TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2019
7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT. 06016

Meeting Minutes

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

Board of Selectmen:

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

ATTENDANCE:

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

ABSENT:

All Selectmen were present this evening.

SPEAKERS/GUESTS:

Town Staff: **East Windsor Housing Authority:** Linda Collins, Director; Board Members: John Burnham, Chairman, Marie DeSousa; Jenifer Svelnys, Principal, Housing Development Team, LLC.

Public: Paul Anderson, Kathy Bilodeau, John Burnham, Marie DeSousa; Bob Leach, Bill Loos; Bob Lyke, Cathy Simonelli, Denise Terry; Bill Towers, Jr.

TIME AND PLACE OF REGULAR MEETING:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Everyone present stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL:

First Selectman Maynard advised the audience that he will recess the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 7:30 p.m. to convene the Town Meeting; the Board of Selectmen's Meeting will reconvene after the close of the Town Meeting.

First Selectman Maynard also noted the Board will set the referendum hours for the Budget this evening, and will also hold a Public Hearing on a Small Cities Community Development Block Grant.

The Board then considered Agenda additions or approval.

MOTION: To ADD to the Agenda under 7B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, Regular Meeting of February 7, 2019.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE:

Unanimous (Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski) (No one opposed/No abstentions)

ATTENDANCE: See page 1.

SET REFERENDUM HOURS IN ACCORDANCE WITH C.G.S. SEC. 7-9B AND FORWARD TO TOWN MEETING. REFERENDUM HOURS WILL BE FROM 6 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

MOTION: To SET THE 2019 REFERENDUM HOURS at 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. in accordance with C. G. S. Sec. 7-9B and to forward to Town Meeting.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

First Selectman Maynard RECESSED the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 7:05 p.m. to convene the Public Hearing on the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant; he noted he would RECONVENE the Board of Selectmen Meeting after the completion of the Public Hearing.

SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PUBLIC **HEARING:**

The Public Hearing for the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant convened at 7:05 p.m. (See Attachment A - Notice of Public Hearing on the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant)

First Selectman Maynard introduced Linda Collins. Ms. Collins reported she is the Director of the East Windsor Housing Authority. She indicated they would like to apply for funding through the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program for various projects for residents of Park Hill to help to maintain and enhance the quality of their lives. Ms. Collins noted they've hired Ms. Svelnys, of the Housing Development Team; she introduced Ms. Svelnys to explain the project.

Ms. Svelnys reported this is a Federal program for which she will be applying for on behalf of the Town. They are for public housing modernizations. Ms. Svelnys reported they intend to do the following:

- site improvements which are improvements to emergency access to several of the buildings
- handicapped accessible upgrades in the bathrooms tub to shower upgrades.
- the community room roof will also be replaced

Ms. Svelny reported the grant will allow us to apply for up to \$1.5 million.

First Selectman Maynard opened discussion to the audience for comments.

<u>Cathy Simonelli:</u> Is there a community match to the grant? Ms. Svelny indicated not from the community, but from the Housing Authority. The Housing Authority is paying for some of the pre-development activities, such as hiring the architect and the engineers; some minimal costs.

Selectman Szymanski questioned when the project will start; did Ms. Svelny have a calendar of what has to be done within a certain period of time? Ms. Svelny reported the application is due April 12th. The announcements are typically made later in the Summer. Ms. Svelny reported the clock starts ticking when they receive their assistance agreement with the State. They must have 100% of their plans and have all of their due diligence done, and be considered shovel ready, in order to apply. Selectman Szymanski questioned the amount of the grant? Ms. Svelnys replied the grant could be up to \$1.5 million. Ms. Svelnys reported they're still developing their plans so they're working with estimates; she didn't think the project would be that much. Selectman Szymanski questioned if this grant is throughout the State? Ms. Svelnys reported Small Cities Development Block Grants are available to towns and smaller communities; this is a competition. We're competing with other small cities and communities that also have the ability to apply for these funds. Selectman Szymanski questioned how much is in the pot? Ms. Svelnys reported there's \$13 million allocated. Ms. Svelny reported there's been a change at the State level; in previous years we could only apply for \$800,000. They changed that this year. That means it's going to be more competitive; people are going to be asking for more money but the benefit is if you have a worthy project you'll likely get funded.

Selectman Hoffman questioned historically how many towns enter into this competition? Ms. Svelnys indicated that in the past there have been probably 11 to 15 towns, although many more attend the workshops and try to get ready. There are a lot of factors associated with these projects; sometimes they can't get their plans, or they can't get their zoning, whatever it is. Ms.

Svelnys suggested 10 to 15 end up applying. Last year 13 grants were awarded but that was with the \$800,000 limit. She expected a similar competition for this funding. Selectman Hoffman questioned if there are significant points we must hit, and do we understand those? Ms. Svelnys replied yes, we do. You need to follow the national objectives, and the national objective we're hitting is public housing modernization. And you need to target low to moderate income individuals so the Housing Authority is the perfect place to put that money because it 100% meets that objective. Selectman Hoffman questioned does this only include public type housing, or could it be his house? Ms. Svelnys indicated there are different programs. If you were to apply for a revolving loan program that's a different strategy. And in some cases some towns do that, but it's less money and they're smaller loans, and you kind of have to establish a department to facilitate those loans; it's a different product. Ms. Svelnys noted for this the national objective is to get some public housing modernization. Selectman Hoffman requested the definition of public housing. Ms. Svelnys suggested the Housing Authority is public housing serving low income individuals; a private developer couldn't go for these dollars. Selectman Hoffman questioned that it has to be municipally owned housing? Ms. Svelnys replied – essentially.

