

# TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

## REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 18, 2018

7:00 p.m.

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

### **AMENDED** 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: Andy Hoffman, and Charles J. Szymanski.

**ABSENT:** Selectman Jason Bowsza.

**SPEAKERS/GUESTS:** Town Staff: Assessor: Helen Totz; Tax Collector: Patricia Kratochvil.  
Members of Boards, Committees, Commissions, or Town Entities: Board of Finance: Sarah Muska, Kathy Pippin.  
Public: Marie DeSousa, Noreen Farmer, Bob Leach, Rick Leborious, John Mazza, Rachel Safford, Tom Talamini; Bill Towers.

**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:**

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

Everyone present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Agenda as presented.

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

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

**ATTENDANCE:** See Page 1.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

First Selectman Maynard advised the public that additional public participation would occur during the presentation of the Charter Revision Commission. He opened discussion to the audience.

**Sarah Muska, 25 Maple Avenue:** Ms. Muska reported that on October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. there was a meeting with three members of the Board of Selectmen, which constitutes a quorum; the Treasurer and another staff member were also present. It's illegal to schedule a meeting with a quorum that should have been posted beforehand. The meeting wasn't legally noticed, and there were no minutes. Ms. Muska questioned if other members were advised of the meeting, or just a select few?

**John Mazza, 143 Winkler Road:** Mr. Mazza wanted an update on the casino and the bill. He felt people weren't being told anything; the Board of Selectmen aren't doing their jobs. First Selectman Maynard noted discussion of the casino is on every agenda; the Board talks about it every two weeks. Mr. Mazza said that talking about it isn't getting it done. Mr. Mazza said there are many publications; East Windsor never has any information in there – maybe a Senior Center menu. Mr. Mazza felt people weren't being told about what's going on. There's no information about what you're talking about, how you're handling it, when will it be resolved, what you're doing to get it resolved.

**Bill Towers, 14 Maple Avenue:** Mr. Towers advised the Board he requested a fire investigation report regarding the barn fire which occurred August 21, 2018 on Barber Hill Road. Mr. Towers made three follow-up calls to the Selectmen's Office; he was told they tried to contact the Fire Marshal three times. Their response was the First Selectman was not in possession of the report; Mr. Towers could try to contact the Fire Marshal directly. Mr. Towers said the Fire Marshal is a Town agency; he works for the Town. His job description says First Selectman Maynard is his immediate supervisor. Mr. Towers indicated he's filing a FOIc complaint tomorrow. Mr. Towers understood Selectmen Szymanski had intended to speak with East Windsor Fire Marshal Simpkins, Jr. tonight; he's at the Fire House this evening.



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

And, Mr. Towers wanted to advise everyone October is Fire Protection Month; Fire Protection Week is usually October 6<sup>th</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup>. Set your clocks back, and change the batteries in your smoke alarms.

**Kathy Pippin, 37 Woolam Road:** Thanked Sarah Muska for speaking about the meetings. Mrs. Pippin said that they feel about the meetings that they're not seeing enough. Even with the Executive Session they don't know what you're doing. Mrs. Pippin said that as a Board of Finance member she would like to know more.

**Rick Leborious:** Mr. Leborious questioned if a meeting had been held, and was it noticed? First Selectman Maynard indicated it was a meeting between Bob DeCrescenzo, the Town Attorney, Selectman Hoffman and Selectman Szymanski, and the Town Treasurer. Mr. Leborious questioned if First Selectman Maynard was in attendance; First Selectman Maynard indicated he came in for a part of the time. Mr. Leborious said that was a meeting, and it's against the law.

**Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road:** Mrs. DeSousa didn't plan to speak tonight but because you guys think it's funny she felt she has a right to speak out. Mrs. DeSousa said it's not funny to break the law; it's not funny when you disregard people who take their personal time to attend meetings. Mrs. DeSousa said there's a lot of negativity out there, and if you keep laughing, and you think it's funny to not listen to the public it's going to come back at you. Mrs. DeSousa referenced Mr. Tower's filing of his complaint; she's sure there will be something else filed, and it's just going to cost the Town money.

First Selectman Maynard indicated that when he joined the meeting he questioned the Town Attorney if it was illegal if he stayed at the meeting and the Town Attorney said that this was not a meeting at which they would be making decisions; this is not really a meeting. First Selectman Maynard acknowledged the Town Attorney could be wrong.

**Sarah Muska, 25 Maple Avenue:** Ms. Muska asked if First Selectman Maynard was saying the Town Treasurer wasn't there. First Selectman Maynard reiterated the Treasurer was there; he had said that. Ms. Muska said First Selectman Maynard said the Town Attorney; First Selectman Maynard said the Town Attorney was present as well. Ms. Muska said there were three members of the Board there; that's a quorum, so why wasn't it noticed? Selectman Szymanski indicated that he had asked that question of the Town Attorney before the meeting; he was told it was not a Selectmen's meeting, it was First Selectman Maynard's meeting and there wasn't an issue with this. They went on the Town Attorney's advice that it was not a Selectmen's Meeting.

