

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 19, 2018

7:00 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting Room
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016

Meeting Minutes

*** *These Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting****

Board of Selectmen:

Robert Maynard, First Selectman
Steve Dearborn., Deputy First Selectman
Jason Bowsza, Selectman
Andy Hoffman, Selectman
Charles J. Szymanski, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: Board of Selectmen: Robert Maynard, First Selectman; Steve Dearborn, Deputy First Selectman; Selectmen: Jason Bowsza; Andy Hoffman; Charles J. Szymanski.

SPEAKERS: Town Staff: Department of Public Works: Len Norton, Director/Town Engineer; Joe Sauerhoefer, Operations Manager;
Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Town Entities::
Board of Finance: Sarah Muska; Capital Improvement Project Committee: Cathy Simonelli, Chairman; Broad Brook Mill Committee: Jessica Bottomley, Len Norton, Keith Yagaloff.

Public: Bob Leach, Tom Talamini.

Press: No one from the press was present.

TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING:

First Selectman Maynard called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Everyone present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

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MOTION: To APPROVE the Agenda as amended to include under NEW BUSINESS:
10G. Tax Ordinances.

Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.

ATTENDANCE: See Page 1.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Sarah Muska, 25 Maple Avenue: Ms. Muska reported she read her comments at the Board of Finance Meeting last night under Board Comments but since the video wasn't working she wants to read them again. Ms. Muska wanted to take a few minutes to reflect on the unprofessional and disrespectful remarks made by a few members of the Board of Selectmen.

First, she received a letter from Selectman Hoffman at her home in February; Ms. Muska felt the tone was belittling and intimidating. She brought this to the Board's attention; nothing was ever done; she never received an apology. She also cited the bullying of Jim Richards at the Board's June 21st meeting when he applied for a position on the EDC. The interaction between Mr. Richards and Selectman Hoffman was inappropriate. The back and forth discussion should have been stopped immediately.

Lastly, she said that also during the June 21st meeting Selectman Szymanski berated Mr. Sauerhoefer and called him a liar; this is completely unacceptable in a public forum. After viewing the minutes and video Mr. Sauerhoefer had not said what he was being accused of.

Ms. Muska said the bottom line is to serve your community as an elected official means you respect the constituents, employees and other officials; if we disagree or not we should still be held to a standard of treating each other with respect. Ms. Muska feels this needs to be addressed. As she hasn't gotten anywhere with this Board Ms. Muska said she has discussed this with her Chairman of the Board of Finance; they are working on where they'll go from here.

Also, after reviewing the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting of June 7th, Ms. Muska finds it inappropriate for the recording secretary to be interjecting feelings and opinions. The minutes state – *quote* – Ms. Muska was angry at the letter written by Building Inspector Stanley, which he made available to the public. The letter is also posted on the bulletin board. Ms. Muska was angry at Building Inspector Stanley in faulting the Board of Finance for not approving his request for additional help for the Building Department. – *end quote*. Ms. Muska said to repeatedly state I was angry is an interpretation and I ask that going forward just commentary is recorded.

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Lastly, Ms. Muska asked why is discussion of the soccer field bathrooms on tonight's agenda? This was already voted in at a Town Meeting and was passed by the taxpayers so why are you reviewing it again?

Ms. Muska thanked the Board for their time.

First Selectman Maynard agreed with Ms. Muska; he feels it's good to treat people with respect, and he thinks it's good to respect town employees; they're very valuable to us.

Cathy Simonelli, 79 Depot Street: Mrs. Simonelli happened to catch by chance last night that the CIP Committee is on the agenda tonight; she was concerned as no one on the CIP Committee was noticed that the Committee would be on the agenda and she feels it's inappropriate. She felt that when people or committees are going to be on your agenda she would ask that you reach out and let people know so they can be here and participate and know what's going on.

First Selectman Maynard apologized; he suggested if you listen it's not really something for you to participate in. Mrs. Simonelli assumed that it would affect the committee so it would be good for them to hear that first hand. First Selectman Maynard agreed.

