TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, October 15, 2020 7:00 p.m.
East Windsor, Connecticut

Meeting held via ZOOM Teleconference
Meeting ID: 332 683 3563
Town Hall closed to the public by
Executive Order of First Selectman Jason E. Bowsza
Due to Coronavirus pandemic

Meeting Minutes

*** These 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 Charlie Nordell, Selectman

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Selectmen: Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman; Marie DeSousa, Deputy First Selectman; Alan Baker, Selectman; Sarah Muska, Selectman;

Charlie Nordell, Selectman

ABSENT:

All Selectmen were present this evening.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS:

Tax Collector: Patricia Kratochvil.

GUESTS signing in to teleconference: <u>Public</u>: Mike; Noreen; Ruth Anne and Tom Lansner; Bob Leach; Joe Malenfant.

Press:

No one from the Press identified themselves when signing in to the

meeting.

TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING:

First Selectman Bowsza called the October 15, 2020 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Meeting is being held via teleconference due to closure of the Town Hall to the public as the result of the coronavirus epidemic.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza requested Selectman Baker to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ATTENDANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board has established a quorum with five members present via video conference.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Agenda as presented.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/A. October 1, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Meeting held on Thursday, October 1, 2020 as presented.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa

(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza queried the public signed in to the meeting regarding their intention to speak; no one responded

COMMUNICATIONS/A. Correspondence regarding South Road Properties:

First Selectman Bowsza referenced his draft letter dated October 7, 2020 (See Attachment A) which was sent to residents on South and Phelps Roads who might be affected by the ground lease circumstance that the Town is trying to resolve. First Selectman Bowsza reminded the

Board the in-person meeting is scheduled to be held at the Town Hall Annex at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, October 19, 2020.

<u>COMMUNICATIONS/B.</u> Letter from Klaas Armster of Strout Millwork and Armster Reclaimed Lumber:

First Selectman Bowsza noted receipt of letter from Klaas Armster, President of Armster Reclaimed Lumber and Strout Millwork (See Attachment B) who is requesting relief of tax increases caused by the removal of exemptions due to late filing of tax forms.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/A. *Resignations*: None.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/B Reappointments:

- 1. Richard Sherman (R), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:
- 2. Barbara Sherman (D), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:
- 3. Rebecca Talamini (U), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:
- 4. Mark Whelden (D), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:
- 5. Joanne Drapeau (D), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:
- 6. Albert Grant (U), American Heritage River Commission regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2024:

MOTION: MOVE to REAPPOINT to the American Heritage River Commission as regular members for terms expiring November 1, 2024 Richard Sherman, Barbara Sherman, Rebecca Talamini, Mark Whelden, Joanne Drapeau, and Albert Grant.

Nordell moved/Muska seconded/<u>DISCUSSION:</u> None.

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa
(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/C. New Appointments:

1. Mary T. Mellom (R), Diversity Council regular member for a term expiring August 20, 2024:

MOTION: To APPOINT Mary T. Mellom (R), to the Diversity Council as a regular member for a term expiring August 20, 2024.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded/<u>DISCUSSION:</u> Deputy First Selectman DeSousa asked if Ms. Mellom was a new resident to town; Selectman Nordell and First Selectman Bowsza didn't know.

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa (No one opposed/No Abstentions)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/*A. Broad Brook Mill Update:

Any starred (*) items will not be discussed but will remain on the agenda pending receipt of additional information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/*B. South Road Ownership Option:

Any starred (*) items will not be discussed but will remain on the agenda pending receipt of additional information. See additional comments under <u>CORRESPONDENCE</u>.

NEW BUSINESS/A. Discussion of Tax Collections including Patricia Kratochvil, Tax Collector:

Tax Collector Kratochvil joined the Board virtually.

First Selectman Bowsza indicated he has asked Tax Collector Kratochvil to give the Board a report on the receipt of the first installment of tax collection for 2020.

Tax Collector Kratochvil reported First Selectman Bowsza had asked for a comparison of previous year's tax collection. Tax Collector Kratochvil indicated she doesn't compare one year's collection to the next; she usually just hammers down every year to get maximum collection. She noted this year was difficult because of COVID; although people were given a three-month extension January is just around the corner.

