

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
11 RYE STREET  
EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT**

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**Thursday, August 1, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

These minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting.

Members Present: Robert Maynard, Jason E. Bowsza, Steven Dearborn, Andy Hoffman and Charles J. Szymanski

Members Absent: None

Others: Attorney Carl Landolina; Fire Chief Jim Barton, Jim Barton, A. O'Toole, Denise Menard, Cathy Simonelli, Chandra Campanelli Ed Filipone, Tom Talamini, Jullian Hubbard, Bob Leach and a few others

Press: None

**1. Call to Order**

First Selectman Robert Maynard called the Regular Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m., in the East Windsor Town Hall.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone who were in attendance, stood and recited the pledge of allegiance.

**3. Agenda Approval**

First Selectman, Mr. Robert Maynard commented that he would like to add an agenda item to this evening's meeting. He would like to add to the Board and Commission appointments the appointment of Ms. Amanda Venti to the Beautification Committee.

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Szymanski) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to add Agenda Item No. 10 (C) New Appointments (3) Amanda Venti (U) Beautification Committee, regular member for a term expiring May 1, 2020.

Mr. Maynard then spoke about replacing Agenda Item No. 5 and 6, as those items were left on the agenda as an error and he would like to replace Agenda Item No. 5

with Agenda Item No. 11. Unfinished Business (F) Discussion of Warehouse Point Fire District Supplemental Appropriation. Mr. Bowsza indicating having it heard out of order.

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to replace Agenda Item No. 5 to be replaced with Agenda Item No. 11 Unfinished Business (F) Discussion of Warehouse Point Fire District Supplemental Appropriation.

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to add Agenda Item No. 12 New Business (D) Farm Lease.

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Bowsza) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to add Agenda Item No. 12 New Business (E) JV Sports Fundraiser.

#### **4. Attendance**

Robert Maynard, First Selectman  
Steven Dearborn, Deputy First Selectman  
Jason E. Bowsza, Selectman  
Andy Hoffman, Selectman  
Charles J. Szymanski, Selectwoman

#### **5. Discussion of Warehouse Point Fire District Supplemental Appropriation**

Mr. Maynard introduced to the Board Attorney Carl Landolina, Fire Chief Jim Barton and Mr. James Barton and invited them to join the Board in the discussion of the Warehouse Point Fire District Supplemental Appropriation. Attorney Landolina indicated he represents the Warehouse Point Fire District and he was told that this subject was brought to the Board at a meeting last month either in public comment or it was an agenda item. He explained the Warehouse Point Fire District is requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$240,000. He would like to have a good discussion with the Board in an effort to have this request sent onto the Board of Finance and to eventually be taken to a Town Meeting for approval. He explained this Board does have the authority to approve the supplemental appropriation as he cited Section 8, 6b of the Town Charter and Connecticut General Statutes Section 7-344 that allows supplemental appropriation beyond the budget depending on the size of the appropriation. He explained if the appropriation is over \$20,000 and the process.

The other question the Board may have is where the funds will come from for the supplemental appropriation. Attorney Landolina noted either the contingency fund or general fund. Another issue would be the money that has already been collected from taxpayers. It is the thought that the Fire District would refund the money. Mr. Maynard indicated he had received a legal opinion about refunding the money and he handed out the opinion to all of the Board Members to read, including the gentlemen from the Fire District. Attorney Landolina commented that the opinion indicates that they cannot give the money back to the taxpayers. He had cited a case to support this opinion on the second page of the document. The discussion continued regarding using the funds in helping the Board Brook Fire Department adding that if the supplemental appropriation is made, the line item will be added to the budget and that line item can be used year after year as a basis point when budget planning for the next fiscal year. The budget planning of the fire district is completed by April 1 well before the Town passes in a budget in May or June, and therefore, when budgeting for the Fire District it is difficult to know if /or how much will be allocated to the Fire District until after the Town has an approved budget.

A lengthy discussion was held.

It was **MOVED** (Szymanski) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) that the Board of Selectmen recommend to the Board of Finance to have Memo of Understanding and to restore \$232,000 line item for the Warehouse Point Fire District to help defray expenses in the next budget 2020-21 until June of next year. The Memo of Understanding is to reduce the mill rate for the Fire District.

A discussion was held. It was asked where the money was coming from if this appropriation is approved. It was quickly answered currently the find is over \$100,000 over the high limit.

