

June 20, 2012

Town of East Windsor  
Special Town Meeting  
June 20, 2012

A Special Town Meeting of the Town of East Windsor was held at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT on June 20, 2012. The meeting was called to order by Deputy First Selectmen, Alan Baker at 7:35 P.M. Motion was made by Jason Bowsza and seconded by Dale Nelson to nominate Richard P. Pippin, Jr. to preside as Moderator. Dale made a motion to have nominations cease, seconded by Kathleen Bilodeau. Both motions passed unanimously. Town Clerk, Joanne M. Slater read the call to the meeting. Moderator, Richard P. Pippin, Jr. read the statement of eligibility to vote.

The following resolution was introduced and read by Jason Bowsza.

**Item #1: Resolved:** To consider and discuss (but not to vote on) an appropriation of \$3,770,000 for the cost of the Replacement of the Broad Brook Elementary School Portable Classrooms Project, including, but not limited to, the replacement of eight (8) portable classrooms with fourteen (14) permanent modular classrooms, including the removal of the existing portable units, the design and construction of new classrooms, site work, the purchase and installation of furniture, equipment and instructional technology and all alterations, repairs and improvements in connection therewith, as well as engineering, architectural and temporary and permanent financing costs, and to meet said appropriation, and in lieu of a tax therefor, the issuance and sale of bonds and notes of the Town pursuant to Chapter 109 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, the Town Charter or any other provision of law thereto enabling, in an amount not to exceed \$3,770,000 or so much as may be necessary after deducting grants or other sources of funds therefor and the First Selectman and the Town Treasurer be authorized to issue and sell bonds or temporary notes of the Town not to exceed \$3,770,000 in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of such bonds and to determine the amount, date, date of maturity, interest rate, form and other details of such notes and bonds. The full text of the resolutions adopted by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance concerning the Broad Brook Elementary School Portable Classrooms Project are available for review at the Town Clerk's office.

All those persons qualified to vote in Town meetings of the Town are hereby further notified that pursuant to Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes and the Town Charter, the Board of Selectmen have removed the above item on the call of this Special Town Meeting for submission to the voters of the Town who are qualified to vote at Town meetings for "yes" or "no" vote by voting machine on the following question:

Shall the Town of East Windsor appropriate \$3,770,000 for the Replacement of the Broad Brook Elementary School Portable Classrooms to finance the replacement of eight (8) portable classrooms with fourteen (14) permanent modular classrooms, including the removal of the existing portable units, the design and construction of new classrooms, site work, the purchase and installation of furniture, equipment and instructional technology and all alterations, repairs and improvements in connection therewith, as well as engineering, architectural and temporary and permanent financing costs and authorize the issuance of bonds and notes in the amount of \$3,770,000 to finance such appropriation.

The vote will be conducted at the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, Connecticut and the Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street, East Windsor, Connecticut, as the case may be for voters authorized to vote at such polling places, during the hours between twelve o'clock p.m. (in the

absence of a contrary determination at the Town Meeting) and eight o'clock p.m. on June 27, 2012.

**Jill Turner, President of E. Windsor PTO** had a flyer & and power point presentation document to hand out to the voters.

**Richard G. Labrie of Public Management Associates, LLC**, who was hired by the PTO as a consultant, gave a presentation on the replacement of the Broad Brook Elementary School portable classrooms.

**Jason Bowsza, BOF Chairman**, said that the BOF is in support of this project. He also asked whether this is an asset for the BOE or the Town.

**Richard Labrie of Public Management Associates, LLC** said that if the Town owns the building, then it is an asset of the Town. The BOE would not ask the Town to issue the bonds unless they had been approved by the State.

**Jack Mannette** said that the Town should hire a professional engineer to go through the school because there are other issues in the school that should be considered in a plan to fix the school problems. In the presentation, it says that the school is going to allocate money that is already in their budget. The minimum budget requirement from the State we just passed now becomes the new budget requirement for the following year. That money has been allocated to the schools and there is not a mechanism, that he knows of, that allows us to take money back from the school without affecting that minimum budget requirement of the State Board of Education. The school is a Town building. We expect money back for the school building and the resolution doesn't say that. The resolution says it authorizes \$3,770,000. If the words such as, this whole project is contingent upon the school getting the money from the State, were added to this resolution, then it would make sense. The town bought the Kogut property to possibly use it for an educational center someday. This is something we need to consider now. If we can't get the money back from the school, there is no money in our current budget for next year to allocate to the debt service. We already have an issue from this April because we authorized an expenditure of over 2 million dollars for a sewer. The cost of that is not listed in the budget for debt service. When that comes through, whatever the amount of money it is has to be absorbed somewhere. If we can't use the money for the BOE, then that money will have to be added back in the budget and could very well affect what we authorized in the budget that we just passed. We have time next year to consider all these things.

**Dr. Theresa Kane** stated that a facility study had already been done for the Broad Brook School. They are well aware of their status as a school. We can do some upgrades that are within the \$3,770,000. They are hoping to put in windows in the cafeteria where the windows are single pane. This will save energy. One of the Capital improvement projects for 2016 is to remove oil tanks in the Broad Brook School. We would be able to do that project now. We would also be able to look at switching the heating system to a new one. This was thoroughly looked at and it was felt that with the State reimbursement that we should pursue it. The wording for this item was approved by bond council. The BOE is paying the lease out of their budget.

**Catherine Simonelli** said that the BOE have been looking at the issues at the school. They are not sure that the help from the State will be there when they need it. The town took the Kogut property with the intent of hopefully someday creating a school campus, but the Broad Brook School needs work done now. The temporary buildings need to be replaced now. We are either going to replace them with this or with something else. It could be another lease of some kind which would put us in the position of not owning the buildings and paying rent on something again. She highly doubts that any of them are less money than the ones we are currently paying for. We have the option of pursuing this and owning these buildings which will live to an age approximately the same age that the Broad Brook School will live to. Then we could pursue, if we wanted to, a school campus when the whole school needs to be replaced. These are

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permanent modular that can be disbanded, removed and sold. So in 5 years if the town decides to build a campus, we haven't lost anything. We can sell the modular if we want to.

**Dale Nelson** stated that anyone who hasn't walked through the building yet, should take a good look at the units and the rest of the building.

**Bill Shultz** said that the BOE also requested that the town take a look at the long term situation.

**Lisa Madsen** hopes that they take pictures of what's wrong with the facility before people vote. This facility might be a liability to the Town.

**Dan Nadeau** said that on the day of the election, the PTO could have signs & people sitting beyond the 75ft. mark, from the polling place, to tell voters to come & look at the school before casting their vote.

**Kelly Langer** stated that there was a tour of the building offered and a total of about 12-13 people came.

**Jill Turner** is worried about the children getting hurt at the school.

Jason Bowsza moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Catherine Simonelli.

**The resolution passed unanimously.**

The following resolution was introduced and read by Dale Nelson.

**Item #2: Resolved:** To consider and vote on the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen that the polls shall be open at six o'clock a.m. to conduct the referendum on June 27, 2012.

Dale Nelson moved that the foregoing resolution be adopted, seconded by Carol Madore. No discussion followed.

**The resolution passed by voice vote. The two Registrars of Voters abstained from the vote.**

Dale Nelson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Catherine Simonelli. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joanne M. Slater, CCTC

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk