

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

REGULAR MEETING

March 3, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Meeting held in person in the John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room,
Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

AND

via ZOOM Teleconference

Meeting ID: 332 683 3563

Passcode: townhall

MEETING MINUTES

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

Board of Selectmen

Jason E. Bowsza, First Selectman
Marie DeSousa, Deputy First Selectman
Alan Baker, Selectman
Sarah Muska, Selectman
Charles Nordell, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: First Selectman Bowsza hosted the hybrid meeting.
Also present were: Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker,
Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person: Tom Lansner (Board of Finance), Joseph Ouellette; **Small Cities Block Grant Public Hearing:** Linda Collins, Executive Director of Park Hill, and Kent Lewis, consultant; **Arts and Culture Commission:** Debbie Williams; Tom Lansner, Bill Loos.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS related to Budget Presentations (Remote access only): Finance Director: Amy O'Toole.

Participants signed in remotely (identified as noted online): Noreen Farmer, I-Phone, Christine Posniak, Joe Sauerhoefer.

1. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

First Selectman Bowsza called the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen dated March 3, 2022 to order 7:01 p.m. The meeting is

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

being held in the John Daly Jr. Meeting Room in the Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza requested Deputy First Selectman DeSousa lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ATTENDANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza noted a quorum has been established as all five members of the Board of Selectmen are present this evening in-person.

First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion to RECESS the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to CONVENE the Public Hearing on the Broad Brook Fire Department Budget.

MOTION: To RECESS the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board is in RECESS at 7:01 p.m.

(PLEASE SEE SEPARATE MINUTES FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE BROAD BROOK FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET)

First Selectman Bowsza RECONVENED the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. He noted the Board would break again for the Public Hearing on the Small Cities Block Grant at Park Hill.

4. AWARD RECOGNITION:

A. Joe Ouellette For 19 Years of Service on the Planning and Zoning Commission:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the next thing is something nice for the Board to do. He cited it's important to recognize service and commitment to the community. First Selectman Bowsza noted with us this evening is Joe Ouellette, who has served on the Planning and Zoning Commission for 19 years, which is a

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

remarkable contribution to the community. He noted the Board wanted to take the opportunity to thank Joe for two decades of service where he's provided professional expertise and insight and steady leadership to move the community forward in a lot of ways over a lot of time. First Selectman Bowsza suggested we think of where we were in the year 2000, and think of where we are now. Joe had a hand in all of those decisions from an economic development perspective. First Selectman Bowsza suggested we wouldn't be as well situated as we are now without the work of the Planning and Zoning Commission and without Joe's leadership.

First Selectman Bowsza indicated the Board of Selectmen would like to offer their congratulations and appreciation. He noted the Board has a plaque for his 19 years of service; he asked Joe to come forward to present it to him.

First Selectman Bowsza read the inscription on the plaque – "The Town of East Windsor hereby presents Joseph Ouellette this distinguished service award for your 19 years of dedicated service to the Town of East Windsor and the Planning and Zoning Commission. Dated 2022"

First Selectman Bowsza suggested it was a bit late, but the Board appreciates your service. Mr. Ouellette thanked First Selectman Bowsza for the recognition.

Mr. Ouellette indicated it was with mixed emotions that he had to step down from the Planning and Zoning Commission. That was truly my passion as a public servant dedicating my time to the community. He's thankful for the 19 years he did serve on the committee, and he's seen the Town grow in leaps and bounds in that period as Jason alluded to, and I've left the commission in great hands with the leadership of Anne Gobin, the current chairwoman, and I'm still passionate about it. I continue to follow the Planning and Zoning Commission online. I just wish I still had an opportunity to continue but due to conflict with my full-time job I had to step down. Thank you very much.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mr. Ouellette for his service, noting his impact is missed.

5. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Breakfast Presentation

First Selectman Bowsza reported that last week he had the opportunity to speak at the North Central Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Breakfast. They invited leaders from the four towns they service, which are East Windsor,

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

Enfield, Suffield, and Somers. He offered a copy of his presentation regarding things coming up in East Windsor. (See Attachment A)

B. Letter Alleging Tax Issue with Warehouse Point Fire District

First Selectman Bowsza noted receipt of a letter from the Chairman of the Warehouse Point Fire District who wants to revisit discussions around perceived tax discrepancies in the fire service. He noted that will be an agenda item at a future Board meeting.

C. Mary Turner, Inaugural Miss Connecticut Volunteer

First Selectman Bowsza noted he received a visit recently from Mary Turner, who left some gifts for everyone. First Selectman Bowsza noted Ms. Turner is the first ever Ms. Connecticut Teen Volunteer. Ms. Turner is from East Windsor, and she's passionate about animal abuse advocacy. She's starting her own 501C-3 called "Milo's Mission"; First Selectman Bowsza passed out her card and her awareness bands.

6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza queried the in-person audience for comments or questions; no one requested to speak. He then queried the online participants; no one online requested acknowledgement.

As the time was nearing for the second Public Hearing First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion to RECESS the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting.

MOTION: To RECESS the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is in RECESS at 7:10 p.m.

(PLEASE SEE SEPARATE MINUTES FOR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SMALL CITIES BLOCK GRANT FOR PARK HILL)

First Selectman Bowsza reported he will return to the Call of the Agenda for the Regular Meeting.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. February 3, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Board of Selectmen from February 3, 2022.

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

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

B. February 3, 2022 Board of Selectmen/Board of Education Budget Public Hearing Minutes:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Board of Selectmen/Board of Education Public Hearing Minutes from February 3, 2022.

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

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

C. February 15, 2022 Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes from February 15, 2022.

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

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

D. February 17, 2022 Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes from February 17, 2022.

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

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

E. February 17, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes:

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To APPROVE the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 17, 2022.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

F. February 22, 2022 Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Special Meeting/Budget Workshop Minutes for February 22, 2022.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

**VOTE: In Favor: Baker/Muska/Nordell
Opposed: No one
Abstained: DeSousa**

8. BOARD AND COMMISSION RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resignations: None.

B. Reappointment: None

C. New Appointments:

- 1. Sharon Tripp (D), Housing Authority, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2026:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted the appointment of Sharon Tripp to the Housing Authority would fill the position vacated by Betsy LeBorious moving to the Board of Education.

MOTION: To APPOINT Sharon Tripp (D), Housing Authority, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2026.

Baker moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

***A. South Road Ownership Option Update:**

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

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

***B. Polling Location Changes:**

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

***C. Broad Brook Fire Memorandum of Understanding:**

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

***D. Discuss Eminent Domain Process Regarding MMCT Property to include Josh Hawks-Ladd:**

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

E. Flag Flying Policy:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board had asked him to prepare a draft of a flag policy at a previous meeting. He's asked the Diversity Council for their input on the policy since the idea originated with them. They'll work on that at their next meeting; First Selectman Bowsza indicated he will then incorporate their comments in the policy and return a draft to the Board.

F. Discuss and Vote on FY 2022 -2023 Town Government Budget:

DEBT SERVICE:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Selectman's proposed budget of \$1,128,132 for Debt Service.

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

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

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the proposed \$950,000 for Capital Improvements.