(<u>See Attachments C</u> – Cumulative Report of Cash for September 30, 2020; <u>Attachment D</u> – Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2019; <u>Attachment E</u> – Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2018, and <u>Attachment F</u> – Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2017).

Tax Collector Kratochvil referenced <u>Attachment C</u>, noting this is really her end of July report for 2020. She reported the current collection rate is 56% Town, and 97% Warehouse Point Fire District. Tax Collector Kratochvil indicated a good number of people paid the full year, either because they didn't know what would happen, or because they weren't going on vacation this year. Tax Collector Kratochvil reported she received a request from OPM (Office and Policy Management) asking to compare collection rates of various towns to decide if the delay in paying taxes helped; she indicated she hoped that information would be shared with the Towns.

Tax Collector Kratochvil reported she usually does two Tax Sales annually, one in the Spring and one in the Fall, but she couldn't do that this year. The criteria for property being considered for a Tax Sale is if they get 1 ½ years behind in tax payments or if they own multiple properties or businesses and get behind 1 ½ years on tax payments. Tax Collector Kratochvil suggested once people get that first letter from the attorney upwards of 80% of the people pay the delinquent taxes. Tax Collector Kratochvil reported she gets many repeat delinquencies.

Tax Collector Kratochvil reported First Selectman Bowsza wanted an accounting of the number of accounts that are outstanding. She feels that's misleading as you could have one account with one house and one car and another account with one house and six cars, so the number of accounts doesn't matter to her. However, 2300 accounts are currently delinquent - \$270,000 in real estate, \$44,000 in personal property, and \$48,300 in motor vehicle taxes. Tax Collector Kratochvil reported she started sending out delinquent notices last week; she probably won't start the second Tax Sale until November or December.

First Selectman Bowsza questioned the total number of delinquencies? Tax Collector Kratochvil reported 2,300 accounts are currently delinquent. First Selectman Bowsza suggested because the collection rate has been so strong this year he questioned if the numbers tell us anything else. Tax Collector Kratochvil reported she had reviewed some of the larger accounts before closing out the September report. She found the average delinquency was between \$1,000 and \$2,000. Many of the larger accounts have come in, although she noted one of the larger commercial accounts owes 2018 and 2019 taxes which total \$36,000.

First Selectman Bowsza queried the Board for questions or comments.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa referenced Cumulative Report of Cash for September 30, 2020 (Attachment C) compared to Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2019 (Attachment D); she noted in comparing the first column how can we be nearly 2% higher in collection of taxes at \$16, 361,925.21 (for July 31, 2019) – including almost 100% collection for the Warehouse Fire District – versus \$2,537,224.49 (for September 30, 2020)? Tax Collector Kratochvil indicated the September figure is really their July balance, so September was less than July, which is when you get the most money in. First Selectman Bowsza suggested comparing the net cash collection to get a snapshot of the half-year payment. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned if the October 2020 money has come in yet? Tax Collector Kratochvil replied it is not completed.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned what the Sewer Benefit Assessment charge and the Sewer Facility Connection Charge represented; she felt it had not been collected last year. Tax Collector Kratochvil reported the WPCA collection starts in September. There are two charges she collects for the WPCA, one is for the benefit of using the pump stations for the WPCA, and the second is the connection charge from the house to the street. First Selectman Bowsza clarified Tax Collector Kratochvil collects sewer charges for the WPCA and also includes their delinquencies in her Tax Sales. The Town collects taxes for the WPCA and doesn't charge them any legal fees for those services.

On a similar note Tax Collector Kratochvil suggested the Board needs to have a discussion on how to manage the assessment and collection of taxes if the Broad Brook Fire Department becomes a district. She noted the amount of work involved in developing that process for the Tax Department. First Selectman Bowsza concurred.

First Selectman Bowsza cited the collection rate was robust this year without having any Tax Sales. There is an opportunity for that collection figure to go up as Tax Sales can be implemented again.