A vote was taken:

In Favor: R. Maynard, A. Hoffman, C. Szymanski and S. Dearborn.  
Opposed: J. Bowsza

Motion passed (4-1)

Mr. Maynard asked if the Board would change the agenda again taking an agenda item out of order, Agenda Item No. 12, New Business (A) Discussion and Approval of Adding ICMA-PC Managed Accounts Program to the Defined Contribution and Deferred Compensation Plans that ICMA-PC Offers Through Moringstar and (B) Discussion and Approval of Defined Benefit Plan Core Document, Appendix (C) Clerical and Appendix H (Dispatch).

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to discuss Agenda Item No. 12, New Business (A) Discussion and

Approval of Adding ICMA-PC Managed Accounts Program to the Defined Contribution and Deferred Compensation Plans that ICMA-PC Offers Through Moringstar and (B) Discussion and Approval of Defined Benefit Plan Core Document, Appendix (C) Clerical and Appendix H (Dispatch).

**12. New Business:**

**a. Discussion and Approval of Adding ICMA-PC Managed Accounts Program to the Defined Contribution and Deferred Compensation Plans that ICMA-PC Offers Through Moringstar**

Mr. Maynard invited Ms. Amy O'Toole, Town Treasurer to join the conversation at the table with the Board Members. She indicated when the individuals met with people to discuss their contributions, it was explained to them that there was another services they could use to help with their investment choices. There is a small fee attached to the service, but that fee is the responsibility of the member. She explained the fee schedule and indicated this service is like having a financial planner. There is no requirement to have this service and the member can opt in or out.

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Bowsza) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to approve the ICMA-PC Managed Accounts Program to the Defined Contribution and Deferred Compensation Plans that ICMA-PC Offers Through Morningstar as presented.

**b. Discussion and Approval of Defined Benefits Plan Core Document, Appendix C (Clerical) and Appendix H (Dispatch)**

Ms. O'Toole explained the pension plan has been in re-write and all of the IRS update have been completed. The changes have been made and listed in Appendix C (Clerical) and Appendix H (Dispatch). She has met with Mr. Mike Harrington to discuss the changes. The core document is the same as it is one plan, but there are nine different appendix. Every ten years the pension plan has a re-write.

A brief discussion was held.

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Szymanski) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman and C. Szymanski; Opposed: None) to approve the Defined Benefits Plan Core Document, Appendix C (Clerical) and Appendix H (Dispatch) as presented.

**6. Approve CIP Allocation**

Skipping this agenda item as noted previously in the meeting.

**7. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**a. Special Meeting Minutes of July 11, 2019**

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectman approved the July 11, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

**b. Regular Meeting of July 18, 2019**

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (3-0-1) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, and A. Hoffman, Opposed: None, Abstain: C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectman approved the July 18, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented.

**8. Communication**

None.

**9. Public Participation**

Ms. Cathy Simonelli of Depot Street, Broad Brook addressed the Board. She said that she is on the agenda to be re-appointed to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee. She has enjoyed her year on the committee working with the members who have all different backgrounds and all different views. She hopes she will be re-appointed tonight.

Ms. Chandra Campanelli of 2 Rye Street, East Windsor addressed the Board. She wanted to thank the Board for putting the JV Fundraiser on the agenda this evening. Over the last 21 days, they have raised \$9,000 with close to 100 donors. Donors have come from across the country. The group will be featured on NBC30 News. She has a special request that each Board Member make a contribution to the fundraiser. She gave a form which gave general information for donations. The GoFundMe Link: <http://www.gofundme.com/patherstakebackjv>. She said that donations can also be done by check, made payable to East Windsor High School and in the memo please

put "Athletics". She also mentioned they are planning a fundraiser tentatively for September 29, 2019 at Scout Hall. More information will be forthcoming.

Ms. Jillian Hubbard of 40 Mill Street, Broad Brook, addressed the Board. She wanted to thank them for adding the Beautification Committee and she hopes the three appointments to that committee will be confirmed. She is excited to work with the committee.

Mr. Jeff Astrowo (sp) of 2 Rye Street, East Windsor. He had questions about the Charter revision and the last Board meeting. He is requesting that the Commission clearly writes the exact changes being proposed so everyone understands. He is asking for suggestions to get that information out to the public. He feels that the Charter Commission was handpicked and they may have a special interest. He gave an example of why he is thinking this way. He began speaking about the police commission and who the Chief of Police should be reporting to either the police commission or the First Selectman. The First Selectman responded indicating that the police department is a "department" in the town and therefore, should be treated as such but they are isolated by themselves and is controlled by the Police Commission. The discussion continued back and forth with the Board Members and the public discussing the police chief, police commission and the First Selectman's office.