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

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

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

First Selectman Bowsza recalled there were reductions related to this budget line. One is a reduction in the DB Pension employer responsibility line based on a new actuarial number. There was also a reduction in the Health Insurance line which was the result of good work done in Finance Director O'Toole's office regarding an employee census; that saved us another \$100,000. Discussion followed regarding the specific reductions. First Selectman Bowsza indicated that DB Pension employer responsibility went from \$710,178 to \$651,000, while Health and Life Insurance went from \$1,675,170 to \$1,575,170. He noted the total department budget will be \$3,460,562, for a .65% decrease.

MOTION: To ACCEPT Employee Benefits at \$3,460,562.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/*DISCUSSION*: Nothing further.

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

CONTINGENCY:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the proposed \$180,000 for Contingency.

Baker moved/Nordell moved/DISCUSSION: None

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

RECORDING SECRETARIES:

First Selectman Bowsza reported that Finance Director O'Toole expanded on the earlier analysis regarding the recording secretaries compensation. Finance Director O'Toole indicated she looked at all of the commissions and what we're paying people, what the length of the minutes documents are, and the meeting length from the call to order to the adjournment. (See Attachment B). She noted we're all over the place. Finance Director O'Toole noted that two of the commissions that were discussed tonight, the Elderly and the Historical, weren't on her comparison list. Finance O'Toole reported we have 6 commissions at \$50, 1 commission at \$75, 3 commissions at \$100, and 6 commissions at \$125 per meeting. She compared a Board of Finance Meeting that ran for 2 hours vs. a Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting that can go 3, 4, or more hours and

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

produce 12 to 35 pages of minutes is still getting that same \$125. Finance Director O'Toole cited we don't pay by the hours, they get paid by the meeting. That includes coming to the meeting, taking the minutes, transcribing the minutes, and getting them filed in the Town Clerk's Office.

Finance Director O'Toole cited Town Planner Calabrese looked at other places and came up with a proposal that 3 hours or less would be \$175, and if it's 3 hours or more it would be higher at \$260. Finance Director O'Toole indicated that Town Planner Calabrese had proposed what used to be \$2,750 now would be \$4,710 (annually) for Planning and Zoning, she was assuming that 25% of the meetings would be at \$260 while 75% would be at the \$175. Finance Director O'Toole noted they're thinking of moving everyone up to \$175. For some commissions it would be a lot more than others. Finance Director O'Toole cited Town Planner Calabrese represented an average of 10 hours of effort would be \$175. She contacted Cromwell, Wethersfield, Enfield, South Windsor, Ellington, Windsor Locks, and East Windsor, and reviewed an online survey.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned if there was consideration taken for volunteer commissions that meet for 10 or 15 minutes and then they're done; Finance Director O'Toole didn't think that was considered. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa felt that should be considered in relation to another meeting that takes hours and hours to do minutes, especially during the budget time. She didn't feel it was fair and equitable and she wanted to make sure that occurred for all boards and commissions based on the effort taken.

Finance Director O'Toole reported that currently we have 4 different levels, some commissions are \$50 per meeting, some are at \$75, some are at \$100, and some are at \$125. Selectman Baker suggested when looking at the current breakdown, Agricultural, Conservation, Economic Development, American Heritage River Commission, and Veterans are typically shorter meetings and don't have a legal component. Board of Selectman, Wetlands, Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Finance all could be minutes that end up in court so he would expect a higher quality of minutes, and would expect to pay more for them.

Finance Director O'Toole suggested the Board take the 4 categories of compensation and decide what commissions should be in each category. She felt currently they're structured based on the work for the meeting in most cases, although we do have a couple that are under an hour that get the \$125 per meeting. Most of the longer meetings are at the \$125, you could move those to \$175. Finance Director O'Toole noted then the question came up if it was longer than a 3 hour meeting should it be more than the \$175? If the meeting is more than 3 hours they would be doing more work.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

First Selectman Bowsza suggested the Board was looking at 2 tiers – the Board of Selectmen, the Planning and Zoning Commission, Wetlands, Board of Finance, and Zoning Board of Appeals; Finance Director O'Toole concurred, noting that also included the Police Commission at \$125. First Selectman Bowsza indicated he was thinking about the boards that will get the Town into court, which are the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance, and the Land Use boards, which are currently at \$125.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa suggested those boards are the ones driving the town, she suggested moving those meetings to \$225 and eliminate considering the time. She suggested bringing the Police Commission to \$125 or leave them at their current level, leave Capital Improvement Planning at \$125, Economic Development should be in the \$75 category, American Heritage River Commission is paying \$100. Finance Director O'Toole and First Selectman Bowsza noted the Diversity Council, the Arts and Culture Commission, the Elderly Commission, the Historical Commission, the Agricultural Commission, and the Conservation are currently paying \$50 to \$75.

First Selectman Bowsza asked for comments from the Board.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa suggested she would move the \$50 compensation to \$75 and leave the others. First Selectman Bowsza suggested that would move Agricultural and Conservation from \$50 to \$75, Economic Development and Diversity would stay flat? Deputy First Selectman DeSousa concurred.

Selectman Baker and Selectman Nordell suggested 2 tiers. Selectman Nordell indicated he would take the meetings getting \$125, the major commissions, and move them to \$150 for any meeting running to 2 hours, and go to \$225 for a meeting over 2 hours. Everyone else would get \$125 except Economic Development. Selectman Baker agreed with Selectman Nordell's recommendation for the larger commissions but didn't think increasing Agricultural and Conservation to \$125 was warranted.

First Selectman Bowsza requested Finance Director O'Toole to run the numbers based on the Board's various proposals. He requested confirmation that the Board agreed with the numbers of \$150 for a 2 hour meeting and \$225 for a meeting over 2 hours for the Board of Selectmen, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Wetlands Commission, the Board of Finance, and the Zoning Board of Appeals? Selectman Baker concurred. First Selectman Bowsza questioned the consensus for the other commissions, which are getting compensation at \$50, \$75, \$100, and \$125.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

Selectman Muska suggested 3 tiers, she agreed with Selectman Baker that going from \$50 to \$125 is a big increase and isn't really warranted. First Selectman Bowsza requested Selectman Muska's recommended tiers. Discussion followed; the Board suggested \$75 for the Economic Development Commission, the Agricultural Commission, the Diversity Council, the Conservation Commission, the Arts and Cultural Commission, the Elderly Commission, the Historical Commission, the American Heritage River Commission, and the Veterans Commission. Finance Director O'Toole noted this proposal reduced the compensation for the American Heritage River Commission, and the Veterans Commission; Selectman Baker felt there is no difference in the level of minutes they're doing than the other commissions. Finance Director O'Toole noted the Capital Improvement Planning Committee, and the Police Commission haven't been mentioned. She noted both are currently being funded at \$125, while the Board of Assessment Appeals is currently funded at \$100; she questioned where those boards would fall? First Selectman Bowsza suggested keeping the Capital Improvement Planning Committee and Police at \$125 and move the Board of Assessment Appeals to \$125. Selectman Baker concurred with including the Board of Assessment Appeals as they could end up in court also. Selectman Nordell questioned if the Board of Assessment Appeals should be increased as they meet 3 times a year. Selectman Baker reiterated that they often end up in court so they need good minutes.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested the major commissions would be Board of Selectmen, the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Wetlands Commission, the Board of Finance, the Zoning Board of Appeals, and the Board of Assessment Appeals going from \$125 for 2 hour meetings to \$150, and \$225 for meetings over 2 hours. Discussion followed regarding applying a percentage for meetings over 2 hours; First Selectman Bowsza suggested using 9 and 3 for the percentage of meetings at the regular vs. the higher rate.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested those boards/the majors, would go to the \$150/\$225 tier, the Capital Improvement Planning Committee and Police stay status quo at \$125, the Economic Development Commission, the Agricultural Commission, the Conservation Commission, the Diversity Council, the Arts and Culture Commission, the Elderly Commission, the Historical Commission, the American Heritage River Commission, and the Veterans Commission are at \$75 per meeting.