Selectman Nordell questioned if the Town received more, or less, appeals this year? Tax Collector Kratochvil and First Selectman Bowsza agreed only Motor Vehicle appeals were received; the amount was minimal. First Selectman Bowsza cited the Town is midway through a revaluation and once someone has initiated an appeal you can't initiate a second appeal, unless you take it to court.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested he wanted to have this discussion because when the budget was put in place and the tax obligations were deferred he was concerned that the Town might have to dip into the Fund Balance to maintain services, but that didn't occur. He noted that Tax Collector Kratochvil is doing an excellent job on behalf of the Town.

Selectman Baker thanked Tax Collector Kratochvil for advising the Board of the work coming up on the Fire Department issue.

NEW BUSINESS/B. Tax Refunds:

MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,798.45 as identified under Tax Refund Report dated October 8, 2020.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa

(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/A. Jason Bowsza:

(See Attachment G)

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/B. Marie DeSousa:

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa indicated the Economic Development Commission scheduled for an October 6th meeting, and the Broad Brook Mill Commission Meeting for October 7th were cancelled.

On October 6th she attended the Broad Brook Fire Department Commission Meeting, which included an Executive Session shortly after she arrived. They approved the Minutes of their previous meeting. She read on Facebook the following morning that they promoted three individuals; she assumed that was the nature of the Executive Session. She'll reach out before the next meeting to get copies of minutes and copies of their agendas.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Alan Baker:

Selectman Baker reported the most important information he had to pass on is from the Wetlands Commission. Although the October Meeting was light in the way of business on the agenda they continue to work on the Fee Ordinance. Pretty much everything is in order with the Ordinance and the Fee Schedule and supporting documentation. The Commission is working on presentation materials that will sit in the hopper until they can have an actual in-person public meeting rather than a ZOOM meeting.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Selectman Baker for his work on that project.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/D. Charlie Nordell:

(See Attachment H)

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/E. Sarah Muska:

(See Attachment I)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza noted this is the public's second opportunity to offer comments; he questioned if anyone wanted to participate? No one requested to speak.

EXECUTIVE SESSION/Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200 (6)(B), pending claims/litigation, (6)(D), discussion of the selection or the lease sale or purchase of real estate (b) of section 1-210. — Action is possible:

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:45 p.m. Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec.

1-200 (6)(B), pending claims/litigation, (6)(D), discussion of the selection or the lease sale or purchase of real estate (b) of section 1-210. Attending the EXECUTIVE SESSION were First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman

Nordell.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/Muska/DeSousa

(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary signed out of the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

The Board came out of EXECUTIVE SESSION at 8:33 p.m. and RECONVENED the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

First Selectman Bowsza indicated the Board had one item for discussion, a motion pertaining to the potential settlement with LSE, Lodestar Energy.

MOTION:

To ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION of the Town's Counsel to fully and finally settle the pending Assessment Tax Appeal known as LSE, LLC vs. the Town of East Windsor et al, docket #CV-196052734-S as follows:

- 1) Exempt the subject personal property solar panels located at 80 and 90 Wapping Road pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 12-81(57) as of the 2018 Grand List;
- 2) to establish and set the value of the subject ax parcels for 80 and 90 Wapping Road upon which the personal property is located as of the 2018 Grand List; 3) to establish and set the mill rate for calculating taxes owed on said tax parcels as of the 2018 Grand List;
- 4) any result of overpayment of personal property tax as determined as a result of the exemption shall be applied as a credit to the real estate tax bills for the subject parcels located at 80 and 90 Wapping Road; and
- 5) authorize the First Selectman to negotiate and finalize an agreement with the plaintiffs that includes and memorializes the above based on and mutually agreeable terms and conditions.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/DeSousa/Muska (No one opposed/No Abstentions)

First Selectman Bowsza noted there was no further business to discuss this evening.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Baker/Nordell/DeSousa/Muska

(No one opposed/No Abstentions)

Respectfully submitted

Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

ATTACHMENTS:

- A First Selectman Bowsza's letter to residents of Phelps and South Road
- B Letter from Klaas Armster, President Armster Reclaimed Lumber and Strout Millwork
- C Cumulative Report of Cash for September 30, 2020 Tax Collector Report
- D Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2019 Tax Collector Report
- E Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2018 Tax Collector Report
- F Cumulative Report of Cash for July 31, 2017 Tax Collector Report
- G Selectman's Report First Selectman Bowsza
- H Selectman's Report Selectman Nordell
- I Selectman's Report Selectman Muska

(Deputy First Selectman DeSousa and Selectman Baker's Reports are included in the Meeting transcription)

BOS 10/15/2000 lettachment A





TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

October 7, 2020

East Windsor, CT 06088

Dear

We have some exciting news to share with you.