Mr. Ed Filipone, 22 Scantic Road of East Windsor addressed the Board. He has been a member of the Police Commission for 8 years and he would like the member sof the Board of Selectmen attend a Police Commission meeting. Over the years, the Police Commission and the Town Hall have had communications and have worked together. Everyone is hearing only one side of the story and should attend a Police Commission meeting.

Ms. Jillian Hubbard, 90 Mill Street addressed the Board. She has attended Charter Revision meetings and the average person it may be hard to understand what changes are being proposed. She has suggested to have available in the Town Hall or wherever voting will take place to see what questions and changes are being proposed. Having that information on-line is great, however, many people in town will not or do not have access to the internet. They should have information at town locations such as the senior center. She also briefly talked about the animal shelter being located in South Windsor. This concerns her as the town only has two officers during each shift and if an officer has to go to South Windsor for an animal issue, it could potentially be a hazard for the town.

Mr. Bob Leach of 39 Church Street and the Chairman of the Police Commission, addressed the Board. He is available to speak to at any time; day, night, weekends. If you call, he will return your call in a timely fashion. He has spoken to the Chief regarding the traffic on Scantic Road. There is no town ordinance about using that road for truck traffic, there is a request for not using that road, but that is all it is, a request. There is nothing that they can do to stop that traffic. He then began speaking

of how the Police Commission has been in existence for 48 years, since 1971 and there has never been an issue. Personal issues should not dictate how the Police Commission handles their business. Again, he reiterated, if any one would like to speak to him, his phone number is on the website or they can call the police department and the message will be given to him.

10. **Board and Commissions Resignations and Appointments**

a. **Resignations: None**

b. **Re-Appointments:**

- **Robert Leach (R) Capital Improvement Planning Committee.  
Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Mr. Robert Leach, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **William A. Loos (U) Capital Improvement Planning Committee.  
Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Maynard) and **SECONDED** (Szymanzki) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Mr William A. Loos, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **Adam Mehan (D) Capital Improvement Planning Committee.  
Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Mr. Adam Mehan, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **Richard Pippin (R) Capital Improvement Planning Committee. Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Szymanski) and **SECONDED** (Maynard) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Mr. Richard Pippin, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **Catherine Simonelli (R) Capital Improvement Planning Committee, Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Ms. Catherine Simonelli, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **Tom Talamini (R) Capital Improvement Planning Committee, Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Ms. Tom Talamini, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

- **William Towers (U) Capital Improvement Planning Committee Regular Member for a term expiring July 31, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Szymanski) and **SECONDED** (Bowsza) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen re-appoints Ms. William Towers, Regular Member of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for a term expiring July 31, 2020.

**c. New Appointments:**

- **Fawn Bowidas (U) Beautification Committee, Regular Member for a term expiring May 1, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Maynard) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C.



Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen appoints Ms. Fawn Bowidas, Regular Member of the Beautification Committee for a term expiring May 1, 2020.

- **Chelsey Hoyt (U) Beautification Committee, Regular Member for a term expiring May 1, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen appoints Ms. Chelsey Hoyt, Regular Member of the Beautification Committee for a term expiring May 1, 2020.

- **Amanda Venti (U) Beautification Committee, Regular Member for a term expiring May 1, 2020.**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski) that the Board of Selectmen appoints Ms. Amanda Venti, Regular Member of the Beautification Committee for a term expiring May 1, 2020.

## **11. Unfinished Business**

### **a. Broad Brook Mill Discussion**

Not discussed at this meeting.

### **b. Discussion of Charter Revision**

Mr. Maynard indicated the vote on the charter will be November 5, 2019. There is a lot of time to understand all the proposed changes. There will be a final meeting on August 5, 2019 to answer any questions and on August 12, 2019, there will be another meeting discussing the proposal and to discuss what questions will be on the ballot. There is a lot of time to between now and November to understand the proposed changes.

### **c. Discussion of Casino**

Not discussed at this meeting.

### **d. Discussion of Hartford Foundation's Greater Together Community Funds**

Not discussed at this meeting

**e. Tyler Regional Animal Care Shelter (TRACS)**

Mr. Maynard he is hopeful he will have many questions answered at the next Police Commission meeting. He is trying to schedule a time to go with the Animal Control Officer to see the site and to ask questions. The next Police Commission meeting is scheduled for August 14, 2019.