Selectman Nordell questioned if the Board considered the Broad Brook Fire Department Commission; Finance Director O'Toole and the Board clarified that commission wasn't within the Selectmen's Budget.

First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: So moved.

Nordell moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing further.

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

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES:

First Selectman Bowsza noted that the minimum wage in Connecticut is on its way to \$15 per hour. That's causing salary compression amongst part-time employees where there won't be that much difference in the compensation for Summer Camp employees in the Park and Recreation Department and permanent part-time employees working in Social Services year round. He noted that every time someone getting \$14 an hour gets a dollar a year increase that's a 7 ½% increase in their compensation.

First Selectman Bowsza questioned if the Board wanted to review the part-time employee compensation now, which is \$18.11, which relates to part-time employees who will be getting \$14, and then \$15 at the end of this Fiscal Year?

Selectman Baker questioned if that was the starting salary? Finance Director O'Toole replied negatively, noting that would be the permanent part-time salary rate if they worked 30 years or 5 minutes. Everyone gets the same hourly rate, across every department. Finance Director O'Toole cited the total dollar amount is \$275,000, which includes Park and Recreation's \$84,000 for the Summer help which already have those raises in there, and also part-time salary for Emergency Management. Finance Director O'Toole suggested the Board is considering \$168,000 of money that's related to the people making \$17.75 per hour currently. That's 9,287 hours. Finance Director O'Toole suggested if the rate increases to \$20 per hour that increase is \$185,000, which is an increase of \$17,558. First Selectman Bowsza suggested that addresses the salary compression issue at least for the time being. He noted it also recognises employees that have gone above and beyond, noting it was largely because of part-time employees that the Town was able to offer the COVID vaccines. First Selectman Bowsza and Finance Director O'Toole noted that's a \$1.88 difference.

Selectman Baker proposed stepping the increase over 2 years. First Selectman Bowsza and Finance Director O'Toole cited the budget change is \$17,558. First Selectman Bowsza noted the amount saved via Employees Benefits and Employee Healthcare. Selectman Baker suggested he was thinking of proposing \$19 and then \$20; Finance Director O'Toole suggested that wasn't unreasonable.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

First Selectman Bowsza suggested if the Board increased the wage from \$17.75 to \$19 that's a 7% change and it would at least keep pace with the minimum wage increase.

MOTION: To GIVE PART-TIME EMPLOYEES HOURLY WAGE a lift to \$19 per hour this year and \$20 per hour next year.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Deputy First Selectman DeSousa said the Board would have to revisit this issue midterm as the minimum wage is anticipated to go up again.

VOTE: **In Favor: Baker/Muska/Nordell**
 Opposed: DeSousa
 Abstained: No one

First Selectman Bowsza requested Finance Director O'Toole recalculate the numbers for the recording secretary compensation based on the Commission's discussion, and the meeting percentages, and return for additional discussion.

First Selectman Bowsza verbally tabled approval of the Selectman's Budget until Finance Director O'Toole returns with the revised figures. He requested Debbie Williams, representing the Arts and Culture Commission, join the Board to explain the Commission's proposals.

10: NEW BUSINESS:

A. Discuss Arts and Culture Project with Debbie Williams:

Mrs. Williams joined the Board. She noted she's the Chair of the Arts and Culture Commission. She indicated that public art in East Windsor is important because it's there, and is accessible, for everyone to enjoy. Mrs. Williams suggested public art is beneficial because it promotes tourism and it brings people in to East Windsor which supports the businesses. It fosters a sense of community pride and identity, and it can aesthetically enhance an area and add character to a manmade structure.

A month ago the Arts and Culture Commission met and unanimously voted to support a large mural at the I-91 underpass at South Water Street by the river. Mrs. Williams reported she's requesting the Board to vote to allow the Commission to use that area.

The muralist is Ben Keller, who is a well-known artist from Enfield. The benefit of having a local artist is that he knows most of the people that have tagged the walls, and they have kind of an understanding that when he paints his art on it

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

they will come back and tag it again. The theme would be the flora and fauna that's indigenous to the East Windsor and the Connecticut River area. It made her think of Frank Dziadziak, who's a local photographer in East Windsor. Frank has agreed to collaborate with Ken on the project; we've agreed to compensate Frank so with this project the Commission would be supporting two local artists.

The total cost of the mural is approximately \$20,000. Rather than ask the Town for money the Commission will do its own fundraising through a GoFundMe page or other sources, including a link that can be shared so anyone, not just the residents of East Windsor, can donate to the project. She's met with a representative from Sustainable CT, who is looking for a town to partner with on a project; discussions are ongoing. If the partnership with Sustainable CT goes through they would match the Commission's fundraising dollar for dollar; the Commission would only have to raise \$10,000. As part of their fundraising promotion they are offering a sponsorship donation, businesses and individuals donating at the sponsorship level would be recognized with their logo on the Commission's Facebook page and Instagram, flyers, or press releases. They would also be recognized on a plaque at the location of the project.

After raising the money for the project the deadline for completing the project is 3 weeks. She's also met with Superintendent Tudryn to see if some of the high school students could be involved.

Mrs. Williams indicated the Commission isn't asking the Town for anything other than permission to use the site.

Mrs. Williams reiterated the site is the underpass on South Water Street. There are two sides to the underpass, each about 120 feet by 18 feet. One is a solid wall, the second is 4 wide concrete columns. Mrs. Williams indicated that once the Commission receives the Town's approval then they would request permission from DOT.

MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign a letter of support for the East Windsor South Water Street underpass mural project presented by the East Windsor Arts and Culture Commission.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: Selectman Nordell asked why that location was chosen rather than the Shell Station along Route I-91? Mrs. Williams noted that's a privately owned area and although they tried they don't have permission for that location. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa referenced material provided to the Board regarding this project which included sidewalks, she noted there are no sidewalks along South Water Street in that location, she

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

questioned if they planned to install sidewalks? Mrs. Williams indicated the person who wrote up the document wasn't familiar with the area; no sidewalks installation is proposed. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned if the photos provided were examples, or work of the artist? Mrs. Williams suggested they were just examples. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa is pleased to see the work of the photographer included in the project. Mrs. Williams offered the Board information about "Champion Trees", 5 of which are located in East Windsor. Selectman Muska wanted to advise Mrs. Williams that she was pleased to see the Commission so involved and passionate about the proposals.

**VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell.
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

First Selectman Bowsza turned the floor over to Selectman Nordell regarding his questions on the Arts and Culture Commission's budget.