**Rick Leborious, 16 Church Street:** Mr. Leborious felt the responsibility for knowing the open meeting law lies with the Board of Selectmen and the First Selectman, not the Town Attorney. First Selectman Maynard indicated that it wasn't noticed because he didn't intend to attend the meeting; it was set up for Selectman Szymanski and Selectman Hoffman.



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

**Bob Leach, 39 Church Street:** Mr. Leach questioned how many members of the Board of Selectmen had FOI training? Mr. Leach suggested every member of a sitting board should have the FOI training. Selectman Szymanski reported training for all boards and commissions was planned. Mr. Leach felt that was a good first step, but he felt that what the Town Attorney said was totally wrong.

**Noreen Farmer, 247 South Water Street:** Mrs. Farmer suggested CCM offers free training for boards and commissions. She recalled training held several years ago when she was a member of the Board of Finance, the training meetings were held in the evening. Mrs. Farmer suggested that she personally felt it was a good experience as it brought many boards together to hear the same information at the same time and they could bounce things off of each other. Mrs. Farmer suggested that many people are on boards and they don't know; they don't realize you can't have three or four people together talking about something; they don't know they're breaking the law.

**Sarah Muska, 25 Maple Avenue:** Ms. Muska questioned if there was another meeting about the annual report, that same day? First Selectman Maynard indicated there was a meeting of the annual report people – himself, Selectman Szymanski, the Treasurer, and Amanda from his office; the Town Attorney wasn't there. Ms. Muska felt Selectman Hoffman was also in attendance; Selectman Hoffman concurred.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn thanked Mrs. Farmer for the CHM information, and questioned if anyone else wanted to slam the Board of Selectmen? Bill Towers raised his hand and then took his hand down. Without being recognized, Mrs. Dsouza suggested they not laugh. First Selectman Maynard said, "Would you please be recognized? This is getting out of control. This is a back and forth; we are going to discontinue it. We are not going to have any more participation. Then Bill Towers raised his hand again and First Selectman Maynard said, "You can pound sand." At that point Bill Towers stood up and started talking to someone across the room. When Bill Towers finished talking to someone in the audience, he said, "Thank you Mr. Maynard for telling me to pound sand. I appreciate that." Mr. Maynard replied, "I appreciate what you have done tonight." Bill Towers replied, "Thank you, you are welcome."

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/A.**

**Resignations:** None.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/B**

**Reappointments:** None.

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/C. New**

**Appointments:** None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS A. Casino Discussion:**

First Selectman Maynard began discussion by asking Mr. Mazza if he had any specific questions. Mr. Mazza asked if they are going to start building it, are we going to get it; what's going on?



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

First Selectman Maynard summarized the results of the recent court decision. He indicated that the Federal judge has said the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Department of the Interior, don't have to publish in the National Register the agreement between the State and the Mashantucket Pequot tribe. When the Connecticut State Legislature passed Bill 957 they said that the Department of the Interior had to publish both of the agreements with the Mashantucket Pequots and the Mohegan Sun in the National Register to allow a casino to be opened here. There is a Federal legal impediment until the Federal judge changes his mind – it's being appealed – or the State Legislature votes on another bill that doesn't require that the agreements be published in the National Register. We've talked to the Tribal Nations and MMCT and they seem to be moving forward. What we expect next from them is a detailed plan of what they are going to build and that would come when they apply for a Building Permit. Mr. Mazza asked that the casino would be coming? First Selectman Maynard replied that if we asked MMCT they would say yes.

Selectman Hoffman added that he had talked to David Cappiello, the lobbyist for MMCT, who said they are continuing to work on the engineering drawings. At this time they wouldn't be moving any faster because the drawings need to be finished. They are talking to the people at the Legislature and the gubernatorial candidates about this but they're busy with other things. Selectman Hoffman indicated he asked Mr. Cappiello if he thought the casino would be built and Mr. Cappiello thought the chances were as good as before. The ruling didn't help us but because of the need for the detailed engineered drawings it hasn't slowed them down. Mr. Cappiello had said that they still plan to have the casino up and running 18 months from when they break ground. Mr. Mazza suggested it seems like we're already being punished, when MGM opened our revenue from the two casinos have dropped 10%. Mr. Mazza questioned why the Board wasn't telling the people in Town what was happening?