Bob Leach, 39 Church Street: Mr. Leach reported he's a member of the Scout Hall Committee. He noted discussion which occurred at the Board's June 21st meeting regarding discussion about the possibility of building public restrooms to be available over at the Abbe Road soccer fields. At that meeting a Selectman indicated he had spoken with Nancy Masters regarding use of the bathrooms at Scout Hall. The Select Board member said, and I *quote* – Mrs. Masters, who is a trustee of Scout Hall, has said that she's open to allowing use of the restrooms while the soccer games are going on – *end quote*. Mr. Leach said that statement is completely false. He spoke with Nancy Masters who told him that she never had a discussion about use of the bathrooms at Scout Hall. Mr. Leach asked Mrs. Masters if he could quote her, to which she replied that he could. Mr. Leach said he's curious that someone would say that. First Selectman Maynard suggested he'll talk to Nancy Masters and see what the problem is. Mr. Leach indicated they meet at 7:00 a.m. every Saturday.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Regular Meeting Minutes of July 5, 2018:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Regular Minutes dated July 5, 2018 as presented.

Szymanski moved/Hoffman seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None.

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.

COMMUNICATIONS/Assessor's Office Memo:

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First Selectman Maynard noted receipt of memo dated July 3, 2018 from Helen Totz, CCMA II, Assessor; First Selectman Maynard read Assessor Totz's memo for everyone. The memo summarizes recent work within the Assessor's Office (*See Attachment A*)

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/A.

Resignations: None.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/B

Reappointments: Joseph Sauerhoefer (D), Building Commission, regular member for a term expiring August 1, 2024:

MOTION: To REAPPOINT Joseph Sauerhoefer (D), Building Commission, regular member for a term expiring August 1, 2024.

Maynard moved/Bowsza seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.**

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/C. New

Appointments: Barbara Petano (D), Ethics Commission, for a term expiring January 24, 2020:

MOTION: To APPOINT Barbara Petano (D), Ethics Commission, for a term expiring January 24, 2020:

Maynard moved/Bowsza seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/A. East Windsor's 250th Anniversary Committee Report:

Rebecca Talamini, Chairman of the 250th Anniversary Committee, joined the Board; Ms. Talamini presented the following update:

- Sundae Fun Day was held at the "Res"; 800 people attended; none of the Selectmen attended. Free ice cream was sponsored by Windsor Federal; free servings lasted until around 2 p.m.
- The next event is Heritage Day, September 22nd; see event information listed below.
- August 4th will be East Windsor Day at the Trolley Museum. The event will run from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; discounts will be given to East Windsor residents.
- August 11th will be the annual ice cream social at the East Windsor Historical Society.

Ms. Talamini indicated that people are still sending in forms for the Heritage Day parade. The East Windsor Republican Party will have a float; Ms. Talamini has heard rumors there might be floats for each of the villages. There will be six awards for floats. A horseshoe tournament,

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which will be located in the field south of the Harrington property, is being sponsored as part of the event. The parade will step off at 2:50 p.m. from the “Res” and continue on to the Harrington property at the corner of Main Street and Route 140. Some of the parade participants will be the Shriners, horses from Harrington Farm, and Huckleberry, the horse from the Revolutionary War Re-enactment. Ms. Talamini felt the parade would run for 45 minutes to an hour. Events, which will be located where the carnival has been held, will begin at 4:00 p.m. and will include food trucks, vendor tables, a bounce house, henna tattoo artists, bingo sponsored by the Broad Brook Fire Department, and multiple yard games. Fireworks will be set off at the field next to the Harrington property later in the evening. Shuttle buses will run from the Reservoir, along Main Street with stops at both school parking lots, and the Town Hall and the church parking lots as well.

Ms. Talamini indicated the time capsule will be buried the next day, September 23rd.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/B. Casino:

First Selectman Maynard queried the Board and audience for comments regarding the casino.

Selectman Bowsza reported Springfield is sponsoring a parade and commemorative events for the opening of the MGM casino on August 24th; he suggested perhaps Ms. Talamini could take on something for East Windsor now that she’s completed the 250th Anniversary events. He felt something more than a ribbon cutting and a press release would be appropriate.

Selectman Hoffman questioned the status of the Bureau of Indian Affairs on signing off on the second compact. First Selectman Maynard was not aware of the current status.

First Selectman Maynard then questioned the Board members for their opinions regarding putting a question relative to the Casino Impact Fund on the upcoming ballot.

