

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

BUDGET WORKSHOP SPECIAL MEETING

March 7, 2024
5:30 p.m.

THIS MEETING IS BEING HELD IN-PERSON

EAST WINDSOR TOWN HALL
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016
John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room
AND

REMOTELY via ZOOM
<https://zoom.us/j/3326833563>
Meeting ID: 332 683 3563
Passcode: townhall

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

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

Board of Selectmen

Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman
Marie DeSousa, Deputy First Selectman
Alan Baker, Selectman
Sarah Muska, Selectman
Keith Yagaloff, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: Board of Selectmen: First Selectman Bowsza hosted the in-person meeting. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Muska, Selectman Baker and Selectman Yagaloff were present in person.

ABSENT: The entire Board of Selectmen was present at the Budget Workshop this evening.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to meeting remotely: Gail.

1. **TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:**

First Selectman Bowsza called the Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop Special Meeting to Order at 5:32 p.m. in the John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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First Selectman Bowsza asked Selectman Baker to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **ATTENDANCE:**

Every Member of the Board Selectmen was present at the Budget Workshop.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

None.

4. **PRESENTATIONS:**

None.

5. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

6. **BUDGET DISCUSSION AND VOTE**

MOTION: To **APPROVE 27th Payroll** in the amount of \$45,000.
DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Health Insurance** in the amount of
\$1,758,010.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Hydrants for Town Properties** in the amount
of \$462,783.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:**
The Board deliberated the cost of the hydrants and 3.85 percent increase.
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Selectman's budget** in the amount of
\$309,230.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

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The Board deliberated the increase in the budget with Selectman Yagaloff raising the issue of the two Departments' spending – Parks and Recreation and Public Works.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Ethics's Commission** in the amount of \$750.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Diversity Council** budget at zero amount,
and **Arts & Culture Commission** at \$5,000.
Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION**:

The Board deliberated the Diversity Council's zero budget with Selectman Yagaloff suggesting keeping the previous amount of \$900 in place. It was agreed that the funding for the Diversity Council can always be reinstated if the Council resumes with full membership.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(**Yagaloff opposed**/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Board of Finance budget** in the amount of
\$68,975.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Assessor's budget** in the amount of \$222,003.
Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Board of Assessment Appeal's budget** in
the amount of \$2,925.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska

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(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Tax Collector's budget** in the amount of \$155,466.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Treasurer's budget** in the amount of \$281,427.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Capital Improvement Planning Committee's budget** in the amount of \$875.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Legal's budget** in the amount of \$295,000.
Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

The Board deliberated the increase in the budget with Selectman Yagaloff raising the issue of the Town Attorney's rates. Deputy Selectman DeSousa reminded that there are three contracts in the process of negotiation. Selectman Baker commended on the good work of the Attorney.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Muska
(Yagaloff opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Budget Per Capita Basis for Probate, North Central Mental Health District, CCM, CROCG, Greater Hartford Transit** in the amount of \$73,485.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

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- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Budget Not Per Capita Basis for Recognition** in the amount of \$1,500.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Memorial Day's budget** in the amount of \$1,200.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Metro Hartford Alliance's budget** in the amount of \$2,220.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Cemetery Association's budget** in the amount of \$25,000.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE East Windsor Health and Wellness's budget** in the amount of \$6,935.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Four Town Fair's budget** in the amount of \$5,000.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

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MOTION: To **APPROVE** the Budget for Network Against Domestic Abuse in the amount of \$5,000.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE** American Heritage River Commission's budget in the amount of \$4,280.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE** Melrose School's budget in the amount of \$500.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE** UR Community Cares's budget in the amount of \$1,000.

Muska moved/Yagaloff seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

The benefit of allocating funding for this entity would include background checks for the worker and the clients. \$100 per background check would cover five volunteers and five residents.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE** Total Budget for the Activity, Fees and Association unamended in the amount of \$129,030.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE** Budget for Information Technology in the amount of \$353,326.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

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The Board deliberated the increase in the budget with Selectman Yagaloff raising the issue of 8.53 percent increase.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Town Clerk's budget** in the amount of \$161,174.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Registrar of Voters Budget** in the amount of \$117,364.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

The Board discussed the budget for the Early Voting and its comparison with surrounding towns of similar demographics.

VOTE: In Favor: Baker/Muska
(Yagaloff opposed/DeSousa abstained)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Budget for Planning Department** in the amount of \$282,341.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Budget for Planning and Zoning Commission** in the amount of \$5,250.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Zoning Appeals Board's budget** in the amount of \$2,150.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

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- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Budget for Property Insurance** in the amount of \$191,500.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Budget for Inland/Wetland** in the amount of \$2,325.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Veterans Commission's budget** in the amount of \$1,500.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Agricultural Commission's budget** in the amount of \$750.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Conservation Commission's budget** in the amount of \$825.
Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None
- VOTE:** In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)
- MOTION:** To **APPROVE Economic Development Commission's budget** in the amount of \$1,800.
Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

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The Board deliberated the current functioning of the Commission and it was decided to keep its budget in place.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Police Department's budget** in the amount of \$4,047,919.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Police Commission's budget** in the amount of \$1,725.

DeSousa moved/Yagaloff seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Emergency Management's budget** in the amount of \$35,543.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Building Department's budget** in the amount of \$201,250.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION: To **APPROVE Communications's budget** in the amount of \$57,027.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION**: None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff/Muska
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

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MOTION: To **APPROVE** Public Works Department's budget in the amount of \$1,257,643.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:**

Selectman Yagaloff objected to the Department's increase. Deputy First Selectman elaborated on the budget increase and justification for it.

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Muska
(Yagaloff opposed/No abstentions)

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: To **ADJOURN** Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop Special Meeting AT 7:00PM.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None

VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Yagaloff
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

The Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sabohat Khalilova, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen