2. Devote the efforts of the BoS to study and produce a plan of action to successfully remove the East Windsor site from the Connecticut State Police site selection process before the Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) is completed and continue these efforts if the site is deemed acceptable.
3. Secure the signature of Governor Malloy in a letter declaring that East Windsor will no longer be considered for the facility.

Arguments in support of this petition:

1. Noise pollution, this facility will generate an unprecedented amount of noise with multiple outdoor shooting ranges, over 110 active lanes which are intended to be used simultaneously. The facility will be in use year round, both, during the night and day and all weather conditions. Special teams within the CSP and Federal law enforcement entities (approximately 20% of the stated usage) train with High Caliber firearms, these trainings will also occur at this facility.

2. Environmental pollution from environmental contaminants: the remediation of lead from bullets, Ketch Brook flows through the site, what are the cumulative effects.

3. Part of the site has been determined by the DEEP to be in an aquifer protection zone, since the May 18th scoping meeting.

4. Negative impact on the grand list a loss of approximately \$50,000 in currently collected revenues. This amount could be much more if the site were to be developed for other uses.

5. The state of Connecticut's Construction Services Criterion suggests the facility should *not* be located in East Windsor. There are 10 elements which should remove this site from consideration: A park, church and cemetery located across from the proposed site at Windsorville Road, no close proximity to the interstate, not centrally located, aquifer protection area on site, located in Scantic River Regional

Drainage Basin, wetlands and FEMA flood plain on site, rare species along Ketch Brook, prime farmland soils and agricultural land currently in use on site.

6. The Town of East Windsor zoning map shows the site as Industrial, Agricultural and Residential. Locating this facility here would negate any future development and potential growth.

7. Poor proximity /accessibility to interstate, this site is 3 miles from the highway as the "crow flies". Actual route is closer to 8 miles when driving.

8. Unknown usage as the full scope of the training facility is yet to be fully determined and not guaranteed. The range is expected to be open Monday - Friday 8-4 with occasional night shooting and a rare weekend event according to Connecticut State Police (CSP). Once a state of the art modern range is built with 125 parking spaces proposed, and a potential of 125 outdoor shooters, the facility usage may change.

The State of Connecticut is not bound to any local zoning rules or laws, nor must they comply with any town ordinances. This leaves the CSP to build a facility as they see fit regardless of the town's intentions to develop a community that fits our needs.

9. Special events (IE Swat Challenge) The annual Swat Challenge event is typically scheduled in early August, this 4 day event is an invitation to all SWAT and ERT teams in New England. The event typically has attendees numbering in the hundreds with all types of apparatus, both military and civilian vehicles (MRAP Bear Cats etc.) and Helicopters practicing landings, insertions and extractions. The firearms competitions typically include the use of semi automatic high caliber rifles. Explosives and concussion grenades are also employed in competitions.

Traffic in the area surrounding the event is typically very high and must be directed. The event is currently only held annually but with a new, larger and better equipped facility plans for this type of event may be scheduled more often.

10. Property devaluation to homes in close proximity to the E.W. Sportsmen's Club and CSP proposed firearms range. The impact on these homes will be detrimental, including the quality of daily life making them less desirable. The result will have a negative effect on real estate values even impacting tax assessment values. It's possible that any PILOT monies the town *may* receive would be negated by lower assessments on surrounding properties won through appeal.

11. Notification by CSP that they are following the legal requirements to notify residents in East Windsor. Few residents are aware of this proposed site. Yes, meetings are posted on the website, but if you are unaware of the issue, you are not likely to be looking. A public hearing sign posted at 100 Windsorville Rd. is illegible notifying of a Public Hearing regarding the property. Individual notification to ALL property owners in the form of a letter of intent should be required and implemented.

12. No positive gain for East Windsor that pertains to crime prevention as any CSP officer would be in town for training exercises not for implementing traffic stops, investigating crimes etc.

We, the undersigned registered voters of East Windsor petition the town of East Windsor Board of Selectmen to act in their official capacity in opposition to the relocation of Connecticut State Police Firearms Training Facility to East Windsor;

(Dated: 6/21/15)