Selectman Szymanski questioned how much disruption could there be for the residents living there? Ms. Svelnys indicated they won't be relocating anyone, even temporarily. We will be conducting rehabilitation for them in place. So when we do the showers we'll make sure the toilets are back in, and they have running water. Selectman Hoffman questioned that this is renovation, not new construction? Ms. Svelnys replied – correct. Ms. Svelnys suggested the biggest piece of this project is the driveway, and providing access to the 3 buildings. Currently, emergency access to one of the buildings is very difficult to get to; the emergency vehicle currently would have to park and walk a great distance. What we're proposing to do is to turn that driveway in so they can get much closer to provide the emergency access, and also provide additional handicapped spaces. That's a health and safety issue?

Selectman Szymanski questioned what the anticipated completion date would be if you get funding? Ms. Svelnys suggested they were looking at a 9 month construction period. Selectman Hoffman questioned what the award period would be? Ms. Svelnys indicated you have 2 years from the announcement of the award, and there's the ability to get extensions. Selectman Hoffman questioned when would you find out about the award? Ms. Svelnys indicated that in some rounds we've found out in the Summer, in August, and in another round we found out in November. Selectman Hoffman questioned if it would be 6 months or so? Ms. Svelnys replied – yes. And there's no deficiency period, so once we submit the application there won't be an opportunity to make any changes so we have to make sure we do them correctly. Selectman Hoffman questioned if you're not successful you must resubmit? Your submittal doesn't stay in the queue? Ms. Svelnys indicated that would be correct. Ms. Collins suggested they would have to start the process over again next year. Selectman Hoffman questioned if they critique your submittal; do they tell you you didn't win for this reason? Ms. Svelnys reported she hasn't had that happen but in the event that it did I would request a debrief, and I would have the Commissioner there, and I would go through that application and take it very, very seriously.

Selectman Szymanski requested clarification, is this under the State or the Town jurisdiction for Park Hill? Who would do the inspections of the work, the East Windsor Building Inspector? Ms. Svelnys replied the Town Building Inspector would be very much involved once construction begins. Ms. Collins indicated they would keep them apprised of our intent. Ms. Collins also reiterated the Housing Authority's relationship with our residents in terms of these projects. Ms. Collins indicated they will constantly keep them updated, posted, meet with them, and let them know what the schedule will be, all the timeliness of the projects. Selectman Szymanski reiterated that when this is being done they don't have to leave their residences? Ms. Collins and Ms. Svelnys replied no. Ms. Collins – reported we just recently converted 4 bathtubs to showers - that would be the same type of project - and the residents did not have to leave. Ms. Svelnys reported they have 3 different components for this project. We have the driveway/emergency access, we have the tub to shower conversion which is a handicapped accessible issue, people fall a lot in the tubs so it's a good one to put in. Then, we also have the community room roof; it's currently leaking and in need of repair. So, those are the 3 pieces.

Bob Lyke, East Windsor: Did I understand you to say you didn't think it would require the full one and a half million but you're going to ask for it anyway? Ms. Svelnys indicated they have the ability to ask for that, but when we put out the notices, because the architects and engineers are working through the details of the plans and the drainage and all of the other pieces, we're waiting for our final cost estimate to come in, so we say up to \$1.5 million, because that's the limit of the grant. But it doesn't appear that it will get to that \$1.5 million. Mr. Lyke questioned if it would be more successful to get awarded if it were less? Ms. Svelnys responded – not necessarily.

Kathy Bilodeau, 343 Scantic Road: So, just so I understand, because this is coming to Town vote, right? There's no cost impact to our Town? Ms. Svelnys replied – no. Mrs. Bilodeau questioned that they're not needing to bond the money in advance? Ms. Svelnys replied – no; these are all federally funded. Ms. Bilodeau questioned that it's 100% funded, and it's not a matching grant? Ms. Svelnys replied – no. So, if we're awarded the funds they come through the Town and the Town distributes the funds but there's no requirement from the Town; there's no money coming from the Town.

Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road: Just for clarification for some of the people, I sit on the Housing Authority. For clarification, Ms. Svelnys is replacing who we used to use, Wagner Associates, for Small Cities Grants (which) have to be approved by the Town Clerk in order for us to be able to apply. So when Wagner Associates decided they were no longer going to do the grants there was an ad put out and she came forward, and has housing experience and was able to get the approval from the Town, so now it's putting everything together, which they have done a phenomenal job. But if anyone is familiar with Park Hill, or anyone is here from the fire department or the ambulance, they know the first string of buildings, when something happens either with the first string or the second string, the ambulance association has to get out of their car in the parking lot and have to run down. If you happen to be at the far end you're losing valuable time. So putting in that access road partway there, and to the other end halfway, it will open up the community with safety and health issues because we do have an aging population at

Park Hill. So we want to make sure with the bathroom renovations so those elderly individuals, we don't have to worry about them falling out of the tub or into the tub by putting in the showers. We tried to do it with other money that was available through the State and we tried to do more but it got cut back, and it took so long it got inflated. With this we'll be able to bring everything up to maybe 2015. But it would be in the best interest of everyone there.