As most of you will recall, some years ago Creative Housing LLC, Inc. ceased performing its functions as custodians of the South Road neighborhood and failed to pay its obligated PILOT payments to the Town. This caused the Town to foreclose on the property and the Town subsequently became both the landowner and property manager for the homes in the neighborhood.

The Board of Selectmen has decided that it would like to work towards subdividing the parcel and transferring the subdivided parcels to the current homeowners. I have been working with the Connecticut Department of Housing to identify the process necessary to do that.

As part of that process, I wanted to provide an opportunity to all the affected homeowners to learn more about what this process will entail and answer any questions that you may have. I have spoken with a representative at the Department of Housing who has agreed to join us for an in-person meeting to discuss the process. The meeting is scheduled for October 19 at 7pm at the East Windsor Town Hall Annex, 25 School Street, East Windsor.

Kindly RSVP to my office by calling 860-698-1334 so that we can ensure proper precautions are observed to prevent the potential spread of COVID-19

Sincerely,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman

Cc:

Members, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Members, East Windsor Planning and Zoning Commission

BN- 10/25/2020 attackment B

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Strout Millwork & Armster Reclaimed Lumber

45 Plantation Rd Broad Brook, CT

Tel. 860-623-8445, (m) 203-214-9705 www.newoodtops.com, www.armster.com

September 30, 2020

RECEIVED BY

To Jason Bowsza, First Selectman Re: Tax Increase - Removal of Exemptions SEP 3 0 2020

First Selectmans Office

Dear Jason,

I have owned and operated Armster Reclaimed Lumber in East Windsor since 2007. I have owned and operated Strout Millwork in East Windsor since 2016. In addition to paying real estate taxes every year, we also pay personal property taxes. These usually amount to a few hundred dollars. Every year, we fill out the personal property form and, as a manufacturer, receive many exemptions that reduce our bill considerably.

I failed to fill out the property declaration form this past year because I never recall receiving it. I did receive the notice that listed our personal property assessment with an opportunity to appeal, but because of the way it is written, with no mention of the actual tax burden amount and no significant increase in the overall assessment, I did not think anything of it, at the time.

By the time I received the actual tax bill, in the middle of the COVID epidemic, I was overwhelmed, trying to save my business in the face of drastically reduced revenues. My personal property tax burden went from a few hundred for each company to a few thousand for each company, a many fold increase because the penalty for not filing the form was the loss of the exemptions. The past couple years have been extremely difficult as I have also dealt with losing a parent in each of the past two years and COVID this year has really strained the business and I cannot afford these bills.

I spoke with Helen Totz, Town Assesor, and she was helpful in suggesting we may apply for the exemption given our current situation via statute 12-94e. I am appealing to you and asking for your help through this difficult time by reinstating the exemptions that we normally receive.

Sec. 12-94e. Municipal option to grant certain previously waived exemptions. Whenever any person claiming the exemption from property tax under the provisions of subdivision (59), (60), (70), (72), (74) or (76) of section 12-81 has failed to file a claim with the assessor or board of assessors as required in said subdivisions and has further failed to apply for an extension of time under section 12-81k, the municipality, upon receipt of a request from such person, may, by vote of its legislative body or, where the legislative body is a town meeting, by a vote of its board of selectmen, grant such exemption according to criteria established by the municipality, including, but not limited to, allowing for any hardship experienced by the person which may account for the failure to claim the exemption or to file for an extension of time and whether the exemption would provide a net benefit to economic development in the municipality. No payment in lieu of tax under this chapter shall be made with regard to any property exempted from tax under this section.