Selectman Nordell noted the Commission proposed a budget of \$7,650 which has been reduced to \$4,000. What are you looking to do with those funds, since this project wouldn't be funded under your budget? Mrs. Williams suggested she was also proposing the installation of two inter-active murals where people go up and pretend to be part of the mural and take photos. She had also proposed the "traffic wraps" but has since learned the Town doesn't own any of the traffic boxes so that project is no longer an option. Mrs. Williams reported they've received permission from the Historical Society to use old photos of East Windsor to turn into postcards or flags to line the streets of East Windsor. She also approached the Diversity Council to discuss flying flags from different ethnic groups. Mrs. Williams indicated she also proposed a visiting artist series where someone like Frank would come in and teach a class on photography.

Selectman Nordell indicated his questions had been answered. First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mrs. Williams for her presentation.

B. Discuss and Approve Application for Alcoholic Beverages Exemption to include Pam McCann:

First Selectman Bowsza referenced the application from Ms. McCann regarding using the Reservoir for a graduation party. They're asking the Board to waive the prohibition of alcoholic beverages. He noted it's already been signed off on by all of the relevant departments, except for his signature. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned what the Board had approved in the past, and how that relates to the ordinance. First Selectman Bowsza reviewed the process of approving use of alcohol at the park, which was in conjunction with the Summer concert series. First Selectman Bowsza read the ordinance for the Board, noting

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

it's a complete and total ban on use of alcohol unless the Board gives its permission.

MOTION: To APPROVE the request for the exception for alcoholic beverages made by Pam McCann.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

**VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell.
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

C. Discussion of Next Steps with ARPA Funding:

First Selectman Bowsza noted when we approved the E.R.A.S.E. Grants last year the Board was operating under the Interim Final Rule. They have since approved a Final Rule. First Selectman Bowsza noted the Town still has some funds available for possible projects. Any allocation under \$10 million is unrestricted, except for the prohibitions noted below, while under the previous rule there were 5 restrictions, while the new rule has two restrictions; First Selectman Bowsza reviewed the uses and restrictions with the Board. First Selectman Bowsza noted the Town currently has \$2.4 million unaccounted for. He recalled that previously the Board had discussed funding the a portion of the water project for the School Hill Association under the State's Revolving Potable Water Program. He noted they are starting architectural and engineering work on the project, but in reviewing the Board's Minutes the Board never actually approved the use of those funds for that project. First Selectman Bowsza indicated would like to formalize that motion tonight, he noted he's been meeting with the group working on the project, as has Representative Foster, Senator Anwar, Town Engineer Norton, and people from Connecticut Water. First Selectman Bowsza clarified the School Hill Association is 31 homes and 80+ residents in the Elaine Drive subdivision affected by a failing water system. First Selectman Bowsza reviewed causes for the failing water system, noting possible additional funding might be available based on the materials found in the water.

First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion approving the funding and referring the recommendation to Town Meeting. See motion below.

1. Vote To Commit Funds for School Hill Association:

MOTION: To FUND \$250,000 from ARPA funding for the School Hill Association and send to Town Meeting.

DeSousa moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

2. Community Survey:

First Selectman Bowsza noted after the above approval the Town still has approximately \$2.1 million left uncommitted for the caveats noted above. He noted he and Finance Director O'Toole have been discussing infrastructure needs in the community based on potential funding sources. He would like to survey the taxpayers regarding their interests, needs, and priorities associated with infrastructure.

Selectman Muska questioned how First Selectman Bowsza would reach out to the community? He noted he has a funding line for outreach in his budget, which he would use to do a survey mailing. He indicated the process for the mailing would be handled by the Selectman's Office. The survey would include a list of projects for consideration. Selectman Baker suggested for him infrastructure means projects that will last a long time. First Selectman Bowsza suggested the Board is in a position, with the funding available, where we can make some meaningful investments in what the Town needs without asking the taxpayers to pay more.

None of the Board members opposed First Selectman Bowsza's proposal; no motion was made.

3. Police Union Request for Hazard Pay:

First Selectman Bowsza reported item 3 is the Police Department's request for Hazard Pay, which is an allowable expense under the ARPA funds. First Selectman Bowsza indicated he would like to include this item in the survey discussed above. He reported hazard pay is limited in 2 capacities – not being more than a \$13/hour boost for an employee, and not more than \$25,000 in total per employee. First Selectman Bowsza indicated what hazard pay is not limited to is municipal employees, it's supposed to go to essential employees. He noted that during the height of the pandemic grocery store clerks, gas station attendants, bank tellers, dental hygienists, they all fell under the "essential" category. When we're talking about focusing on front-line essential employees we need to think about in the totality of what that term means under the law.

Selectman Baker indicated he would like to focus spending the money on long-term infrastructure, which the Town is far behind on. Focusing on the long-term infrastructure would be doing something for the whole town

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

and give everyone some breathing room. As well as, depending on how the Board does it, maybe the improved infrastructure will invite more commercial development. First Selectman Bowsza indicated he didn't disagree but would like to let the taxpayers decide; it will help the Board decide the path forward. Selectman Nordell questioned that making this funding available wouldn't be opening the doors for a lot of people looking for their share.

D. Discuss and Vote on Personnel Contract:

First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion to postpone Item 10D.

MOTION: To POSTPONE Item 10D – Discuss and Vote on Personnel Contract under NEW BUSINESS.

Nordell moved/DeSousa seconded/**DISCUSSION:** None.

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

E. Tax Refunds:

MOTION: To APPROVE tax refunds in the amount of \$1,268.04.

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

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

First Selectman Bowsza returned discussion to Item 9F under NEW BUSINESS - **Discuss and Vote on FY 2022 -2023 Town Government Budget.**

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

F. Discuss and Vote on FY 2022 – 2033 Town Government Budget:

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Finance Director O'Toole for her assistance making this process as easy as it is. He noted she's always happy to provide answers to whatever questions he brings to her; she's an absolute delight to work with. First Selectman Bowsza indicated he appreciates the work she does.

RECORDING SECRETARY COMPENSATION:

Finance Director O'Toole indicated the new spreadsheet she provided the Board includes all the changes the Board discussed, and includes a couple that weren't

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

brought up. She noted the Building Committee hadn't been discussed. If they had only 10 meetings at \$50, like the Ethics Committee, she left them at 10 meetings. So the Ethics Committee went from \$500 to \$750. Regarding the Building Committee, they were at \$100 per meeting so she moved them to \$125 to be consistent with the other 3 that stayed at \$125. Finance Director O'Toole cited that the Agricultural Commission and the Conservation Commission held only 10 meetings so if they had only 10 meetings at \$50 she gave them 10 meetings at \$75, while the Diversity Council and Arts and Culture Commission were given 12 meetings at \$75 per meeting as they meet monthly.

Regarding the Board of Selectmen, Finance Director O'Toole reported you have 35 meetings. Finance Director O'Toole reported she did 26 meetings at the lower \$150 and 9 at the higher. You're new number is \$5,925, which is how the percentages worked out.

Finance Director O'Toole noted the Board of Assessment number had been requested to be increased from \$1,500 to \$3,000 for the recording secretary. They had 6 meetings last time, but she's given them 11 meetings at the lower rate and 6 meetings at the higher rate. Discussion followed regarding the number of anticipated meetings; the Board felt the Board of Assessment Appeals were perhaps anticipating increased meetings due to this being a revaluation year.