Bill Loos, Melrose Road: There's one thing about the fire alarm system up there, when the fire alarm comes in for any one of those buildings there it always goes to the main building. So, when we get there we have to go to the main building and find out which individual housing unit it is. And that should be changed, so we know exactly which building it is before we get there. We have to go to the main building first. So on your fire protection I think you should look at that as a add. Ms. Svelnys suggested we can certainly talk to the engineer and I don't know if we have the time to get that developed now to a fully integrated system. Mr. Loos reiterated the fire department has to go to the main building first and then we have to find out which individual unit it is; we're wasting time here. Ms. Collins requested to respond. Ms. Collins reported that actually the company who installed the fire alarm system is coming tomorrow and we're going to have a discussion about what needs to be worked out and that's going to be one of them. Mr. Loos suggested you should try to correct that right away. Selectman Szymanski felt that was a critical problem; we should have a strong eye on fixing that; it should be on the priority list. Ms. Collins reiterated they're coming tomorrow. Selectman Hoffman questioned if that was something you can include in this project, or will that dilute your efforts? Ms. Svelnys suggested if it's possible to include and we have money in the budget and a way to get an engineered plan together, integrated with the architect to do it – all those things would have to happen but it would certainly be something we would do; it's due April 12th. Selectman Szymanski felt fire protection should be a priority. Ms. Collins felt it was a communication problem between the dispatcher, the call center, and the 911 dispatcher; I don't think there's anything not working with the system.

John Burnham, 178 Scantic Road: I'm a Housing Authority member. On the last grant we put in a brand new fire alarm system; we replaced the ancient one from 1972. This is a brand new system. This is on our radar. So, don't think, I don't want you to think we're derelict in our duty about fire and safety for our residents because we're on it all the time.

And, just one other comment, I don't want you to think, the roof on the community center, it's ancient. That's why it has huge issues in the valleys. It's just time to replace; it's not that we're not paying attention to that either. Because we pay attention to every single item up there pretty close. Fair enough?

<u>Bill Towers (Jr.), 14 Maple Avenue:</u> I think it's great you're applying for the grants. I think it's a good job what the Housing Authority does; my Mom's on the Housing Authority. We all know every building in our town is running into the same issue; we're on top of it. There's only so much we can do but going after grants is the way to do it; I think you did a good job. Ms. Collins thanked Mr. Towers, Jr.

<u>Kathy Bilodeau</u>, 343 Scantic Road: All I want to say is this seems like a no brainer. So, I just want to add that. It looks like they did their homework, and they're getting some money to take care of business, I think it's phenomenal. Ms. Collins thanked Mrs. Bilodeau.

First Selectman Maynard CLOSED the Public Hearing and RECONVENED the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 7:22 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Special Meeting Minutes of February 19, 2019:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated February 19, 2019 as presented.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Special Meeting Minutes of February 21, 2019:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Special Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen

Meeting dated February 21, 2019 as presented.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Special Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2019:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Special Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen

Meeting dated February 27, 2019 as presented.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Regular Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2019:

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

Meeting dated March 7, 2019 as presented.

Maynard moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Szymanski

Opposed: No one Abstained: Hoffman

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES/Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2019:

First Selectman Maynard indicated he wanted to amend the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7th, 2019 regarding Cathy Simonelli's public participation. First Selectman Maynard reported he discussed this change with both Selectman Hoffman and Cathy Simonelli and they agree that we can substitute his version of the discussion. Cathy Simonelli questioned that it was the March 17th Minutes; First Selectman Maynard clarified it's the discussion under public participation during the February 7th Meeting. Cathy Simonelli didn't see those Minutes on the Agenda; First Selectman Maynard noted they added them earlier. Cathy Simonelli replied – gotcha noting she missed that part.

First Selectman Maynard read his proposed Minutes revisions:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, Cathy Simonelli: CIP Chairman Simonelli referenced the Board of Selectmen's minutes of January 17, 2019 regarding Selectman Hoffman's conversation concerning the status of answers to questions he submitted from the first CIP meeting. Chairman Simonelli agreed that they had the conversation, but her recollection of the conversation differed. Chairman Simonelli reported she had said "she had not had the time YET to answer Selectman Hoffman's questions" and by the time she was able to research his questions she understood Selectman Hoffman had reached out to people directly. Selectman Hoffman responded he recalled her saying "she did not have the resources or the time to answer the questions. He did not reach out to other people and his questions were never answered." Discussion continued. First Selectman Maynard noted the Board of Selectmen will be looking at the CIP budget shortly and they will be asking some departments for specific information. Discussion continued. First Selectman Maynard indicated there appeared to be miscommunication in the conversation regarding Selectman Hoffman's questions. Then First Selectman Maynard moved on to other public participation.

MOTION: To AMEND the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting dated February 7, 2019, as read above.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing further.

VOTE:

In Favor:

Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

MOTION:

To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 7, 2019 as

amended.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE:

In Favor: Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

First Selectman Maynard RECESSED the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Town Meeting followed.

First Selectman Maynard RECONVENED the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 9:35 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS:

First Selectman Maynard noted receipt of communication from James P. Barton, Fire Chief, Warehouse Point Fire District, dated March 19, 2019, regarding Fire District Expansion Committee Report. First Selectman Maynard read the communication. (See Attachment B-Fire District Expansion Committee Report).

MOTION: To MOVE Item 12B. NEW BUSINESS: Approve Certified Resolution of

Applicant Small Cities Program up in the Agenda order.