Selectman Bowsza inquired what the question for the ballot would be. First Selectman Maynard suggested it would ask the voters if they approved of the ordinance. Selectman Bowsza requested his memory be refreshed as to what the ordinance proposed. First Selectman Maynard referenced highlights of the proposed ordinance, including: *to create a non-lapsing revolving fund separate from the General Fund, that the money in the Casino Impact Fund, including interest, be expended to ensure the casino has a positive impact on the town and that the issues associated with the casino are dealt with in a manner that supports its operation, the growth of East Windsor, quality of life, infrastructure, and public services.* Selectman Bowsza was ok with that.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn questioned what happened to the wording “for the betterment of the people of East Windsor”. First Selectman Maynard said he left out the last sentence, which reads - *and the money will be reviewed annually and the funds deemed to be in excess shall be transferred to the General Fund for the purposes of stabilizing taxes.* Deputy First

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Selectman Dearborn felt the phrase “for the betterment of the people of East Windsor” was to have been included; Selectman Hoffman recalled that language inclusion as well. First Selectman Maynard felt the phrase “*quality of life*” had covered that but he’ll review the ordinance language further.

NEW BUSINESS/A. Discuss Broad Brook Mill Remediation:

MOTION: To POSTPONE this agenda item until the Chairman arrives.

Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.

NEW BUSINESS/B. Discussion of Dispatchers and Supervisors Collective Bargaining negotiating Team:

First Selectman Maynard reported that the Town will begin negotiations with each of the unions. He noted he will be involved in the discussions, as well as someone from the Board of Finance, and the Police Union; he queried the Board for volunteers. Selectman Szymanski agreed to participate.

NEW BUSINESS/C. EDC Discussion, Website:

First Selectman Maynard presented a PowerPoint presentation of the EDC (Economic Development Commission) website which was reviewed at the previous EDC Meeting. Two members from CERC (Connecticut Economic Resource Center) who are helping design the EDC website were present at the EDC Meeting, and a representative from Virtual Towns and Schools participated via the phone. The EDC website will be a sub-site of the Town website.

First Selectman Maynard reported the home page of EDC website should be finished within 2 to 3 weeks, while it will take 2 to 3 months to move the existing data to the new Town website. First Selectman Maynard expected the websites to be available in the Fall.

Selectman Hoffman also noted the CERC and Virtual Towns and Schools representatives also said the webpage could include videos and audio so we can tell what we’re all about in East Windsor.

MOTION: To take the discussion of the Broad Brook Mill Remediation now.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.

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NEW BUSINESS/A. Discuss Broad Brook Mill Remediation:

Jessica Bottomley and Town Engineer Norton, Chairman and Member of the Broad Brook Mill Remediation Committee (BBMRC) respectively, joined the Board. Ms. Bottomley reported that at this point UTC has completed their final plan, which they have submitted to DEEP. She noted there's a binder full of documentation which includes the identification of toxins on the property and the level of those toxins present on the site. UTC's plan is to put a cap over most of the property and to dig up the volatile chemicals/toxins where the levels are the highest and move them to a consolidated area behind the Broad Brook Congregational Church. The next step is for UTC to hold a public meeting where the plan can be discussed; DEEP can take comments and consider them. Then a Section 106 review must be initiated because the Mill is on the National Register. UTC's plan is to take down the Mill.

Ms. Bottomley reported the BBMRC will be meeting with various involved parties on August 21st (Tuesday) at 7:30 p.m. in the Osborn House at 113 Scantic Road. Selectman Hoffman suggested the more participation the better; it's important for the residents and voters and citizens of East Windsor to understand the risks and results of what UTC wants to do. Selectman Szymanski questioned if the meeting should be held at Town Hall to encourage greater participation. After reviewing the calendar for room usage First Selectman Maynard agreed to move the meeting location.

Ms. Bottomley indicated that in preparation for this meeting the Committee will be looking for a second opinion and feedback from an independent consultant on the UTC plan. Town Engineer Norton reported UTC wants to do a simple remediation plan and leave some serious contaminants on the site. The Committee doesn't feel that's in the best interest of the Town; they feel they should have someone on their team to negotiate. Town Engineer Norton reported he's talked to environmental firms who have said the UTC plan is not in the best interest of the Town. Town Engineer Norton reported he has prepared a request for qualifications and proposals and a series of services to be provided pertinent to the project. Town Engineer Norton read the RFP for the Board; he noted no one on the Committee has seen the Consent Plan, or has the ability to get it. They also want the consultant to research the status of the money contributed by the State. Over \$3 million was allocated to UTC to remediate the site; Town Engineer Norton understands there is \$1.2 million left. He indicated they want to know what happened to the \$1.2 million, and what was the intent for that money? The Committee believes the intent was for the benefit of the Town of East Windsor. The firms that responded to the RFP can research that. Selectman Hoffman also suggested the money that's left may be something the Town can use in conjunction with UTC to clean up the site so it will be more developable.