The Board began review, and approval, of the Selectman's Budget for FY 2022 – 2023.

First Selectman Bowsza requested to return to the Arts and Culture Commission as he felt the Board hadn't voted on that Commission yet. He referenced their program line; noting they had requested \$7,650, which he reduced to \$4,000. First Selectman Bowsza queried Selectman Nordell if his comments had been addressed? In response, Selectman Nordell made the following motion.

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Arts and Culture Commission budget at \$4,900.

Nordell moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

Prior to returning to the Budget approval department by department First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion of Revenue.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

Finance Director O'Toole noted she left everything the same with regard to Revenue, as the State said everything was going to stay the same, except she noted the Town's mill rate would be going up. She noted the Revenue would be reported on the total number, which leaves the Board of Education numbers as they were originally proposed.

First Selectman Bowsza noted it's State Revenue, local Revenue, and Taxes.

Finance Director O'Toole noted the Tax number in her report is \$34,564,194 which is the new Grand List that was filed as of 1/10/2022 – the 2022 Grand List - at 34.5 mills. Everything else she left the same – Building Permits at \$250,000, everything else was pretty much the same as last year. The State Revenue will be the same at \$6,349,659.

An error message occurred in the Revenue Summary; Finance Director O'Toole returned to her office to recalculate the document.

In the meantime, First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion on Agenda Item 11 - **SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**

11. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

A. Jason Bowsza:

(See Attachment C)

B. Marie DeSousa:

(See Attachment D)

C. Alan Baker:

Selectman Baker reported he couldn't attend the Agricultural and Conservation Commission Meetings due to a work conflict.

Selectman Baker reported he attended the first half hour of the Planning and Zoning Commission before he had to participate in the Board of Selectman Budget Workshop. He suggested they had another light meeting.

Selectman Baker reported the Wetlands Commission at which they held a Public Hearing to adopt a new Wetlands Map, it's a modernized version of the 1958 map. This a digital layered GIS Map, which is more accurate. They'll be

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

updating its actual wetlands delineations over the last 10 years. They could go back further if they got more funding in the future.

Selectman Baker also noted both Planning and Zoning and Wetlands adopted Danielle Miller as the Zoning Enforcement Officer and Wetlands Officer respectively.

(See additional comment under PUBLIC PARTICIPATION at the end of the meeting.)

D. Sarah Muska:

(See Attachment E)

E. Charlie Nordell:

Selectman Nordell reported the PTO is doing a fundraiser for Bus Driver Appreciation, they're selling yard signs for \$10 a piece. The Bus Drivers have done a phenomenal job this year, they had a lot of difficulty during COVID and they even had a couple of weather days that weren't typical for them. Every year the PTO shows appreciation to the Bus Drivers, but this year they're doing something a little different by selling signs. The proceeds will go towards Bus Driver Appreciation Day at which they'll present the Bus Drivers with a little gift bag with essentials they feel bus drivers need, like cleaning materials, masks, water, snacks, and things of that sort. You can see the PTO's Facebook page to see how you can order your own yard sign. The PTO's next meeting is next Thursday, so anyone who wants to attend that can attend as well.

First Selectman Bowsza returned discussion to the FY 2022 – 2023 Budget, he requested Finance Director O'Toole to revisit the REVENUE side.

Finance Director O'Toole noted she has provided the Board one sheet summarizing the Revenue and Expenditures. Right now they are \$5,335,701. This sheet populates the mill rate, and tells you what you have to do to be able to cover the essential costs currently. Finance Director O'Toole indicated she gave the Board a number of \$34 million for taxes, and this sheet has \$35 million. It boils down to everything staying the same, including the Fund Balance the Board of Finance decides. We would need to go to 35.1 mills or .6 mills or 1.73% to cover these expenditures. First Selectman Bowsza noted that's assuming no changes by the Board of Finance to the Board of Selectman's Budget or the Board of Education's Budget. Finance Director O'Toole concurred, noting the percentage is currently at 3.58%, offset by the Grand List growth. First Selectman Bowsza suggested that is 4.08%; Finance Director O'Toole agreed.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

First Selectman Bowsza suggested that's a great place to start the Board of Finance off.

First Selectman Bowsza questioned that the \$43,357,071 for 3.58% is correct on the 2nd to the last page; Finance Director O'Toole concurred. First Selectman Bowsza also questioned that the \$17,089,716 at 2.87% is correct on the last page; Finance Director O'Toole concurred, noting basically the Selectmen's Budget went down \$144,000 due to reductions in the Employee Benefits, which was offset by increases in the recording secretaries and the part-time compensation.

SELECTMAN'S BUDGET:

First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion to accept the Selectman's Budget at \$288,939.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Selectman's Budget at \$288,939.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

First Selectman Bowsza queried the Board for comments or concerns about the various budgets. Hearing no requests he suggested, for expediency, he would announce the Department budgets, ask for a motion, and waive discussion. The Board concurred.

CHARTER REVISION:

Flat/zero funded, no motion.

ETHICS COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Ethics Commission in the amount of \$750.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded

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

DIVERSITY COUNCIL:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Diversity Council in the amount of \$900.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

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

ARTS AND CULTURE COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Arts and Culture Commission in the amount of \$4,900.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

BOARD OF FINANCE:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Board of Finance in the amount of \$54,225.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

ASSESSOR:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Assessor in the amount of \$211,903.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded

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

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Board of Assessment Appeals in the amount of \$3,300.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded

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

TAX COLLECTOR:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Tax Collector in the amount of \$142,314.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

TREASURER:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Treasurer in the amount of \$261,653.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded

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

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE (recording secretary):

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Capital Improvement Planning Committee in the amount of \$750.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

LEGAL:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Legal in the amount of \$280,000.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

ACTIVITIES AND FEES:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Activities and Fees in the amount of \$124,814.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Information Technology in the amount of \$283,092.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

TOWN CLERK:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Town Clerk in the amount of \$151,872.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

REGISTRARS OF VOTERS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Registrars of Voters in the amount of \$72,889.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

PLANNING:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Planning in the amount of \$284,253.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Planning and Zoning Commission in the amount of \$5,250.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Zoning Board of Appeals in the amount of \$2,150.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

PROPERTY INSURANCE:

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To ACCEPT Property Insurance in the amount of \$185,000.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSE AGENCY:

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Inland Wetlands and Watercourse Agency
Commission in the amount of \$2,325.**

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

VETERANS COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Veterans Commission in the amount of \$900.

DeSousa moved/Nordell seconded

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

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION:

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Agricultural Commission in the amount of
\$750.**

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded

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

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Conservation Commission in the amount of
\$750.**

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION:

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Economic Development Commission in the amount of \$900.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

**VOTE: In Favor: DeSousa/Baker/Muska
Opposed: Nordell
Abstained: No one**

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Police Department in the amount of \$3,924,264.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded

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

POLICE COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Police Commission in the amount of \$1,725.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Emergency Management in the amount of \$41,048.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

BUILDING DEPARTMENT:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Building Department in the amount of \$476,471.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

COMMUNICATIONS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Communications in the amount of \$21,982.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

PUBLIC WORKS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Public Works in the amount of \$1,157,386.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded

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

TOWN PROPERTY:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Town Property in the amount of \$1,194,443.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded

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

ROAD IMPROVEMENTS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Road Improvements in the amount of \$430,000.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

BUILDING COMMITTEE:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Building Committee in the amount of \$1,500.