Bowsza moved/Maynard seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: In Favor:

Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

NEW BUSINESS/B. Approve Certified Resolution of Applicant Small Cities Program:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Resolution as presented.

Bowsza moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE:

In Favor:

Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

(See Attachment C - Certified Resolution of Applicant-Small Cities Program)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Bob Lyke, Rye Street: Mr. Lyke noted he is excited about the dialogue and exchange of opinions during the previous hearing. Mr. Lyke is disappointed that everyone left before what he considers the good part about the Board's agenda. Regarding what Paul Anderson said earlier this is a temporary fix we are doing for some of these things, the temporary fix is what we're doing for everything during the annual budget preparation time. And the only thing that's going to change is under UNFINISHED BUSINESS, Discussion of the Charter Revision

Commission. Mr. Lyke indicated he'll repeat what he said before, at the last meetings he has attended of the Charter Revision Commission — we need to have a change in this government, with the exception of keeping the Town Meeting, which is the most representative form of government that there is in the country. And we need to do that by adding a professional manager, or administrator, of whatever title you try to make it palatable at the voting booth. We need to have someone with a financial management background to come up with this 5 year plan. Mr. Lyke urged the Board to do that after the Charter Revision Commission presents this to you before it goes on to the ballot. Thank you.

No one else requested to speak. First Selectman Maynard moved on to other Agenda topics.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/A.

Resignations: William Kehoe (U), Economic Development Commission.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the resignation of William Kehoe from the Economic

Development Commission with regret.

Bowsza moved/Maynard seconded/

<u>DISCUSSION:</u> Selectman Hoffman reported Bill was a really good member of the Economic Development Commission; he was a great participant. Bill is a student who is now pursuing his law degree; Selectman Hoffman is sorry to see him leave the Commission.

VOTE:

In Favor:

Maynard/Dearborn/Bowsza/Hoffman/Szymanski

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/B Reappointments: None.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS/C. New Appointments: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/A. Broad Brook Mill Discussion:

No discussion this evening.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/B. Discussion of Charter Revision:

No discussion this evening.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/C. Casino:

First Selectman Maynard reported he has received news that the Interior Department has published the Mashantucket Pequot compact in the National Register. First Selectman Maynard suggested this changes the situation drastically because now Bill 957 that was approved by the State Legislature last year is now in compliance so there's nothing from stopping MMCT from building a casino here in East Windsor. So, this is definitely a step in building the casino. Selectman Maynard had asked Selectman Bowsza what he thought the chances were and he thought 60/40. Selectman Bowsza suggested he thought it's probably 70/30 now. First Selectman Maynard indicated he was more encouraged than that but he felt there was a good chance we'll have a casino, and there's also a very good chance that the construction might start in a few months. Deputy First Selectman Dearborn noted that today Manaforte moved a big excavator in on the site this afternoon to tear the houses down.

Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road: For clarification, it's her understanding it will be posted in the Register Monday. It got approved Thursday; it's going to be in the Register on Monday. And the quote she read online, she didn't know if it was from the CEO of one of the tribes, is they'll be moving forward now that they have approval.

<u>Denise Terry</u>, 2309 Canyon Ridge: And, also to correct the record, I understand that immediately after the posting on Monday MGM will be filing their injunction to stop putting a shovel in the ground so it should be tied up in the courts for a few more years. On constitutional grounds, that it was illegal in the State of Connecticut to provide a corporation in a monopoly in what is hired industry in the State without any bids.

Bob Lyke, Rye Street: Since you're taking public input, there was also a bill that got moved from the Public Safety Commission to the floor of the Legislature that included all kinds of gambling tails, fingers, and one of them was to allow a casino to be put in Bridgeport. Along with allowing a lottery to be done online, tickets to be allowed to be purchased online regarding sports gambling, which also entails the compact the two casinos have already and how that's going to affect it. And, if I'm not mistaken, I heard an opinion that when a bill goes from the different committees to the floor of the Legislature if it's not acted on in 15 days it automatically passes. Selectman Bowsza corrected Mr. Lyke; he referenced a concept called "deem and pass". Selectman Bowsza explained that certain contracts, if not acted on, are deemed to be approved. However, legislation has to pass both chambers in exactly the same form; no changes in commas or semi-colons or anything. And they need to do that by June 6th but there are certain committee deadlines where if, it's called a "jfd deadline" – "joint favorable deadline", has passed committees are required to list a bill referred to them after the deadline on an agenda within 10 days, or 3 instances of the referring chamber. Selectman Bowsza suggested they need to be acted on.

Mr. Lyke thanked Selectman Bowsza for the clarification. Thank you for letting me ask the question. Everyone needs to keep their ears to the ground, we can't start spending our mitigating finances yet.

Denise Terry 2309 Canyon Ridge Drive: Ms. Terry suggested that until action is taken on the bill that was passed regarding having a request for bids to go out for a casino in Bridgeport there won't be any building here because the State of Connecticut General Assembly is concerned if an RFP goes out it immediately stops the monies coming into the State from the two Indian casinos that exist now. — Selectman Bowsza noted the bill that passed out of committee yesterday (Bill 958) isn't law. Ms. Terry replied — no, but it passed out of committee and if it gets voted on the State of Connecticut will lose all of the monies from the existing compacts with the two tribes. And so it's not a done deal that they're coming here to East Windsor, especially since MGM is under-performing what it was expected; the market is saturated. Selectman Bowsza suggested there are a number of legal questions there that the lawyers and judges are going to work out, but the 2017 law is now satisfied. Selectman Bowsza indicated Ms. Terry did raise a good question, and it will be interesting politically to see what the Legislature does. Ms.