Town Engineer Norton felt that everyone has resolved themselves that it will never be a totally clean site but the fact that their proposal is to dig the volatile nasty chemicals up and move them behind the church and burying them under a cover is just... you're digging them out of the ground - put them in a truck and then take them away. Selectman Szymanski questioned if the \$150,000 was the cost for removal. Town Engineer Norton suggested that's the figure that's been kicking around. Selectman Szymanski questioned why they wouldn't remove it and get it

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out of the center of Broad Brook for that little cost; he questioned the amount of material being discussed. Ms. Bottomley and Mr. Yagaloff, speaking from the audience, suggested its 1300 cubic yards of material.

Town Engineer Norton reported they received 3 responses to the RFP; the lowest is \$3,480 by CMG Environmental, Inc. which is a firm which has done work for Town Engineer Norton in the past and is vetted with the Town. The next bid is BETA Group, Inc. for \$8,250, and the third bid is from Milone & MacBroom, Inc. for \$17,860. Town Engineer Norton reported the Committee is asking for the Board to agree to their recommendation to go with CMG Environmental, Inc. for \$3,480. Selectman Szymanski cited the variance in the quotes; he questioned if the contractors had given a reason. Town Engineer Norton indicated the information he was given was it was due to the time spent reviewing the records; he cited he's confident that CMG will do a good job for the Town; DEEP has no problem with them.

Selectman Bowsza questioned what the end hope for this work was – if they come back and say that the UTC proposal is totally good for the Town – that's private property, it's State jurisdictional material. Town Engineer Norton expressed the Committee's hope is that UTC can do better than this proposal, and that the Town isn't just accepting the plan without considering options. Town Engineer Norton noted there's been a change in the level of discussion between UTC's representatives and the Committee since meeting first began. Selectman Bowsza questioned if the remedy is to litigate against UTC? Town Engineer Norton suggested litigation is always an option but he reiterated the Committee is seeking a more reasonable remedy which would be to dig the bad material up and take it off site – to not make a hazardous waste site in the center of Broad Brook.

First Selectman Maynard suggested litigation is one option but there may be something in between. By not allocating this money the Town will have a harder time getting UTC to remove the material; by getting this information the Committee will be talking on the same level as UTC. He, also, cited the change in the level of discussion with the UTC representatives regarding the proposal. First Selectman Maynard cited that without this information the Town will be in a much more vulnerable position. Town Engineer Norton repeated his comment that no one on the Committee has the background to talk on the same level as UTC's experts.

Discussion continued regarding the past history of conversations and deliberations of the site. First Selectman Maynard cited the Committee's progress with UTC's representatives. He reiterated that if the Town takes no action we'll have a toxic waste site in the center of Broad Brook. He cited the requirement for the Section 106 review because the building is on the National Register. Selectman Bowsza questioned what the discussions were about. Town Engineer Norton restated that the Committee is impressing on them that if you take the trouble of taking the material from over here and move it to another spot why not move it off the property? Take the chromium and really bad material and take it off site; don't make it a part of the consolidation and make a hazardous waste site in the middle of Broad Brook. Town Engineer Norton suggested if we allow UTC to implement their plan the toxic material will sit down there forever; no one will take their kids to a park; a developer will never be interested in the site.

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Selectman Szymanski also noted the caps are not permanent; he recalled that a site in Waterbury has been capped and they go in periodically and remove trees that regrow. Selectman Hoffman concurred with Town Engineer Norton and Ms. Bottomley's assessment of the progress of the Committee. Ms. Bottomley cited the State is involved; we don't know what else we'll learn that will help us; we've learned something every step of the process – we learned about the consolidation area, that there's a toxic plume of toxic material in the water under the land which is very near the aquifer. Ms. Bottomley cited the proximity of the aquifer to the proposed consolidation site. Selectman Szymanski suggested contacting Connecticut Water Company; are they aware of UTC's proposal? Ms. Bottomley repeated that the material is in the ground with a fence around it; we know it's toxic; we need to do this study.