Selectman Hoffman indicated Mr. Cappiello said he would attend the Selectmen's Meeting on November 1<sup>st</sup>; he urged Mr. Mazza to attend the meeting. Mr. Mazza questioned if the meeting would be advertised, will you say someone from the casino is coming? First Selectman Maynard agreed; Selectman Hoffman suggested advising the JI reported in advance so there would be an article following the meeting. Mr. Mazza suggested everyone is asking if we're getting the casino. Selectman Hoffman indicated that's the right answer; the Board/Town doesn't know. The people who should know best, the people working the problem, still think it's going to happen. Selectman Szymanski noted that if the casino comes to East Windsor the estimated loss to MGM is \$20 million per month, so they can spend money on lobbyists to not lose that money. Mr. Mazza felt that if we prolong this we won't get the casino. Selectman Hoffman agreed Mr. Mazza's contention was possible; he felt misinformation was worse than no information. The bottom line is the Town doesn't know. Mr. Mazza questioned if the Town was talking to our representatives in Washington, are we talking to Blumenthal or Murphy or Larson at the State? Selectman Hoffman indicated the Board has asked what they can do to help; they've been told the Tribal Nations are taking care of it. He cited he understands where Mr. Mazza is coming from; he shares his frustration.



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

First Selectman Maynard reported he had nothing further to offer as updated information. He understood Mr. Mazza is saying the people of the Town want more information published about the casino, and that the Board should contact the State and Federal representatives saying the Town wants the casino.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/B. Approval of Tax Ordinances (forward to Town Meeting):**

Town Assessor Helen Totz joined the Board. Ms. Totz is present to offer information to the Board to enable them to pass ordinances to offer tax exemptions for eligible Veterans and their spouses, the blind, and the disabled.

Ms. Totz began discussion by noting that with regard to the local option for the blind the C.G.S. specifies a \$2,000 local exemption. It must be passed by local ordinance; there's no way the Board can make the exemption more than the \$2,000.

With regard to the permanently and totally disabled, Ms. Totz suggested the ordinance that allows the Town to increase the exemption is set by the C.G.S. and sets the exemption at \$1,000; there's no leeway for the Board to give a higher exemption.

Ms. Totz suggested that the exemption specified under C.G.S. 12.81f allows towns to enact local ordinances to allow additional veterans exemptions, and gives towns the ability to allow a wide range of exemptions from an additional \$1,000 off the assessment to up to \$20,000 off the assessment. Ms. Totz provided the Selectmen with an Excel spreadsheet (*See Attachment D – Excel spreadsheet*) which shows the tax impact of these exemptions. Ms. Totz indicated that the first line shows that we currently have 81 people who qualify by the State additional program by income. If those 81 people maintain the same income limits that the State has set those same 81 people, if we allow a local option exemption of an additional \$3,000, it would be a tax loss of \$8,238 to the municipality, and a \$243,000 in assessed value loss. Ms. Totz reported the reason she recommended \$3,000 originally is that anyone who qualifies under C.G.S. 12. 81(20), which is a disabled veteran, is mandated to get an additional \$3,000; anyone else it's from \$1,000 up. Selectman Szymanski questioned if that exemption is for surviving spouses as well? Ms. Totz replied affirmatively, noting as long as they remain unmarried.

Ms. Totz noted she carried the impacts out for additional amounts. An additional local exemption of \$6,000 would result in a loss to the Grand List of \$486,000, and a tax loss of \$16,475. An additional local exemption of \$10,000 would result in a loss to the Grand List of \$810,000, while an additional local exemption of \$20,000 would result in a loss to the Grand List of \$1,620,000. (*See Attachment D – Excel spreadsheet*). Ms. Totz suggested she's a huge proponent of the Veterans and is very active with the Veterans – Blue Star Mothers, Project Hometown Support, the Red Cross, Services to Military Families – but as the Assessor she felt she had to bring to the attention of the Board that while she felt it's very important to recognize the Veterans and increase what they're getting we have to look at the impact to the Town budget too. Ms. Totz reported that currently 1 mill equates to approximately \$959,000 in assessed value. Ms. Totz suggested that for the same 81 people to get an additional \$6,000 exemption



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

that would be about a ½ mill would come off the Grand List. Hopefully it might be recovered by new construction, personal property, or motor vehicles, but we do have to realize that this is not only helping the Veterans but it is going to have an impact on all of the taxpayers.

Ms. Totz also noted that the C.G.S. that allows us to have the local option also allows the Town to increase the income limits above what the State allows. The C.G.S. allows the local income limits to go up to \$20,000 over the State limits. Ms. Totz indicated that would bring us up to

about \$63,000 per married couple. Ms. Totz cited that increasing the income limit would be opening the door for more people to qualify and the Board would have to decide on what the local limit would be. She referenced her Excel spreadsheet, noting that if the Town allowed an increase of \$10,000 over the State income limits then an estimated 310 Veterans would qualify; if the increase was \$20,000 then an estimated 410 Veterans, or approximately 2/3 of the total Veterans in East Windsor, would qualify. Ms. Totz reported that currently 620 people receive some sort of Veterans exemption.