Baker moved/Nordell seconded

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

SANITATION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Sanitation in the amount of \$1,063,445.

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

Baker moved/Nordell seconded

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

SENIOR SERVICES:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Senior Services in the amount of \$256,042.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded

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

ELDERLY COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Elderly Commission in the amount of \$750.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded

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

SOCIAL SERVICES:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Social Services in the amount of \$178,306.

Muska moved/Baker seconded

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

LIBRARIES:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Libraries in the amount of \$324,750.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded

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

RECREATION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Recreation in the amount of \$333,579.

Baker moved/DeSousa seconded

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

HISTORIC COMMISSION:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Historic Commission in the amount of \$750.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded

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

DEBT SERVICE:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Debt Service in the amount of \$1,128,133.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Capital Improvement Planning Committee in the amount of \$950,000.

Baker moved/Muska seconded

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

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Employee Benefits in the amount of \$3,460,562.

Baker moved/Nordell seconded

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

CONTINGENCY:

MOTION: To ACCEPT Contingency in the amount of \$180,000.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded

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

TOTAL TOWN GOVERNMENT:

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

MOTION: To ACCEPT the recommendation for total Town Government for the Board of Selectman's Budget in the amount of \$17,189,716, an increase of 2.78%.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Deputy First Selectman DeSousa questioned the amount for Town Properties. Selectman Muska noted on her handwritten copy she has a final number of \$1,194,443. First Selectman Bowsza recalculated the Town Property figure at \$1,194,443; Finance Director O'Toole concurred with First Selectman Bowsza and Selectman Muska.

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Budget activity will commence March 16th.

11. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

See discussion previously

12. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza asked if anyone from the in-person audience would like to comment.

Tom Lansner, 27 Laurel Circle: Mr. Lansner wanted to thank the whole Board of Selectmen for the the bipartisan way you got us through the COVID situation, and I'm worrying about some infrastructure things, and I just see great things ahead for us. Mr. Lansner noted he sees a lot of in-fighting and controversy in some of our neighboring towns, both politically and otherwise. He indicated he's sort of watching the town he used to come from in Massachusetts, and they have a lot of negativity going on. It just makes him thankful that we moved to this town. I just see a lot of great things ahead. That's a compliment to all of you; keep up the good work.

Bill Loos, 44 Melrose Road: Mr. Loos reported he has a question about the Town and the Broad Brook Mill. Are you still working with Hamilton on it? Does the Historical Society still want that building? If the Town can take over getting the hazardous materials out of there for over a quarter million dollars or is Hamilton still going to do that? Where does the Town stand?

First Selectman Bowsza indicated there are mechanizations moving on that topic. He indicated he would have an update for the Board shortly. The long and the short of it is it's a privately held parcel that's under a Consent Decree under the oversight of EPA and DEEP. The State Preservation Office is what's called a consulting party, as is the Town. First Selectman Bowza noted those conversations continue, there is no resolution at this

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

point. They are approaching the point where remediation will commence, the current reiteration involves Raytheon actually performing remedial work but most of the answers to your questions are still questions. Those conversations are ongoing. Mr. Loos suggested it's not a dead issue. First Selectman Bowsza noted the reality of it is they're a privately held company with very deep resources that is pretty committed to an outcome and it's unclear who, if anyone, can move them off of that. First Selectman Bowsza suggested he'll have more when it's available.

Selectman Baker indicated he just would add to that, and I forgot this in my report, the Wetlands Commission did approve a permit for them to start digging out a lot of that stuff, the first phase of it anyway. They're looking to get started on that as soon as the weather permits.

Mr. Loos thanked First Selectman Bowsza and Selectman Baker for the update.

First Selectman Bowsza queried the participants signed in remotely for comments; no one requested to speak.

Selectman Nordell questioned if the Board should make a stand alone motion to set the fees for the recording secretaries? First Selectman Bowsza suggested it's kind of a policy document, but he would be happy to make a motion if Selectman Nordell preferred. First Selectman Bowsza felt the Board would include that in their Budget recommendation, if it's approved by the Board of Finance and the voters we would then do a motion for a payroll change effective July 1st. Selectman Nordell indicated he's good with that.

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200(6)(a), discussion of employee contract, (6)(b), strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation, (6)(e) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records, or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1/210 – Action possible:

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION Pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 1-200(6)(a), discussion of employee contract, (6)(b), strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation, (6)(e) discussion of any matter which would result in the disclosure of public records, or the information contained therein described in subsection (b) of section 1/210 at 9:21 p.m. Attending the Executive Session will be First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, Selectman Nordell, and Executive Assistant for the Selectman's Department, Melissa LaBelle.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting – March 3, 2022
In-Person and REMOTE ACCESS
MEETING MINUTES**

(No one opposed/No abstentions)

First Selectman Bowsza noted action is likely.

The recording secretary left the meeting at 9:21 p.m.

First Selectman Bowsza reported the Board had returned from Executive Session at 10:31 p.m. He questioned if there was any further business to come before the Board?

MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the employment agreement between the Town of East Windsor and Melissa LaBelle.

Baker moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

**VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

First Selectman Bowsza called for other business, no one offered any motions.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN at 10:32 p.m.

Nordell moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

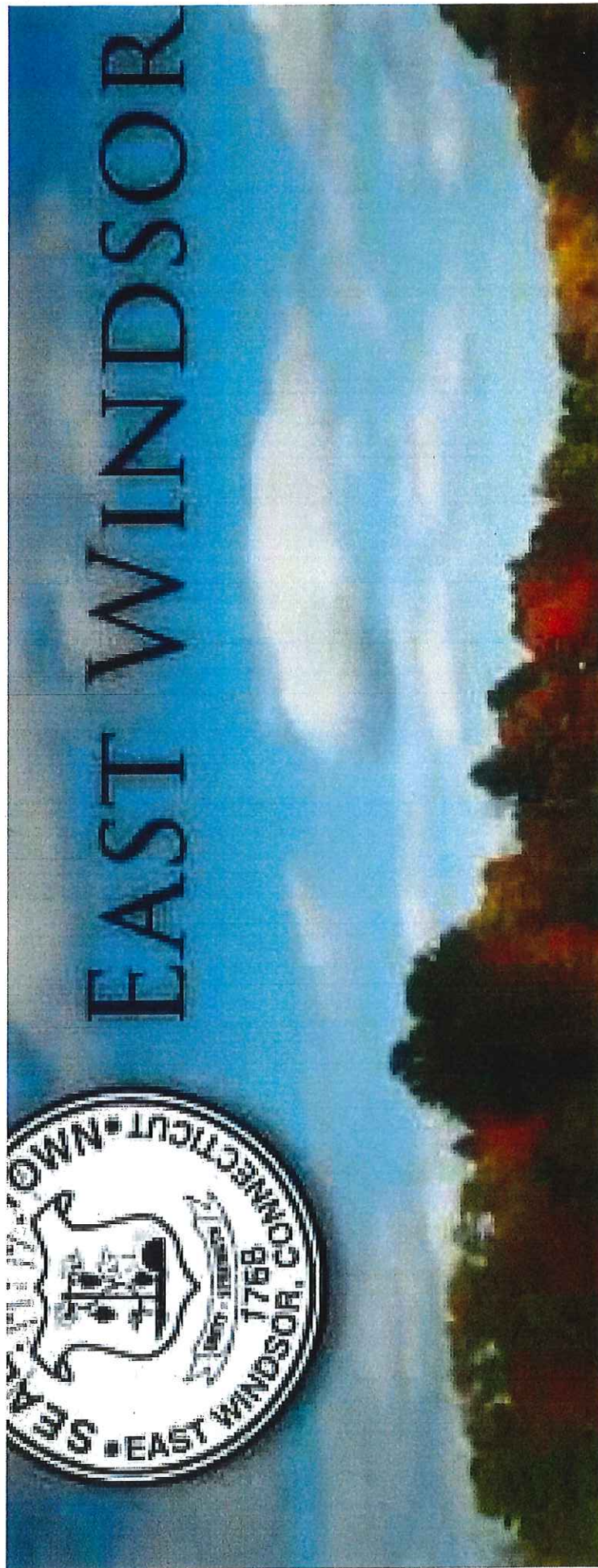
**VOTE: In Favor: Bowsza/DeSousa/Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