MOTION: To APPROVE spending \$3,480 to hire CMG Environmental, Inc. to work with the Remediation Commission.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/

DISCUSSION: Selectman Bowsza questioned under what authority the RFP was posted. He reported he has an overall problem with this group; he felt they're exceeding their mandate. Selectman Bowsza referenced the charge stated in the minutes that the Committee is supposed to work with the Board of Selectmen to resolve and determine the future of the Broad Brook Mill site. Selectman Bowsza suggested there are negotiations happening with UTC which have been brought up at previous meetings that we're not a part of it. There's now a Request for Services now before us that went out without us ever seeing it. That's exceeding what that mandate says. This is government gone awry. Selectman Bowsza felt there was some overreach beyond what the intention was.

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)
No one opposed/No abstentions.**

NEW BUSINESS/D. Discussion of Soccer Field's Bathrooms:

Selectman Hoffman indicated he asked for this item to be added to the Agenda. Selectman Hoffman understands this is a done deal but he would like to discuss it. He feels we could have done better; he's concerned about the process. We'll be spending a lot of money and he didn't get a lot of backup information; he's concerned about how it was handled. No one on the Board got a list with dollar amounts on it before the meeting; a list with figures was handed out by Joe Sauerhoefer at the meeting. That's the wrong thing to do to the Board. Selectman Hoffman indicated we're all asked to act in the best interest of the Town; that's what he wants to do. But he needs information and he needs time to talk to the people who put the proposals together. Selectman Hoffman felt we should be better than that; there should be better communication between the Boards.

Selectman Hoffman expressed his concern about a comparative cost of a recently built UCONN Engineering and Science building and the soccer field building. The UCONN building works out to a cost of \$804/square foot. The bathrooms of the size proposed works out to a cost of

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\$952/square foot. Joe Sauerhoefer has indicated that was a typical building and the building he'll get designed will probably be larger than the 14' x 15' building Selectman Hoffman's numbers are based on. Selectman Hoffman agrees that the two buildings are dramatically different but there's something wrong with a cost comparison when a bathroom costs about the same as a very sophisticated UCONN building. Selectman Hoffman feels there should have been more discussion. The Board of Selectmen offered alternatives that should have been more fully investigated. The project should have been tabled until we could discuss the project more fully and that didn't happen. He feels this is the wrong process. He knows Joe Sauerhoefer and Len Norton will do their best to keep the cost down; that's just the way they do things. Selectman Hoffman would like to try to set up a dialogue with the Board of Finance to discuss these issues. We should have found a way to table the request and look at if the project could have been done in a less expensive manner.

Selectman Bowsza said the Board did have an opportunity; if Selectman Hoffman wasn't comfortable with a proposal you should have cast a no vote. When you talk about cost comparisons and additional information and alternatives that was after we voted on it; if there were questions it's incumbent on the decision makers to make a fully informed decision. Selectman Hoffman agreed; he voted in favor of the project; that was his error, he pointed out he did vote against it at the Town Meeting. Selectman Bowsza suggested it's incumbent on the decisions makers to make a fully informed decision; it's not the Board of Finance's obligation to tell you the process. Selectman Hoffman suggested his point was he felt there should have been a more open process so that the information was available to him to help him make a more informed decision; Selectman Bowsza said you also didn't ask.

First Selectman Maynard felt both parties were right; there is a lack of communication between the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen. He's been attending the Board of Finance meetings to better improve communication; it's incumbent on both sides to exchange information. First Selectman Maynard cited that the previous evening he noted at the Board of Finance meeting that the casino will be coming in for a Building Permit; he questioned how the Town would fund the analysis of the plan as that's not in the budget? Discussion followed and Rand Stanley will attend the next Board of Finance meeting to explain what he's done in the past and in August an RFP will be put out for a consulting firm to review those plans.

First Selectman Maynard felt the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen need to communicate better. He noted it was a sudden decision to spend so much from the Fund Balance and he felt the way the Charter is written now the Board of Finance can propose supplemental appropriations and send them to Town Meeting if they're over \$20,000 and at the joint meeting they approved \$800,000 in supplemental appropriations. Selectman Bowsza pointed out that we approved them as well. Selectman Bowsza said when he casts a vote on any subject he's confident he's making an educated vote that's in the best interest of the community; Selectman Bowsza said - as you can see I have no problem voting no.