Sincerely,

Klaas Armster, President Armster Reclaimed Lumber and Strout Millwork

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CUMULATIVE REPORT OF CASH

END OF MONTH REPORT	SEP 20	NET CASH COLLECTION	BUDGETED REVENUE	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUDGET AND ACTUAL
Current Taxes	\$2,537,224.49	\$18,647,307.60	\$32,966,727.00	(14,319,419.40)
MV Supplemental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325,000.00	(325,000.00)
Interest and Fees	\$11,330.79	\$32,017.02	\$100,000.00	(67,982.98)
Prior Year Taxes	\$28,628.01	\$96,085.82	\$60,000.00	36,085.82
Total Tax Collector Report	\$2,577,183.29	\$18,775,410.44	\$33,451,727.00	(14,683,777.32)
WHP Fire District Aircraft	\$110,307.46	\$792,921.94 \$0.00	\$810,104.94	(\$17,183.00)
Parking	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	(\$20.00)
Sewer Benefit Assessment	\$3,905.81	\$3,905.81		\$3,905.81
Sewer Facility Connection Charge	\$34,258.26	\$37,508.26		\$37,508.26
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% OF BUDGET COLLECTED-TOWN % OF BUDGET COLLECTED-FIRE

56.13% 97.88% This is really our sono

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CUMULATIVE REPORT OF CASH

End of Month Report of	JUL 2019	CUMULATIVE	NET	BUDGETED REVENUE	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUDGET AND ACTUAL
Current Taxes	\$16,283,065.52	\$17,339,015.51	\$17,324,343.52	\$32,192,581.00	(14,868,237.48)
MV Supplemental	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$325,000.00	(325,000.00)
Interest and Fees	\$16,499.20	\$250,293.46	\$251,238.21	\$100,000.00	151,238.21
Prior Year Taxes	\$62,360.49	\$245,735.39	\$247,878.42	\$60,000.00	187,878.42
Total Tax Collector Report	\$16,361,925.21	\$17,835,044.36	\$17,823,460.15	\$32,677,581.00	(14,854,120.85)
NON-GENERAL FUNDS COLLECTIONS Sewer Benefit Assessment	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
Sewer Facility Connection Charge	\$66,649.00	\$66,665.02	\$66,665.02		\$66,665.02
Aircraft	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00 .	\$3,520.00	(\$3,520.00)
Parking	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20.00	(\$20.00)
WHP Fire District	\$545,905.40	\$616,648.64	\$615,685.46	\$657,558.63	(\$41,873.17)
Total Deposit	\$16,974,479.61	_			-

% OF BUDGET COLLECTED % OF BUDGET COLLECTED

54.54% TOWN 93.63% FIRE BN-10/15/2020 - Attachment E

CUMULATIVE REPORT OF CASH

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DIFFERENCE BETWEEN	ACTUAL	(15,024,139.53)	(300,000.00)	(164,777.78)	(262,199.87)	(15,752,562.22)	\$0.00	\$23,387.49	(\$3,100.00)	(\$20.00)	(\$32,435.32)	
E CHARLES OF THE CHAR	REVENUE	\$32,024,491.00	\$300,000.00	\$175,000,00	\$300,000.00	\$32,799,491.00			\$3,100.00	\$20.00	\$635,681.27	
	CASH COLLECTION	\$17,000,351.47	80.00	\$10,222,22	\$37,800.13	\$17,048,373.82	\$0.00	\$23,387.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$603,245.95	
	JUL 2018	\$17,008,020.43	\$0.00	\$8,890.45	\$36,574.03	\$17,053,484.91	\$0.00	\$23,387.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$602,864.48	\$17,679,736.88
	End of Month Report of	Current Taxes	MV Supplemental	Interest and Fees	Prior Year Taxes	Total Tax Collector Report	NON-GENERAL FUNDS COLLECTIONS Sewer Benefit Assessment	Sewer Facility Connection Charge	Aircraft	Parking	WHP Fire District	Total Deposit

% OF BUDGET COLLECTED % OF BUDGET COLLECTED

51.98% TOWN 94.90% FIRE* BN-10/15/2020. Attachment F

CUMULATIVE REPORT OF CASH

End of Month Report of Current Taxes	316,773,306.22	CASH CII COLLECTION \$16,777,499.72	BUDGETED REVENUE \$31,199,259.00	DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BUDGET AND ACTUAL (14,421,759.28)
Interest and Fees Prior Year Taxes Total Tax Collector Report	\$27,580.70	\$28,136.97	\$225,000.00 \$3300,000.00	(196,863.03) (209,284.66) (15,104,967,50)
NON-GENERAL FUNDS COLLECTIONS Sewer Benefit Assessment Sewer Facility Connection Charge	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$0.00
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	(\$3,500.00)
WHP Fire District Total Deposit	\$588,267.63	\$589,452.40	\$635,681.27	(\$46,228.87)