Respectfully submitted, -----
Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. First Selectman Bowsza's presentation at the the North Central Chamber of Commerce's Economic Development Breakfast
- B. Recording Secretarial Compensation Comparison
- C. First Selectman Bowsza's Selectman's Report
- D. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa's Report
- E. Selectman Muska's Report

Selectman Baker's Report and Selectman Nordell's Report is included in the Meeting transcription.



North Central Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Breakfast

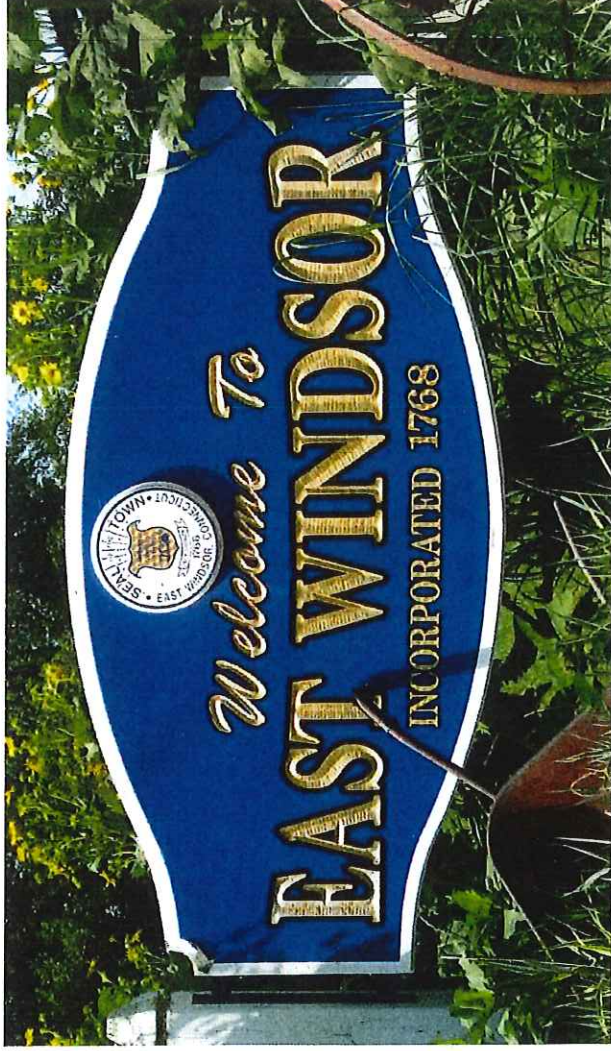
Economic Development Strategies at Work

Jason E. Bowsza - First Selectman

February 22, 2022

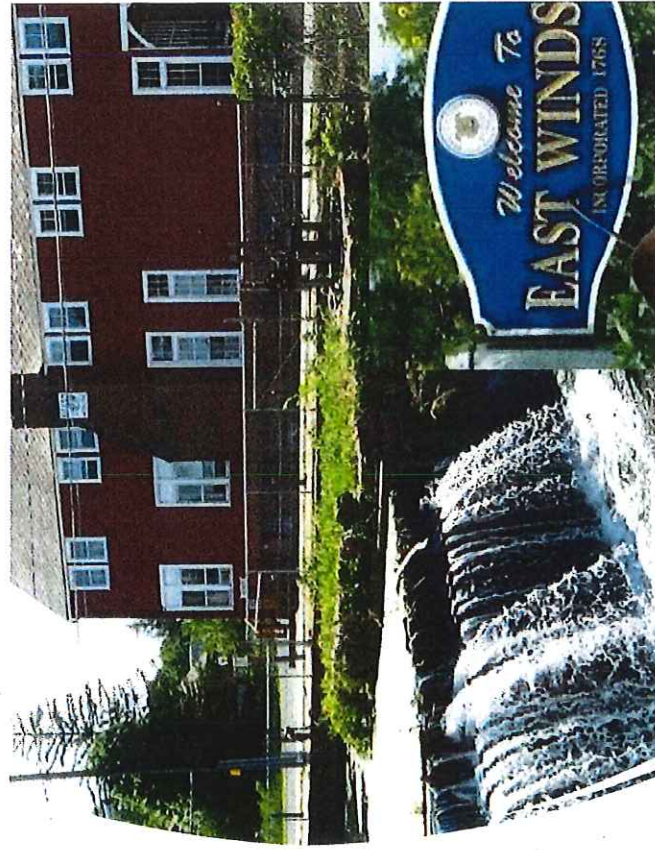
5A

Key Strategies for successful Economic Development



- Economic Retention
- Economic Recruitment
- Attitudes

Economic Retention



- ERASE Grant
- Small Business Showcase
- Small Business Passport Program

ERASE Grant

- Utilized ARPA funding for small business/nonprofit assistance
- Grant program awarding recipients up to \$10,000 per applicant
- Needed to show economic hardship due to COVID-19
- More than 115 local businesses and nonprofits received funds