Terry replied right, because if they pass an RFP for Bridgeport the two Indian casinos will get in on the action in Bridgeport and abandon this in a heartbeat. Selectman Bowsza indicated he wasn't aware that there is a Bridgeport specific bill; he thought there was an open competitive process. Ms. Terry suggested well, but the most likely place is Bridgeport. Selectman Bowsza clarified there's the proposed law, and the existing law, now satisfied, and then there's going to be the question of the lawsuit and the potential injunction; it's unclear that there are grounds for an injunction. Selectman Szymanski noted the Chairman said at the hearing they had a couple of weeks ago that I went to, he said if it does go to bid that they will stop the money to the State. He also said that they will not bid on anything else. Ms. Terry said I think if it goes out to bid they're not going to have a choice but to bid against somebody in Bridgeport. Because it will kill their two casinos. I'm just saying it's not a done deal. It's not like every obstacle is out of the way and they're going to put a shovel in the ground tomorrow. Discussion continued for a short time.

First Selectman Maynard queried the audience for additional comments. Hearing no requests to be heard he suggested we move on to the next topic.

<u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS/D.</u> <u>Discussion of Hartford Foundation's Greater Together</u> Community Funds:

First Selectman Maynard reported that Debbie Talamini brought this funding opportunity to his attention. He contacted Meghan Burke of the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, who explained the Hartford Foundation has created a fund – "Greater Together Community Funds" – for 29 towns, including East Windsor. The fund provides \$100,000 for each town, an up-front allocation of \$50,000 with a subsequent \$50,000 provided after the Town sets up an advisory committee. First Selectman Maynard reported the purpose of the "Greater Together Community Fund" is to "support the community in taking ownership around the needs in their towns, encourage broad and inclusive civic engagement and anchor the Hartford Foundation in each town."

First Selectman Maynard reported the funds are not available for non-profit organizations, or individuals.

First Selectman Maynard reported the Town will be creating an advisory committee in the future.

NEW BUSINESS/A. Discussion of Ordinance for Property Tax Exemption:

First Selectman Maynard reported that the East Windsor Historical Society has purchased several acres of land. Although they are a non-profit organization they had to pay conveyance taxes on that purchase. Passage of this exemption would enable the Historical Society to receive a refund of those taxes.

Selectman Szymanski questioned where the property was located. First Selectman Maynard indicated it's adjacent to the Historical Property at 15 Scantic Road; it can be accessed through the Historical Society's main property, or Cemetery Road.

MOTION: To PASS the Ordinance for Property Tax Exemptions and send to Town

Meeting.

Szymanski moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

(See Attachment D Ordinance Establishing a Tax Exemption for Exemption of Real and Personal Property Acquired by Certain Tax-Exempt Institutions)

NEW BUSINESS/B. Approve Certified Resolution of Applicant Small Cities Program:

See MOTION, page 9.

NEW BUSINESS/C. Discussion of Regional Animal Control Shelters:

Selectman Szymanski recalled an item in the CIP Budget for renovation of the dog facility on Mill Street at a cost of \$61,000. He reported that the Tyler Regional Animal Shelter located on Sullivan Avenue in South Windsor is a facility which shares the facility, its staff, and operating costs with Manchester and East Hartford. The facility, which is housed in a former fire station, was named in honor of South Windsor Police Chief Tyler, who came from the West Coast where regionalism was a common practice with multiple municipalities sharing the cost of facilities. At the time South Windsor was getting complaints about their existing facility, which was a trailer parked at the Town Garage. The Town proposed to build a new dog facility, at an estimated cost of \$4.5 million, but funding was difficult. At that time the South Windsor Fire Department moved into a new facility and the old station became vacant. The Town tried to sell the older fire station but received no bids. Chief Tyler pursued use of the old fire station, and eventually the facility became a shared facility with Manchester and East Hartford.

Selectman Szymanski reported he recently toured the Tyler Animal Shelter. There is an office which was formally the Fire Chief's office which is now the office for the Animal Control Officer. The dogs are housed in elevated cages, in the area where the trucks were previously housed. The area has floor drains so the cages can be moved over one row daily for cleaning. There's also a fenced in area outside where people can take a dog they're considering for adoption. At the end of the area where the trucks used to be stored are large bay doors which can be opened on a nice day to allow fresh air to circulate throughout the facility. Selectman Szymanski noted there was no scent of dogs in the facility on his visit; it's super clean, super nice.

Selectman Szymanski questioned the staff if there would be a fee if East Windsor became a partner in the facility? Selectman Szymanski was told there isn't a fee for participating towns but the cost of the facility is shared based on the number of dogs housed in the facility. Currently Manchester is paying approximately 46% of the operating cost, East Hartford is paying approximately 34%, and South Windsor is paying the remaining 20% share. The annual cost to operate the facility is \$53,000 and change, or approximately \$10,000 per year for South Windsor's share. Selectman Maynard asked Deputy Hart how many dogs were housed annually for overnight stays in the Mill Street facility. Mr. Leach, speaking from the audience, indicated it will take a bit of time to produce the number as the count is based on the number of nights of impoundment; it's a lot of information to be reviewed and the Police Department overtime is through the roof as it is. Selectman Szymanski suggested South Windsor is a larger town than East Windsor. He suggested East Windsor's annual cost to be \$8,500+/- now that the cost would be shared by 4 rather than 3 participating towns; everyone's cost would come down. Selectman Szymanski cited it's a nice facility.