First Selectman Maynard suggested the reason this is being discussed is we need to pass ordinances to give these exemptions to the blind, the disabled, and the Veterans. Ms. Totz suggested they've been given the exemptions without the ordinances; the Town needs to get back on track. Ms. Totz felt that the exemption should be more than the base \$1,000 but the Board has to find a number they're comfortable with. Ms. Totz indicated she was very comfortable increasing the additional exemption to \$3,000, while leaving the income level at the State limit. She noted that the Towns of Suffield, Enfield, South Windsor, and Ellington don't have the local ordinance for the Veterans, only Vernon allows a \$10,000 exemption but they're larger, and much more commercially based and can absorb the cost easier.

The Board discussed the various options. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn favored the \$6,000 exemption. Ms. Totz clarified that would equate to about a half a mill difference; Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested that would be a \$16,475 cost to the Town – that's peanuts. Ms. Totz suggested the question is do we keep it at the base limit so we help the most destitute or do we increase it and open it up so more people qualify? Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested a Veteran is a Veteran; they're the reason we're here tonight being able to say what we want to say; he reiterated he favored the \$6,000 additional exemption. The Board concurred.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the Ordinance for the Additional Exemption for Veterans or Spouses eligible for exemption under Section §12-81f of the Connecticut General Statutes as presented in the amount up to \$6,000 and MOVE to Town Meeting.**

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION: None**

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

(See Attachment C – ORDINANCE – Additional Exemption for Veterans or spouses eligible for exemption under Section 12-81 of the Connecticut General Statutes).

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Ordinance for the Additional Exemption for persons who are blind and eligible for exemption under Section §12-81j of the Connecticut General Statutes as presented in the amount of \$2,000 and MOVE to Town Meeting.

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION:** Selectman Szymanski questioned the cap on the exemption; Assessor Totz clarified the exemption is \$2,000.

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

(See Attachment A – ORDINANCE - Additional Exemption for persons who are blind and eligible for exemption under Section 12-81(17) of the Connecticut General Statutes).

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Ordinance for the Local Property Tax Relief for persons permanently and totally disabled who are eligible under Section §12-81i under the Connecticut General Statutes as presented in the amount of \$1,000 and MOVE to Town Meeting.

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION:** None

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

(See Attachment B – ORDINANCE - Local Property Tax Relief for persons permanently and totally Disabled)

**MOTION:** To GO OUT OF ORDER and take Item 6. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2018.

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Regular Meeting Minutes of October 4, 2018:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated October 4, 2018 as presented.

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION:** None

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



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

**NEW BUSINESS/A. Presentation and Discussion of Charter Revision Commission:**

First Selectman Maynard introduced Rachel Safford, a member of the Charter Revision Commission.

Ms. Safford indicated she's present this evening to promote a resident survey the Commission will be posting to get comments and feedback from the public. Ms. Safford noted the

Commission hasn't gotten a lot of public participation at their meetings; they're held at Scout Hall and many other things are going on continually. Ms. Safford indicated the survey will be posted online; the Commission is seeking public participation. Ms. Safford reported the plan is to present the findings of the survey at the Board of Selectmen's December 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting. First Selectman Maynard indicated that meeting would include a public forum to take public comment regarding proposed Charter changes.

Ms. Safford indicated the Charter Revision Commission would like to have a link to the survey posted on the Town website. The closing date for participation in the survey will be November 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Safford indicated they would like to have people list their name and address as the Commission would like to limit participation to one survey per person.

Discussion followed regarding the availability of paper copies for those residents who don't use computers. First Selectman Maynard suggested copies could be available at Town Hall and returned to his office. Selectman Szymanski suggested paper copies could also be made available at Park Hill, the Senior Center, Spring Village, and the Town libraries. Selectman Szymanski also suggested if, when people open the Town website, the first page they come to would be the survey, they wouldn't have to navigate to other tabs to get to it. First Selectman Maynard questioned if the Town website was currently able to accommodate that function; he cited the availability of the flashing banner at the top of the home page.

**NEW BUSINESS/B. Discussion of CIP Process:**

Selectman Hoffman indicated that last year when the CIP presentations were made to the Board of Selectman he didn't have a good understanding of the process. Ms. Muska had suggested he attend the CIP meetings, and he's done that. The CIP Committee has done the interviews and are deliberating their recommendations.

Selectman Hoffman indicated when he spoke to the Chairman about questions he had so he could have a better understanding of the requests he was told to submit the questions in writing. He's submitted a list of questions, which she hasn't had time to respond to. Selectman Hoffman indicated he got a copy of the CIP notebook explaining the project requests that the CIP Committee is working from; he now has additional questions. Selectman Hoffman suggested the CIP is working on ranking the projects; those above their line will be brought to the Board of Selectmen for consideration.