**f. Discussion of Warehouse Point Fire District Supplemental Appropriation**

This agenda item was not discussed at this meeting.

**12. New Business**

**a. Discussion and Approval of Adding ICMA-PC Managed Accounts Program to the Defined Contribution and Deferred Compensation Plans that ICMA-PC Offers Through Moringstar**

Previously discussed.

**b. Discussion and Approval of Defined Benefits Plan Core Document, Appendix C (Clerical) and Appendix H (Dispatch)**

Previously discussed.

**c. Approval of Tax Refunds**

It was **MOVED** (Bowsza) and **SECONDED** (Hoffman) and **PASSED** (5-0) (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski, Opposed: None, Abstain: None) that the Board of Selectmen approves the tax refunds in the amount of \$885.91 pursuant to the tax collector's request dated July 30, 2019. .

**d. Farm Lease**

Mr. Maynard indicated that letters have gone out the those farmers who are leasing land from the Town that their lease will not be renewed and the lease will be expiring on October 31, 2019. The letters explained the town will be accepting proposals for new leases from one to five years and those tenants are encouraged to submit their proposals to the town. The bids will be opened

and awarded. The bids will be opened in September for the lease beginning on November 1, 2019.

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the length of the leases and the types of crops that will be considered.

**e. JV Sports Fundraiser**

Mr. Bowsza noted that there are signs around town for this fundraiser. As the Board of Education was faced with some difficult decisions during the budget, the JV Sports for East Windsor High School was cut. Parents were concerned and organized a fundraiser to raise enough money for JV sports to continue at East Windsor High School. A GoFundMe page has been created, as we heard earlier from Ms. Campanelli. Currently, they have raised \$9,000 and there are halfway of their goal of \$18,000 so JV sports will be able to continue for a full year. He encouraged everyone to donate and share the link on social media.

**13. Selectmen Comments and Reports**

**a. Andy Hoffman**

Nothing to report.

**b. Jason Bowsza**

See Exhibit A attached hereto.

**c. Charles J. Szymanski**

He noted that he left the Charter Revision Committee public hearing early was due to health issues.

**d. Steven Dearborn**

Mr. Dearborn indicated that he left the meeting as it was the last person speaking. He heard his comments before about the police department.

**e. Robert Maynard**

Mr. Maynard commented that the Scantic River water has been tested and it is looking good.

**14. Executive Session**

It was **MOVED** (Hoffman) and **SECONDED** (Szymanski) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski Opposed: None) that the Board of Selectmen enter into Executive Session at 8:33 p.m.

Executive Session ended at 8:50 p.m.

**15. Adjournment**

It was **MOVED** (Szymanski) and **SECONDED** (Dearborn) and **PASSED** (5-0) (In Favor: R. Maynard, S. Dearborn, J. Bowsza, A. Hoffman, and C. Szymanski Opposed: None) that the Board of Selectmen adjourn the Board of Selectmen August 1, 2019 Regular Meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise M. Piotrowicz  
Recording Secretary

**EXHIBIT A**

On July 24, I attended a community conversation event at the East Windsor Reservoir. This is noteworthy because it was totally driven by members of the community who just wanted to get together for a fun, family-friendly night out to talk about how we can come together for a good purpose - to literally clean up our town. And they were new people who haven't been involved before. That was so refreshing, and so good to see, that I wanted to note it in tonight's report.

On July 25, the Pension Board had a special meeting. Of note from that meeting was the approval of the appendices for clerical employees and dispatchers, and the approval of an additional advisor option that will be available to town employees if they wish, and at their expense.

On July 29, the Charter Revision Commission held a meeting to discuss their proposed changes with the Board of Selectmen. I didn't hear anything that changed my mind about the questions under consideration. They still all strike me as divisive for the community, pitting different factions of the community against each other, or settling scores for past perceived slights and grievances. They proposals seek to codify concepts in the charter that should properly be established or considered by policy - so that they can be changed - rather than locked in place in the charter.

More troubling is that members of the Charter Revision Commission and the Board of Selectmen WALKED OUT during public participation. That does not demonstrate an open ear to the concerns of the people. It shows that the people charged with drafting the changes, and the questions that will appear on the ballot, already have their minds made up, and aren't interested in the perspectives of those with who they disagree. The fix is already in, and has been since the beginning. I'll be opposing all of the proposed changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza  
Selectman