Selectman Szymanski reported he also visited the East Windsor facility on Mill Street. While the facility isn't bad the State is currently urging us to fix the cracked concrete. The East Windsor facility is a concrete building perhaps 30 years old; the dogs are housed directly on the concrete floor rather than elevated cages. There are over-hangs on either side so the dogs can go outside onto another concrete area to do their business and then go back inside. Selectman Szymanski suggested the estimated cost to repair is \$61,000 via a CIP request. Selectman Szymanski reported he spoke with Len Norton (Director of DPW) who said he felt the estimated cost was strong based on previous repair costs for cement work at the dog facility. Selectman Szymanski felt the move to South Windsor would be a good thing to do.

Selectman Szymanski recalled that during last year's budget season the Park and Recreation Department had requested funding for a storage container. Selectman Szymanski felt they could use this facility after cleaning it out, which would provide better storage for their equipment and supplies. There's a fence around it to prevent theft, and it's near the park.

Selectman Szymanski reported Len Norton had advised him there's a bill out concerning regional animal control shelters for Towns with a population of under 25,000; participating towns would share the cost of the animal control officer and the facility. After reading information regarding this bill online he felt the people reviewing this were comfortable moving forward with this proposal; it will be a requirement rather than an option in the future. Selectman Szymanski understood that the participating towns may not be within close proximity of each other and South Windsor is closer to East Windsor. Selectman Szymanski felt consideration of joining with South Windsor is a good idea which he would like to pursue.

Selectman Bowsza reviewed the copy of Bill 6643 provided to the Selectmen; he suggested the language was permissive rather than compelling language; the proposal wasn't a requirement. Selectman Bowsza suggested under current law we couldn't do this; this legislation would need to pass for us to allow that proposal. Discussion followed regarding criteria for dog facilities which are licensed under the DOA.

Denise Terry, 2309 Canyon Ridge: Ms. Terry questioned if this proposal shares a facility or an animal control officer? Selectman Bowsza concluded the bill suggests sharing an officer. Selectman Szymanski suggested he's speaking of the South Windsor facility; they don't manage any staff in the other participating towns. Those towns just bring their dogs to South Windsor to house them. Ms. Terry requested clarification of the current budget. Selectman Szymanski suggested it was \$53,000 annually for the South Windsor facility; Ms. Terry questioned that that figure includes staffing? Selectman Szymanski suggested the cost of staffing was estimated to be \$18,000 annually for part-time staff. Ms. Terry questioned that the facility isn't staffed 24 hours a day? Selectman Szymanski replied negatively. Ms. Terry questioned who is with the dogs? First Selectman Maynard and others cited no one is with the dogs; no one is with the dogs at the Mill Street facility either. Ms. Terry sympathized with the dogs; she felt somebody should be with them.

First Selectman Maynard reported he visited our current facility; it's adequate; it's not staffed either.

Mr. Leach clarified that the cost of renovating East Windsor's facility is \$20,000 per year over three years via CIP. He questioned if this proposal is a short term savings to regionalize? He noted that if we abandon the Mill Street facility and it's grandfathered we won't be able to go back to that use.

<u>Marie DeSousa, 10 Rice Road</u>: Mrs. DeSousa reported when she was on the BOF they looked at regionalizing with Windsor Locks; she suggested talking to the people involved regarding the statistics presented.

Mr. Leach reported he needs time to compile the information requested; it's based on the number of days of impoundment. Selectman Szymanski recalled the Town has had 2 part-time animal control officers in the past. Mr. Leach reported we've been without an animal control officer for months.

First Selectman Maynard reported he drove by the Tyler facility in South Windsor, hoping to visit, but it was closed. He would like to visit the facility. First Selectman Maynard indicated this will be a continuing agenda item. First Selectman Maynard reiterated the information being requested of Mr. Leach is the number of dogs at the Mill Street facility and the numbers of days they were impounded there.

NEW BUSINESS/D. Tax Refunds:

MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$154.465.09 as identified under Tax Refund Report dated March 18, 2019.

Szymanski moved/Hoffman seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/A. Charles J. Szumanski:

Selectman Szymanski reported he attended the joint fire department meetings and feels they have made a lot of progress working together. They've put a charter together that encompasses both departments; Selectman Szymanski referenced the letter read by First Selectman Maynard during **COMMUNICATIONS**. Selectman Szymanski felt they are on track so that by January 1st of next year things will be concluded, one way or the other, and then they can do what they need to do for their budgeting and their revenue stream.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/B. Steve Dearborn:

Deputy First Selectman Dearborn reported he also attended the joint meeting of the fire departments that Selectman Szymanski reported on.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/C. Selectman Hoffman:

Selectman Hoffman reported the Economic Development Commission didn't meet; he has no report for the Board.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/D. Jason E. Bowsza:

Selectman Bowsza had nothing to report.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS/E. Robert Maynard:

First Selectman Maynard had nothing to report.

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 at 10:27 p.m. . Attending the

Executive Session were: First Selectman Maynard, Deputy First Selectman

Dearborn, Selectman Bowsza, Selectman Hoffman, and Selectman

Szymanski. No one else attended the Executive Session.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary left the Meeting.

The Board came out of Executive Session at 10:50 p.m.