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

Selectman Hoffman felt there's a need for the Board to tell the groups coming in for funding requests that they will have to provide the information to the Board of Selectmen as well. Selectman Hoffman indicated he had asked Chairman Simonelli if she would be willing to advise the groups coming before the Board of Selectmen of the need to discuss their projects again but Chairman Simonelli indicated she wasn't a supervisor of the requested groups and didn't feel she had that authority.

As an example of the information Selectman Hoffman is seeking he cited the Broad Brook Fire Department is asking for \$200,000 for five years for a new tanker truck. The truck to be replaced currently has problems. Selectman Hoffman indicated he had several questions he would have asked if he had that opportunity but he'll now ask them at the Board of Selectmen's Meeting. While listening to the Broad Brook Fire Department presentation he found there are differences in the Warehouse Point Fire Department and the Broad Brook Fire Department and their firefighting techniques; Warehouse Point has more hydrants and doesn't need tankers. Selectman Hoffman indicated the truck being discussed by the Broad Brook Fire Department has a rusted frame, which worries him, so now he questions how to get that truck replacement sooner without hurting the Town. Should the Town consider leasing a tanker rather than waiting five years for the replacement; should the Town consider bonding for the replacement truck? Selectman Szymanski noted the truck being discussed also has a dual frame which is a bigger problem. Selectman Hoffman cited the CIP Committee has a good process for what they do but questioned how the Selectmen get the information they need regarding the CIP requests? First Selectman Maynard indicated the Board would receive the CIP list on November 15<sup>th</sup>. He suggested they can then determine what additional information we need.

**Bob Leach, 39 Church Street,** agreed the financing is beyond the purview of the CIP Committee; that's a discussion the Town Treasurer and the Board of Finance needs to have as far as bonding goes. Selectman Hoffman concurred, noting that Mr. Leach was present when Chairman Simonelli had said the CIP didn't have the authority to decide that issue. Selectman Hoffman suggested if he's going to make a decision on something he needs to have the facts.

Mr. Leach suggested some of that - projected financial planning - hasn't been done for years. When the truck was purchased there should have been a plan for replacement; none of those things are being planned for in the far future; we're budgeting for now. First Selectman Maynard indicated when the ranking list is presented by the CIP Committee they'll consider what they need for additional information, and possibly ask some questions on funding.

**NEW BUSINESS/C. Beautification Committee:**

Selectman Szymanski suggested that in looking at other towns, such as Ellington, they have a Town Beautification Committee that looks at places in town to make them more curb appealing for people that might want to purchase a home, or businesses coming to town. Selectman Szymanski referenced the five corners in Ellington, they have flowers in the center of town and the signage is much more pleasing. Selectman Szymanski suggested the Town could form such



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

a committee regarding projects to change the look of areas. He would suggest an individual from each of the five villages; maybe the Garden Club could be involved.

First Selectman Maynard reported he reached out to Donna Grant, the President of the Garden Club; she thinks this is a great idea; he also discussed it with Julie Pratt. Selectman Hoffman reported Julie has completed the Master Gardener Program at UCONN; she has a lot of good ideas. First Selectman Maynard cited Section 7.1 of the Charter outlines the process for creating boards and commissions. The Board of Selectmen need to establish the committee by ordinance

at a Town Meeting. First Selectman Maynard referenced the process of deciding the number of members, the terms of service, if they'll have alternates, they need to keep records, and the frequency of their meetings. The Board briefly considered committee requirements: 5 to 9 members, 2 alternates, and 3 year terms. Selectman Hoffman cited the need for a budget for purchasing flowers and other materials, and maintenance. First Selectman Maynard suggested perhaps they could do their own minutes. First Selectman Maynard will put creation of this committee on the next Agenda.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn cited that in East Hartford they have the old whisky barrels with the plants spilling of them. He noted he's seen the DPW guys watering them. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn felt the Board would need to provide a budget to get people interested in serving.

**NEW BUSINESS/D. Discussion of Purchase of Sabonis Property:**

First Selectman Maynard reported one Sabonis property was previously given to the Town. The new property being offered is next to it and contains 16 acres for an asking price of \$16,000.

Selectman Hoffman suggested this property is a low valued property which contains a lot of river front area which is something the American Heritage River Commission would like. Selectman Hoffman spoke with Barbara Sherman, of the American Heritage River Commission; she said it would be a long term project for them as they have other prior projects on their plate. The land is overgrown with vines and contains a lot of wetlands; Selectman Hoffman felt the \$1,000 per acre is premium price on the land. It's not a lot of money, but he suggested the purchase depends on if the Town has \$16,000 in the Open Space Fund to spend on this parcel. Selectman Hoffman indicated he would support buying it, long term, the more land we can acquire for river heritage the better off the Town is but he questioned if this was a high priority to buy tomorrow.