% OF BUDGET COLLECTED % OF BUDGET COLLECTED

52.80% TOWN 92.73% FIRE

305 10/25/2020 Attachment G

First Selectmen's Report - October 15, 2020

Last week, Connecticut expanded its reopening into Phase 3, which includes indoor facilities such as restaurants, hair salons and libraries will be able to open at 75% capacity; outdoor venues such as amphitheaters and racetracks will be able to open at 50% capacity, as will indoor performing arts venues. For private group gatherings at commercial sites, crowd sizes will be increased to a maximum of 100 people indoors and 150 people outdoors. Indoor religious activities will be able to increase to 50% capacity up to 200 people. Masks and social distancing are still required unless otherwise provided for in the state's COVID-19 safety requirements.

The Town has received more than 2,049 absentee ballot requests, and we've received more than 1,054 ballots back so far, or 51% of the total issued. Everyone who has requested an absentee ballot should receive one in the next day or two, if they haven't received it already, as well as document explaining the four additional questions on this year's ballot. The first three questions pertain to proposed amendments to the Town Charter, and the last question concerns an ordinance that would establish a Town fire department.

We've wrapped up submissions for our Winter edition of the Five Village Voice, with a record number of submissions. We're encouraging outside groups as well as town departments to participate and promote the wonderful things happening in our community. That publication should be arriving at homes in East Windsor right around Thanksgiving.

Parks and Recreation has continued developing creative ways of providing fun, safe activities. They have been holding weekly in-person activities every Thursday, with pre-registration required. On October 29th, the Town will be holding a drive-through trick-or-treat event at East Windsor Park, with more than twenty town departments and local businesses hosting booths. Our Healthy Kids running series, for kids from 2 years old to 14 years old, will be wrapping up in the next two weeks, and we have resumed in-person yoga (albeit with a Zoom option).

Social Services is finishing up Renters' Rebate for the year, and they are already working on processing energy assistance applications. Anyone interested in determining their eligibility or applying for the assistance should call Socials Services at 860-623-2430.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman BON - 10/15/2000 Attackment H

Selectman Nordell's report 10/15/2020

On October 6 I attended my first Connecticut Water Company Advisory Council meeting via Zoom. CWC currently has about 221 employees, 105,000 customers and has spent 184 million dollars since 2008 in infrastructure improvements. Their call center has 10 employees working from home and they handle on average 460 calls a day. CWC is regulated by PURA, DPH and DEEP. CWC has been offering customer assistance programs for those facing financial hardships due to the pandemic. CWC has not raised their base rates since 2009 and is currently filing with the state regulatory commission to get an approval for rate increases.

On October 14th I attended the Police Commission Meeting. A moment of silence was held in honor of Betsy Burns who up until her death served on the Police Commission. She will be deeply missed.

Again A request for making Kreysig Rd one way has been presented to the Police Traffic Authority. They said this would require a study and would be difficult due to the fact that the road is in 3 different towns.

They discussed further a request for a crosswalk on South Water St in the area of the park and the river. This request would require a study, engineering, lots of money and a different time of year to be researched. They will revisit this request in the spring.

This year's Halloween will definitely be different with Covid still being active. However many events are still happening with the help of added safety and creativity. Like Jason mentioned in his report, Parks and rec, the Trolley museum are some that come to mind.

BN-10/15/2020 - All ackment I

Selectmen's Report - October 15th, 2020

On October 3rd, 2020, Selectman Nordell and I joined David Stavens and other volunteers to sand easy to assemble child's desks and prepare them for delivery. These desks were donated and made by Desco Builders in Ellington and have been donated to students throughout East Windsor that need a desk to do their school work at home! Twenty desks have been ordered thus far and there are more available, so if you know an East Windsor resident and is in need of a desk for a student, please contact East Windsor Social Services at 860-623-2430.