MOTION:

I move to authorize the First Selectman to sign the MOU with the WHPFD as

presented at the 3/21/19 BOS meeting.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/

VOTE:

In Favor:

Maynard/Dearborn/Hoffman/Szymanski

Opposed:

Bowsza

Abstained:

No one.

(See Attachment E - MOU (Memo of Understanding) with the Warehouse Point Fire District)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 10:52 p.m.

Maynard moved/Szymanski seconded/DISCUSSION: None

VOTE:

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

Respectfully submitted

Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Attachments: A Notice for Public Hearing on the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant

- B. Communication from James P. Barton, WHPFD, Fire District Expansion Committee Report
- C. Certified Resolution of Applicant-Small Cities Program
- D. Ordinance Establishing a Tax Exemption for Exemption of Real and Personal Property Acquired by Certain Tax-Exempt Institutions
- E. MOU (Memo of Understanding) with the Warehouse Point Fire District

BN 3/21/2019 Actack ment A

6

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town of East Windsor will conduct a public hearing by the Board of Selectmen on Thursday, March 21st, 2019 at 7:00p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room at Town Hall located at 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT to discuss the Fiscal Year 2019 Community Development Block Grant program and to solicit citizen input.

Maximum award limits: \$1,500,000 for Public Housing Modernization (including predevelopment and construction); \$800,000 for a Housing Rehabilitation Program; \$1,000,000 for Infrastructure (e.g., streets and sidewalks); \$350,000 for Public Services (Youth Homelessness and Shelter Diversion programs in participation with CAN); and \$1,000,000 for Public Facilities (e.g., construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities and improvements and fire protection equipment).

Major activity categories are: Acquisition, Housing Rehabilitation, Public Housing Modernization, Community Facilities, Public Services, and Economic Development. Projects funded with CDBG allocations must carry out at least one of three National Objectives: benefit to low- and moderate-income persons, elimination of slums and blight, or meeting urgent community development needs.

The purpose of the public hearing is to obtain citizen's views on the Town's community development and housing needs and review and discuss specific project activities in the areas of housing, economic development or community facilities which could be part of the Town's Application for funding for the year 2019. In addition, the Town's current 2016 Small Cities grants under the Public Housing Modernization will be discussed to obtain citizen input on them.

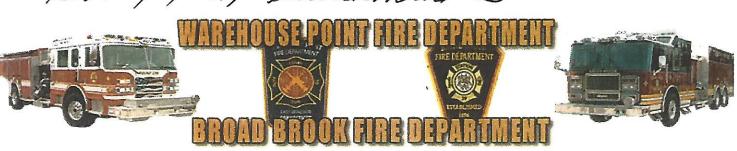
Also, the public hearing will be to give citizens an opportunity to make their comments known on the program and for approval of the Program Income Reuse Plan. If you are unable to attend the public hearing, you may direct written comments to Robert Maynard at the Town of East Windsor, Office of the First Selectman, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016 or you may telephone (860) 623-8122. In addition, information may be obtained at the above address between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday and 8:30 to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays.

The Office of the First Selectman on behalf of the Town of East Windsor anticipates applying for the maximum grant amount of \$1,500,000 under the Public Housing Modernization. In addition, the Town will create a revolving loan fund with program income (principal and interest) generated from the grant for a housing rehabilitation loan program.

The Town of East Windsor promotes fair housing and makes all programs available to low- and moderate-income households regardless of race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, gender identity or expression, marital status, age, lawful source of income, familial status, learning disability or physical/mental disability, or sexual orientation.

All are encouraged to attend. The hearing is accessible to the handicapped. Any disabled persons requiring special assistance or non-English speaking persons should contact Amanda Calve, ADA Coordinator at 860-698-1334 at least five days prior to the hearing.

BN 3/21/2019 Attachment B



James P Barton
Fire Chief
jbarton@whpfd.org

Thomas Arcari Fire Chief bbfdchiefs@gmail.com

March 19, 2019

RE: Fire District Expansion Committee Report

TO: East Windsor Board of Selectmen

Board of Selectmen,

The Fire District Expansion Committee (FDEC) would like to issue a progress report to the status of our committee meetings.

The FDEC has held a total 3 meetings at this time. We currently have a 16-page draft charter that the committee feels will provide the best fire services to the entire Town of East Windsor. This draft charter will be finalized and sent to the Warehouse Point Fire District Commissioners and The Broad Brook Fire Department for further approvals. A draft budget will be presented at the next meeting for purposes of discussion.

Moving forward the committee plans the following activities:

- 1. Ratify draft charter and send it to the respective boards / departments for approvals.
- 2. Provide a detailed presentation to the board of selectmen on the future fire services for the Town of East Windsor.
- 3. Work with Board of Selectman to update the current lease agreement for the Broad Brook fire department building and the fire apparatus.
- 4. Present the expansion of the fire district to the town taxpayers at several informational presentations in different locations to properly explain the expansion and the upgraded fire services that will be provided to the entire town.

We are looking to have this completed for the fiscal year 2020 /2021. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

James P Barton

Fire Chief

Warehouse Point Fire District

SN 3/2019 attackment C

PLACE on TOWN LETTERHEAD

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF APPLICANT-SMALL CITIES PROGRAM

	n adopted by the Town of East Windsor at a meeting 2019 and which has not been rescinded or modified in	
way whatsoever.		
(011.)	(Date)	
(Clerk)	(Date)	

(SEAL)

(Clerk)

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Connecticut Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93 - 383, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of East Windsor make application for up to \$ 1,500,000.00 in order to undertake a Small Cities Community Development Program and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE Board of Selectmen:

- 1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of The Connecticut General Statutes; and,
- 2. That the filing of an application by the Town of East Windsor in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00 is hereby approved, and that the First Selectman is hereby authorized and directed to file such Application with the Commissioner of the Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required by the Commissioner, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an Agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of the Town of East Windsor.