First Selectman Maynard reported the Open Space Fund currently contains \$268,000; of that balance \$217,000 is encumbered to purchase development rights on another parcel so there's only \$51,000 available to spend on other purchases. He noted the funding for the Open Space Fund doesn't come in quickly, as it comes from subdivisions.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn noted he walked the property also. This parcel, as well as the one previously given to the Town, have frontage on Scantic Road. He agreed with Selectman



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

Hoffman, the parcel can't be built on; the only people that would benefit from it is the Town of East Windsor, and the people from the American Heritage River Commission. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn didn't think anyone else would approach the owners to purchase this property. If there was something else more important for the Open Space Fund someplace else this property isn't going to go anywhere. Selectman Szymanski suggested tabling consideration of this purchase until the end of the first quarter of 2019. The Board agreed to table consideration of this purchase for now.

**NEW BUSINESS/E. Tax Refunds:**

**MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$5,197.00 as identified under Tax Refund Report dated October 16, 2018.**

**Szymanski moved/Dearborn seconded/DISCUSSION: None**

**VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski**

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:/A. Jason Bowsza:**

Selectman Bowsza wasn't present this evening.

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

Selectman Szymanski had nothing to report this evening.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Steve Dearborn:**

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn had nothing to report.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/D. Andy Hoffman:**

Selectman Hoffman reported the Economic Development Commission (EDC) met October 15<sup>th</sup>. He indicated the progress on the EDC website is disappointing to all of the members of the Commission, and himself personally. When they started that activity with the Connecticut Economic Resource Center (CERC) they had said they intended to have a beta website up by July 15<sup>th</sup> and they would be ready to go online by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Hoffman indicated there are extenuating circumstances but they still could do the beta project. In an effort to improve their performance, Chairman Eric Moffett asked First Selectman Maynard to set up a meeting with two EDC members and the CERC representatives; a meeting is scheduled for October 24<sup>th</sup> to start that process. Selectman Hoffman understands the Town website is undergoing an update as well; the EDC website could be brought along with that. Selectman Hoffman suggested it's all a part of advertising who we are, and when you bring a business in that pays \$100,000 in taxes they don't have to send kids to school. Selectman Hoffman suggested he wasn't knocking sending kids to school but a house in East Windsor, with our tax rate, has to be over a \$1,000,000 to create taxes enough to pay for the education of 2.2 kids that



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

come with each household of child bearing age. Selectman Hoffman felt we have to tell people in the economic world that East Windsor is here and open for business; it's all part of the casino discussion earlier, we have to tell people we're willing to be a willing partner and the EDC website can be a part of that. The website format will have minimal words but will include videos that rotate in and out and a lot of graphics and videos and photographs.

Selectman Hoffman also noted the Commission is dedicated to bringing in a paid economic development professional to bring business into town; he couldn't support that more. Selectman Hoffman suggested it's important that we become a competitor in the business of doing business.

**SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/E. Robert Maynard:**

First Selectman Maynard reported on the following:

- On Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a training session on the new website for employees. The plan is for the updated Town website to go live on November 12<sup>th</sup>. First Selectman Maynard would like to see the EDC website be part of that.
- He attended the Board of Finance Meeting last night. The Superintendent of Schools said they're running \$91,000 behind what they thought they would have so they're cutting back on Special Education costs.
- First Selectman Maynard indicated the Board of Finance Meeting in November will be changed to Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Discussion of the Town Report will be a topic of that agenda. The meeting held with Selectman Szymanski, Selectman Hoffman, and himself, Amanda, and Treasurer O'Toole was held to try to improve the format of the Annual Report. The intent is to use the Annual Report as a marketing tool; the format will be easier to read. Minutes of the Town Meetings will also be included. They are presently reviewing vendors to print the report.
- First Selectman Maynard also noted that on October 9<sup>th</sup> the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) held a Hearing on a Special Use Permit for 140 Wapping Road where they want to build a 48 acre gravel pit. They originally came in with a Special Use Permit for gravel and fill but then a question as to the type of fill coming in came up and that really wasn't answered precisely. On October 9<sup>th</sup> they changed the permit and are now applying for an excavation permit only. And, they should have notified abutters before the application but didn't notify the State of CT who owns the railroad, which caused a problem. The PZC kept the Public Hearing open and delayed/continued it for a few months. The PZC cancelled their next meeting. First Selectman Maynard indicated this is an ongoing issue, and there will be more discussion.