NEW BUSINESS/E. Discussion of Capital Improvement Planning Committee:

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First Selectman Maynard reported there are currently 5 members on the CIP (Capital Improvement Planning) Committee – Dick Pippin, Bob Leach, Cathy Simonelli, Adam Mehan, and Rand Stanley. First Selectman Maynard referenced the Charter, noting the committee can be composed of 6 to 9 members, and that the Board of Selectmen can appoint the Capital Improvement Planning Committee no later than August 1st annually. First Selectman Maynard indicated he was announcing that the Board will be appointing the Capital Improvement Planning Committee at the next meeting; he will call all the current members regarding reappointment and the Board is looking for additional members.

First Selectman Maynard reported that last year the Board appointed people for 4 year terms, which was a mistake. Mrs. Simonelli questioned which takes precedence? Mr. Sauerhoefer, who was a past member, reported that for the time he was on the Committee the past practice was that the appointment was a 6 month term; he was appointed annually. Mrs. Simonelli indicated she was fine with that; however she noted the appointments were made late last year which caused difficulties getting the information back to the Board of Selectmen in a timely manner. (First Selectman Maynard indicated the appointments will be on the August 2nd Agenda.)

NEW BUSINESS/F. Tax Refunds

MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$2,283.69 as presented under Tax Refund Report dated July 17, 2018.

Szymanski moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)

NEW BUSINESS/G. Tax Ordinances:

First Selectman Maynard reported that Assessor Totz advised him in the past the Town has been giving exemptions to individuals based on resolutions rather than ordinances. Assessor Totz explained that the resolution isn't a law, but is rather an opinion; she has denied exemptions based on various resolutions. However, she would have given the exemptions if they had been based on ordinances. First Selectman Maynard is advising the Board they will be working on passing ordinances at future meetings.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/A. Jason Bowsza:

Selectman Bowsza reported on the following:

- On July 8th he attended the Rubber Duck Race/Cardboard Boat Race; about 100 people participated. The folks who run the events – the BMX Committee and the American Heritage River Commission - go out of their way to make the events family friendly.
- On July 10th he attended the ice cream event sponsored by Abby's Helping Hand.

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- Last evening the Pension Board met. For fiscal year '18 the pension plan had a return rate of 10.4%, exceeding the benchmark by 214 basis points. Selectman Bowsza explained that an active discussion followed explaining why an actively managed approach is more beneficial than a pure index. Selectman Bowsza suggested the key to the approach is diversity in equity investments, fixed assets, and cash which protects against market volatility. The benchmark consists of a 55% blend of the S&P Index, 5% EAFIA index, and 45% Barclay's index, so there's a decided and well thought out reason why it's a blended benchmark vs. a straight S&P index fund - which is to protect the plan and the participants over time. A lengthy discussion followed between Selectman Bowsza and First Selectman Maynard regarding the Town's pension performance compared to other entities.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/B. Charles J. Szymanski:

Selectman Szymanski reported he and Selectman Hoffman met on July 3rd with the Chief of the Broad Brook Fire Department, Tom Arcari, and former Chief Dave Lockwood to discuss what they want to do about combining the departments. Selectman Szymanski handed discussion off to Selectman Hoffman, who indicated they spoke with Chief Tom Arcari and former Chief Dave Lockwood; their desire would be to be part of a fire district as it will satisfy the need for funding in an easier manner than going through the Town budget process. They feel the difficulty will be in administering the district; they felt it should be one district rather than two as the Warehouse Point side includes more commercial real estate than the Broad Brook side of town which is composed of more residential properties. Selectman Hoffman reported that the two fire departments currently function and interface well together; it's clean; they work hard to work the fires and emergencies together. The fire department representatives feel that if you had a single fire district you need to have two fire chiefs, one on each side, as it would be sticky to integrate it under one chief with captains, etc.

Selectman Hoffman indicated he and Selectman Szymanski had noted the Town budget process includes a series of checks and balances which would be lacking in a fire district. Chief Arcari and former Chief Lockwood pointed out that if the people on the Warehouse Point side were unhappy because they were being taxed higher the residents would have the opportunity to speak up at the fire district budget meeting. Selectman Hoffman indicated he and Selectman Szymanski were also concerned how the fire commission would operate; if there were more members on one side than the other it might influence decisions. It was proposed that at some period, maybe annually, the majority of the membership would shift from one side to the other to maintain the balance.