SN-3/21/2019 attackment I

12A

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

Ordinance Establishing a Tax Exemption for Exemption of Real and Personal Property Acquired by Certain Tax-Exempt Institutions

The following ordinance was adopted at a Special Town Meeting duly warned and held on ______, 2019.

Section 1. Authorization to grant exemption.

Pursuant to Section 12-81b of the Connecticut General Statues, a municipality may, by ordinance, provide that the property tax exemption applicable to certain tax-exemption corporations shall be effective as of the date of acquisition of such property to which the exemption applies.

Section 2. Qualifying property and institutions.

Any real or personal property acquired by a corporation organized and existing for the purpose of acquiring land and/or buildings and holding the same for purposes of historical preservation which corporation is exempt from taxation under Section 12-81(7) of the Connecticut General Statutes, shall be exempt from taxation as of the date of acquisition of such property; provided, however, that the reimbursement to be provided to the qualifying corporation is limited as set forth in § 3 herein.

Section 3. Application for reimbursement.

The qualifying corporation may apply for reimbursement for any tax paid either by the qualifying corporation for a period after the date of acquisition or paid by the prior owner for a period after the date of acquisition for which such qualifying corporation reimbursed such owner upon the transfer of title to the property. Said application for reimbursement must be made to the Tax Collector of the Town of East Windsor on a form prescribed by him/her not later than one year following the date of acquisition by the exempt corporation. If the application requests reimbursement for taxes paid by the prior owner for a period subsequent to the date of acquisition for which such qualifying corporation reimbursed such owner on transfer of title to the property, the applicant shall append to the application all documentation supporting said claim of reimbursement, including copies of checks and/or statements evidencing the amount that the qualifying corporation reimbursed the prior owner on transfer of title. Each application shall include a copy of the organization's letter of determination of exemption by the Internal Revenue Service for federal income tax. The Assessor may require further documentation verifying that the property has been used exclusively for its exempt tax purposes.

Section 4. Reimbursement of taxes paid.

If any amount shall have been paid on account of taxes upon real or personal property which is exempt from taxation hereunder, then upon application timely made as set forth in §3 above, the Treasurer of the Town is authorized and directed to refund to the exempt corporation, without interest, such portion of said amount as represents taxes for the period subsequent to the acquisition date.

Section 5. Acquisition date.

For purposes of this article, the acquisition date shall be the date of recording on the Town of East Windsor Land Records of the deed transferring title to the real and personal property to the tax-exempt corporation referenced in § 3 above.

Section 6. Effective date.

This ordinance shall apply to real and personal properties acquired by the qualifying exempt organization between January 1, 2018 and January 1, 2019. The tax exemption shall expire when the property is sold or no longer used exclusively for tax exempt purposes.

Adopted Date:	
Filed with the Town Clerk:	
Publication Date:	
Effective Date:	

SOV- 3/21/2019 Attackment E

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

WHEREAS, the Town of East Windsor ("the Town") is a municipality within the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Warehouse Point Fire District (the "WHPFD") is a chartered fire district providing fire protection for the western part of the Town of East Windsor; and

WHEREAS, the WHPFD did not receive any grant funds from the Town for the 2016-2017 Fiscal Year and in succeeding years; and

WHEREAS, as such, taxpayers residing or owning property in the Warehouse Point Fire District have paid a Fire District tax in addition to their municipal taxes; and

WHEREAS, part of the Broad Brook Fire Department, which is charged with extinguishing fires and emergencies in the eastern part of East Windsor, receives an annual grant from the Town; and

WHEREAS, because of the lack of any funding from the Town's Annual Budget, taxpayers in the Warehouse Point Fire District pay an additional money for fire protection that taxpayers residing in East Windsor outside of the Warehouse Point Fire District do not pay; and

WHEREAS, this Memorandum of Understanding is intended to outline a budget recommendation process to help equalize the fire protection funding burden paid by the taxpayers in the Warehouse Point Fire District and assist the WHPFD in providing its fire protection and other emergency services. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in place for the fiscal year 2019 through 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. If grant funds are provided to the WHPFD by the Town in the approved Annual Town Budget (the "Town Grant"), then WHPFD agrees to reduce the WHPFD mill rate to reflect the amount of the Town Grant.
- 2. The WHPFD shall provide to the Town the annual financial audit of the WHPFD within thirty (30) days of its completion by transmitting a copy of such audit to the Town Treasurer.
- 3. Nothing contained in this Memorandum shall be construed as a limitation on the authority of the Board of Finance under the Town Charter to recommend the Annual Town Budget to the Town Budget Referendum for any fiscal year.

Th	e foregoing Memorand	lum of Understand	ing is adopted by	the Town of East	Windsor
Board of	Selectmen and the Ward	ehouse Point Fire	District Board of	Commissioners on	the
day of Ma	arch 2019.				

EAST WINDSOR BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert Maynard First Selectman Duly Authorized

WAREHOUSE POINT FIRE DISTRICT

Louis W. Flynn, Jr., Chairman Warehouse Point Fire District Board of Commissioners Duly Authorized