Selectman Hoffman questioned if the applicant would be digging a hole, or leveling the land? First Selectman Maynard and Deputy First Selectman Dearborn indicated they would be digging a hole where the Christmas Tree farm is. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn suggested it would be like the Charbonneau pit. Selectman Szymanski



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

questioned that they said they would be bringing in fill from the tunnel project in Hartford that does have toxic metals in it, and that hadn't been disclosed? First Selectman Maynard suggested semantics were involved regarding contaminated soil vs. hazardous material; he didn't know how toxic fits in. He suggested the material will be tested to identify its content; DEEP will then classify the material and determine where it can go. Selectman Szymanski noted they finally said it wasn't only the fill from the tunnel but also other locations. He indicated that the parent company is in the business of removing hazardous material; he didn't feel this was a good thing. Selectman Hoffman noted the Town is battling to get the Mill property made something that's attractive and adds value to the center of Broad Brook, and we're dealing with a credible company to do that. It sounds like we're inviting someone to do what we're asking UTC to get rid of. We don't want that in our back yard – send it someplace - and now we're saying we'll take whatever you want.

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn asked to speak. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn asked if someone could explain to him that when the school was given \$1,000,000 more than the previous budget year, and then was given another \$200,000 for computers, how could they be \$91,000 short. Selectman Szymanski suggested that they were saying they were \$91,000 over budget. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn felt that was ridiculous.

**SIGNATURES FOR APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTERS:**

The Selectmen reviewed the registers presented and took appropriate action.

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

**MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION after a five minute break. Attending the Executive Session were: First Selectman Maynard, Deputy First Selectman Dearborn, Selectman Hoffman, Selectman Szymanski, and Patricia Kratochvil, Tax Collector. The break began at 8:45 p.m.**

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

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

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary left the Meeting at 8:45 p.m.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 9:44 p.m.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the sale of Town property located at 5 Schank Road, Map 003, Block 34, Lot 064, to Douglas M. Monson for one dollar plus legal costs and MOVE to Town Meeting**

**Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/**



**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
Regular Meeting – October 18, 2018  
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES**

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

**MOTION: To APPROVE the sale of Town property located at 20 Woolam Road, Map 044, Block 34, Lot 007, to Robert Slate for one dollar and MOVE to Town Meeting.**

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/**

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

**MOTION: To APPROVE the sale of Town property located at 132 Wells Road, Map 095, Block 24, Lot 054, to James A. White for \$3,250.00, and MOVE to Town Meeting.**

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/**

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

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 9:50 p.m.**

**Maynard moved/Dearborn seconded/**

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

Respectfully submitted

  
Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Attachments (listed in order of appearance):

C – Ordinance for Additional Exemption for Veterans or spouses eligible for exemption under Section 12-81f of the C.G.S.

A – Ordinance for Additional Exemption for persons who are blind and eligible for exemption under Section 12-81j of the C. G. S.

B – Local Property Tax relief for persons permanently and totally disabled under Section 12-81j of the C. G. S.

D – Staff document



*BW- 10/18/2018. Attachment C - page 1*

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION FOR VETERANS OR SPOUSES ELIGIBLE FOR  
EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 12-81 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes §12-81f authorizes municipalities to provide additional property tax relief to veterans who are residents of East Windsor based on specific criteria set forth in the Statute;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the legislative body of the Town of East Windsor in a meeting duly assembled that, pursuant to the Charter of the Town of East Windsor, the following ordinance be enacted.

Section 1: Subject to the requirements set forth in this ordinance, any person entitled to the veterans' exemption from property tax applicable to the assessed value of property as provided under Connecticut General Statutes Section 12-81(19),(20),(22) shall be entitled to an additional exemption from such tax in an amount up to \$ 6000 dollars of such assessed value, provided such person's qualifying income does not exceed the applicable maximum amount as provided under section 12-81f.

Section 2: Any such veteran or spouse of such veteran submitting a claim for such additional exemption shall be required to file an application on a form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor, not later than the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed. When an applicant has filed for such exemption and received approval for the first time, such applicant shall be required to file for such exemption biennially thereafter, subject to the provisions of the following paragraph.

Section 3: Each such application shall include a copy of such veteran's or spouse's federal income tax return, or in the event such a return is not filed such evidence related to income as may be required by the Assessor, for the tax year of such veteran or spouse ending immediately prior to the assessment date with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed. The Assessor may accept the application required by General Statutes §12-81g(d) for the exemption provided for in General Statutes §12-81g(a) as an application for the exemption provided for in Section 1 of this ordinance if it is for the same assessment date.

Section 4: Any person who has submitted an application and been approved in any year for the additional exemption under this ordinance shall, in the year immediately following approval, be presumed to be qualified for such exemption. During the year immediately following such approval, the Assessor shall notify, in writing, each person presumed to be qualified pursuant to this subsection. If any such person has qualifying income in excess of the maximum allowed under said section, such person shall notify the Assessor on or before the next filing date for such exemption and shall be denied such exemption for the assessment year immediately following and for any subsequent year until such person has reapplied and again qualified for such exemption. Any person who fails to notify the Assessor of such



*BAS- 10/18/2018. Attachment C- page 2*

disqualification shall make payment to the municipality in the amount of property tax loss related to the exemption improperly taken.