The Warehouse Point Board of Fire Commissioners met on Monday, October 5th, 2020 and Thursday, October 8th, 2020. Much of the discussion revolved around the two projects (truck and addition to Station One) that have been approved for bonding and how the Building Committee would oversee the project as the process begins. There were forty seven calls and seventy inspections in the month of September. The Board of Fire Commissioners are currently reviewing their policies and procedures and their Charter to comply with their CGS Chapter 105 status and operate more efficiently.

On Tuesday, October 13th, 2020, the Capital Improvement Planning Committee met and received a Parks and Recreation Presentation from Melissa Maltese. Many of the projects discussed were the same as the previous year's requests and Mrs. Maltese mentioned the difficulty of being able to obtain quotes, as vendors are hesitant to give the town new estimates for these projects, as they are aware of us not funding them year after year. I had brought these concerns up in our Board of Selectmen meeting on August 20th, 2020 and am glad that we modified the verbiage in the new Capital Improvement Planning Policy to allow departments who run into this issue an option to provide other documentation to support their request, so they can still move forward with the process.

On Wednesday, October 14th, 2020 I signed into the Police Commission meeting, which Selectman Nordell reported on. The Commission took a few moments at the beginning of their meeting to honor Commissioner Betsy Burns who recently passed away. Betsy was a true asset to our community. It was an honor to know her and I will hold her encouraging words over the years dear to my heart. My thoughts and prayers are with her family as they grieve the loss of such a remarkable woman.

Later that evening, the Board of Education met via Zoom. High School Principal Allison Anderson gave a presentation updating the Board on the happenings at East Windsor High School. Focus has been put on social emotional skills, connecting through circles, while still maintaining social distancing. This week, Freshman and Sophomores have been taking their PSAT/MNSQT and Juniors and Seniors, their SATs. East Windsor High School will be participating in Unity Day on both October 20th and 21st and students are encouraged to wear orange to express their unity.

Mr. Kaplan discussed the exciting things going on in his Automotive class. Students are using Automotive Expert Software, which gives students the opportunity to incorporate real life situations into their work and to experience the cost analysis and report writing of automotive repairs. Students are able to problem solve and conduct automotive repairs such as: giving an oil change, headlight replacement, brakes or even lawn mower or small engine repair. They will then prepare the estimate, add for parts and labor and create and close out the repair order. For an opening to give the students an opportunity to work on your vehicle, please contact Mr. Kaplan at: skaplan@ewct.org.

The District has the opportunity to apply for a \$477,000 Alliance Capital Grant. The application is due back by the end of October. If the District is so fortunate to receive this money, areas such as upgrading their network and HVAC system are being considered.

We had our first positive COVID-19 case in our school District and Dr. DeBarge discussed that the process went as expected. The District is hoping to have students back four days a week with students with the highest needs and students without internet access returning first, hopefully beginning on Monday. This will make the increase of students to 150-175 students defused of all grade levels. There will be intervals adding grade levels back into the building and the District hopes to add groups of students back in every two weeks. The goal is to get all students back into the building before Thanksgiving, with the last group of students starting around November 16th, 2020. Once a full grade is back into the building full time, a hybrid model will no longer be offered. Students will need to be back in school for four days or they may choose to opt out. Precautions such as assigned seating on the bus and loading from the back to the front will be taken due to the increase in number of students and to allow for contact tracing if necessary. There is a survey going around to parents to see if students are going to come back at this time. Our current statistics include: 90% of students want to continue using the model they are currently using, 35% of students have opted out and are doing distance learning all four days and forty students are being home-schooled this school year.

The District is having a difficult time getting substitute teachers and at times may be challenged with coverage.

I am excited to partner with Julie Gelsomino, who is a certified yoga instructor here in town for a Purple Out - Yoga Night to honor Domestic Violence survivors and raise awareness. The socially distanced class will be held outside on October 25th, 2020 from 6:00PM-7:30PM. The cost is a \$10.00 donation per person in which all proceeds will be donated directly to The Network Against Domestic Abuse and Julie's Safe House. The Network is also in need of new yoga mats for their trauma based yoga class and grocery store gift cards to be used for necessities. Please contact me if you'd like to reserve a spot or need more information on the yoga class or wish to make a donation.

Submitted With Sincerity,

Sarah A. Muska, Selectman