Selectman Hoffman reported he and Selectman Szymanski also met with a Fire Chief from one of Enfield's five districts; he indicated the process works well for the districts, although discussion of consolidation of the multiple districts comes up from time to time. They are also planning to discuss the process with the Fire Chief in Barkhamsted as East Windsor and Barkhamsted are more similar than Enfield.

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Resident Tom Talamini felt this discussion should be an agenda item rather than presented in the Selectmen's reports as we're talking about the fire departments without representation of the members. First Selectman Maynard suggested discussion will be on a future agenda. He also noted Simsbury functions under a fire district as well.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Steve Dearborn:

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn reported:

- He attended the Touch-A-Truck event; the location was kind of hidden, he felt the attendance would have been higher if it had been held at the Warehouse Point Fire Department.
- He went by the Reservoir on the Sundae Fun Day event and was amazed at the crowd; he's never seen that many people at the Reservoir at one time.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/D. Andy Hoffman:

Selectman Hoffman noted that Town Planner Whitten has been acting as the interface between the EDC and CERC. As Town Planner Whitten is leaving East Windsor shortly a new person should become the interface between the EDC and CERC. Selectman Hoffman noted Bob Lyke is extremely interested in the website; he might be a good replacement. Selectman Hoffman suggested First Selectman Maynard should discuss the replacement interface with Eric Moffett as the replacement was something the EDC Chairman should decide.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/E. Robert Maynard:

First Selectman Maynard had no additional items to discuss.

SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL OF CHECK RESIGTERS:

The Selectmen reviewed the registers presented and took appropriate action.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION/Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200 (6-a), Sec. 2-210 (b-1) (b-4)
Litigation, Negotiations and Employment – *Action is possible:***

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:45 p.m.. Attending the Executive Session were First Selectman Maynard, Deputy First Selectman Dearborn, Selectman Bowsza, Selectman Hoffman, and Selectman Szymanski.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:05 p.m.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – July 19, 2018
MEETING MINUTES -**

MOTION: To engage the law firm of Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P. C. to provide legal services for the Town of East Windsor.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/

VOTE: **In Favor:** Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski
 Opposed: Bowsza
 Abstained: No one

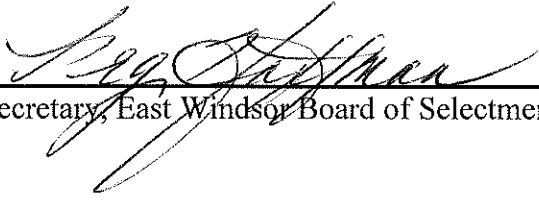
ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/

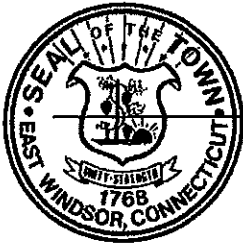
VOTE: **In Favor:** Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski)

Respectfully submitted



Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

See Attachment A



TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

MEMO

TO: Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance
FROM: Helen Tutz, CCMA II, Assessor
RE: Assessor's Office
DATE: July 3, 2018
CC: Robert Maynard, First Selectman
Amy O'Toole, Town Treasurer
Gayle Carolus, Assistant Treasurer

The Assessor's Office has finalized all Elderly and Disabled tax relief applications. The taxpayer copies have been returned to them with the information showing the new mill rate and the amount of credit that they will see on their tax bills. The State mandated reports for the program have been filed with OPM.

We have received seven court appeals. One is from Walmart based on the revaluation assessment and we are scheduled for a pretrial with them on their previous case on August 3rd. One is from SJK Properties and Jolanta Kement, whom we reached a stipulated agreement with on the same properties a few months ago and they are appealing again.

Tax bills have been mailed and we are addressing issues stemming from the bills. Most are prorations of motor vehicles that have been disposed of in some way. **HOWEVER, a personal property account in the name of Manchester Methane had to be adjusted to allow an exemption in the amount of \$777,500 assessed value, equal to \$26,357.26 tax dollars that will not be collected.**

We will be starting inspections of real estate that have taken out various building permits, as well as field inspections for new businesses for the personal property Grand list. Various changes to our records have been made based on subdivision and survey maps that have been filed in the land records and ownership records are current.