Section 5: This ordinance shall apply to the Grand List of October 1, 2018, for payment of taxes due July 1, 2019, and to subsequent years.

Published:

Effective Date:

Town Clerk Attest:



*BW- 10/18/2018 - Attachment A.*

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION FOR PERSONS WHO ARE BLIND AND ELIGIBLE FOR  
EXEMPTION UNDER SECTION 12-81(17) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL  
STATUTES

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes §12-81j authorizes municipalities to provide additional property tax relief to blind persons who are residents of East Windsor based on specific criteria set forth in the statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the legislative body of the Town of East Windsor in a meeting duly assembled that, pursuant to the Charter of the Town of East Windsor, the following ordinance be enacted.

Section 1: Any person entitled to the exemption from property tax applicable to the assessed value of property up to three thousand dollars as provided under Connecticut General Statutes Section 12-81(17) shall be entitled to an additional exemption from such tax in an amount up to two thousand dollars of such assessed value, provided such person's qualifying income does not exceed the applicable maximum amount as provided under section 12-81i.

Section 2: Any person submitting a claim for the additional exemption shall be required to file an application, on a form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor, not later than the date of the assessment list with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed.

Section 3: Each such application shall include a copy of such person's federal income tax return, or in the event a return is not filed, such evidence related to income as may be required by the Assessor for the tax year ending immediately prior to the approval of the claim for such additional exemption.

Section 4: Application for the additional exemption must be made on the application form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor in the first year that a claim for such tax relief is filed and biennially thereafter.

Section 5: This ordinance shall apply to the Grand List of October 1, 2018, for payment of taxes due July 1, 2019, and to subsequent years.

Adopted:  
Published:  
Effective Date:  
Town Clerk Attest:



BN- 10/18/2018- Attachment B

9B

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_

LOCAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR PERSONS PERMANENTLY AND TOTALLY  
DISABLED

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statutes §12-81i authorizes municipalities to provide property tax relief to the permanently and totally disabled residents of East Windsor based on specific criteria defined in the statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the legislative body of the Town of East Windsor in a meeting duly assembled that, pursuant to the Charter of the Town of East Windsor, the following ordinance be enacted.

Section 1: Any person entitled to the exemption from property tax applicable to the assessed value of property up to the amount of one thousand dollars, as provided under subdivision (55) of section 12-81, shall be entitled to an additional exemption from such tax in an amount up to one thousand dollars of such assessed value, provided such person's qualifying income does not exceed the applicable maximum amount as provided under section 12-81i.

Section 2: Any person submitting a claim for the additional exemption as provided shall be required to file an application, on a form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor, not later than the date of the assessment list with respect to which such additional exemption is claimed. Such form shall require the applicant to provide evidence to the Assessor of meeting the eligibility requirements set forth in General Statutes §12-81(55)

Section 3: Each such application shall include a copy of such person's federal income tax return, or in the event a return is not filed, such evidence related to income as may be required by the Assessor for the tax year of such person ending immediately prior to the approval of a claim for such additional exemption.

Section 4: Application must be made on the application form prepared for such purpose by the Assessor in the first year that a claim for such tax relief is filed and biennially thereafter.

Section 5: This ordinance shall apply to the Grand List of October 1, 2018, for payment of taxes due July 1, 2019, and to subsequent years.

Adopted:  
Published:  
Effective:  
Town Clerk Attest:

## ESTIMATES OF INCREASED LOCAL OPTION EXEMPTIONS

	TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION LOCAL AMT @ \$3000	TAX LOSS IMPACT @ CURRENT MILL RATE (33.9)	TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION LOCAL AMT @ \$6000	TAX LOSS IMPACT @ CURRENT MILL RATE (33.9)	TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION LOCAL AMT @ \$10000	TAX LOSS IMPACT @ CURRENT MILL RATE (33.9)	TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXEMPTION LOCAL AMT @ \$20000	TAX LOSS IMPACT @ CURRENT MILL RATE (33.9)
TOTAL OF PEOPLE REC'ING VETERAN EXEMPTIONS is 620								
Receiving Additional State benefit based on State Income Limits (current):								
81	\$243,000.00	\$8,237.70	\$486,000.00	\$16,475.40	\$810,000.00	\$27,459.00	\$1,620,000.00	\$54,918.00

STATUTE ALSO ALLOWS TOWNS TO INCREASE THE INCOME LIMITS IF THEY DESIRE. ESTIMATED IMPACT OF INCREASED INCOME LIMITS WOULD BE:

[illegible]