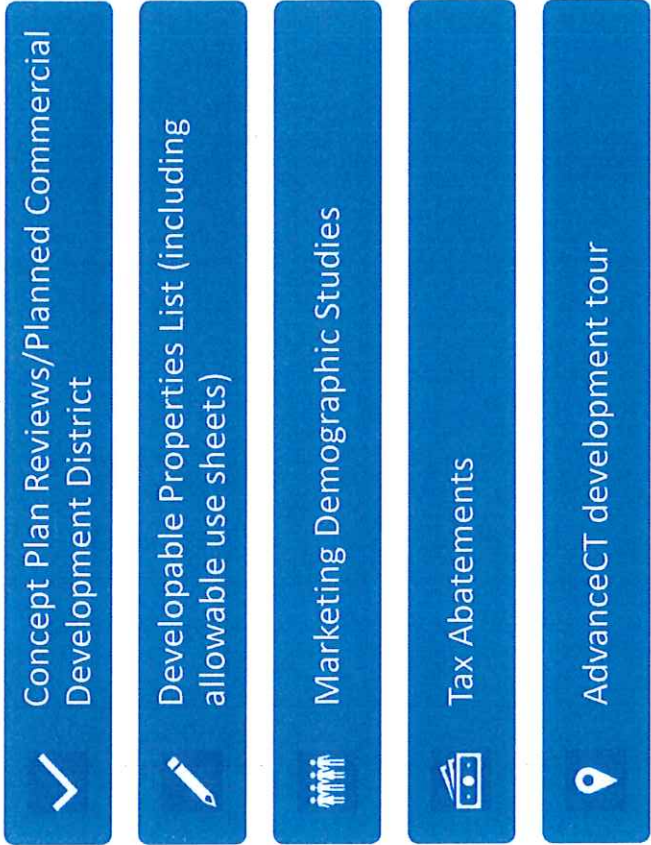
Small Business Website Showcase

- Regular Town visits to East Windsor-based businesses
- Visited businesses are highlighted on Town social media pages
- Database/landing page highlighting and linking to local businesses is featured on Town website
- Intended to foster lines of communication with local business leaders

Shop Small Passport Program

- Local passport program based on CT Farm Winery Passport Program
- Intended to focus a “buy local” mentality ahead of the holiday season
- Program expected to launch in Mid-October, run through Small Business Saturday
- Cash Prizes

Economic Recruitment



Developable Properties List

- We're making it easier for businesses to find available commercial properties in our community
- public-facing webpage provides key information, including:
 - Ownership information
 - Local demographics (i.e. town profile, proximity to highways, airports, mass transit, etc.)
 - Zoning cutsheets explaining allowable uses in each zone
 - Aerial mapping, including wetlands
- Think “more localized version of MLS”

Concept Plan Reviews/Planned Commercial Development District)

- Targeted fast-tracking of development applications
- Considers municipal development area priorities
- Maintains all existing requirements – but less burdensome on applicants

Market Analyses

- Understand what the opportunities in your community are
 - Where are you over-saturated, where are you undersaturated
- East Windsor has used ESRI for retail analysis

Tax Abatements

- They typically won't be the initial reason a company looks at a community, but abatements can help to close a deal
- Consistency is key – for both towns and businesses
- Key components of an abatement
 - Duration
 - Abatement percentage
 - Investment
 - Local considerations
 - Support for local labor/union workers
 - Use of MBE/WBE contractors
 - Requirements to hire local workers
 - Requirements to hire minority workers

Bring the pieces together

Combine key components to best position your community

- Market research, development opportunities, incentives, driving tours, etc.

Work with groups that can help foster development in your town

- AdvanceCT, MetroHartford Alliance, CT Main Street Center, Local and regional chambers of commerce

Attitudes



Teamwork and trust
between local boards



Strong focus on customer
service



Budget Transparency
(Cleargov)



Thank you



Helpful Links for Follow-Up

- ERASE COVID-19 Grant
 - <https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/home/pages/erase-grant-closed-emergency-relief-and-stabilization-effort-erase-covid-19-grant>
- Small Business Showcase
 - <https://www.eastwindsor-ct.gov/home/pages/local-business-showcase>
- Developable Properties Listing Tool
 - <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=en&mid=1sALVaeP7u1MZSbbsr3gQDpEEEmywUfUH80&ll=41.90964994136017%2C-72.56767969219507&z=12>
- Town Demographics
 - <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=en&mid=1sALVaeP7u1MZSbbsr3gQDpEEEmywUfUH80&ll=41.90964994136017%2C-72.56767969219507&z=12>
- Tax abatement enabling statute
 - §12-65b



SN - 3/3/2022 Attachment B

Town of East Windsor
Recording Secretary Comparison
FY 22-23

Commission	Per Meeting	# of Mtg/Year	Annual Budget	Sch of Motions	Doc Size	Minute Doc Size	Length of Meeting
BOS	* \$ 150	35	\$ 5,925	Yes	6+ Pages	10-20 Pages	1.5-3 hours
Charter Revision	\$ 125	18	\$ 2,250	N/A	N/A	4-10 Pages	1-3 hours
Ethics	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	Under 1 hour
Diversity	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	1-8 Pages	Under 1 hour
Arts & Culture	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	1-3 Pages	Under 1 hour
BOF	* \$ 150	21	\$ 3,525	N/A	N/A	5-6 Pages	1-3 hours
BoAA	* \$ 150	15	\$ 3,000	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	1.5 hours
CIP	\$ 125	6	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	2-6 Pages	1-3 hours
AHRC	\$ 75	12	\$ 900	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	Under 1 hour
PZC	* \$ 150	24	\$ 4,050	Yes	6+ Pages	12-35 Pages	1.5 - 3 hours
ZBA	* \$ 150	10	\$ 1,950	Yes	1 Page	2-5 Pages	Under 1 hour
IWWA	* \$ 150	12	\$ 2,025	Yes	6+ Pages	10 Pages	1.5 hours
Veterans	\$ 75	12	\$ 900	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	1.5 hours
Ag	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	Under 1 hour
Conservation	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	2 Pages	1 hour
EDC	\$ 75	12	\$ 900	N/A	N/A	2-5 Pages	Under 1 hour
Police Commission	\$ 125	13	\$ 1,625	N/A	N/A	2-5 Pages	Under 1 hour
Building	\$ 125	12	\$ 1,500	N/A	N/A	2-6 Pages	1-3 hours
Elderly	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	1-3 Pages	Under 1 hour
Historical	\$ 75	10	\$ 750	N/A	N/A	1-3 Pages	Under 1 hour
Pension	* \$ 150	6	\$ 900	N/A	N/A	2-5 Pages	1-3 hours

* Meetings more than 2 hours will be paid at \$225. Assumption 25% of meetings @ higher rate.

BBFD	\$ 50			N/A	N/A		
WHPFD	\$ -			N/A	N/A	2 Pages	1-2 hours

BW 3/3/2022 Attachment C

First Selectman's Report – March 3, 2022

After some delays, the Town's FY20/21 Audit has finally been completed. The Town Auditor will be presenting his findings to the Board of Finance at a date still to be determined, likely later this month. A key takeaway from the final audit will be that the Board of Education will return approximately \$1.5 million in unexpended monies to the Town's Fund Balance. This will again push us above the 20% of reserves allowed under the Town Fund Balance Policy. This all points to a position of strong fiscal health for the Town.

On February 18th, I joined Representative Foster and Ellington First Selectwoman Lori Spielman for a conversation with Commissioner Mark Boughton about the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), and its applicability to potential projects in East Windsor. Commissioner Boughton was very gracious with his time and offered some key insights into how the law will be administered at the state level. It is important that the Town maintain an ability to match the state/federal money for certain projects, likely at a rate of 20% of the project cost. The IIJA can be used for things like roads, bridges, high speed internet, electric vehicle infrastructure, etc.

On February 22nd, I had the opportunity to speak at the North Central Connecticut Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Breakfast. Leaders from East Windsor, Enfield, Suffield and Somers shared strategies and ideas about how to attract and retain businesses in our communities. I shared our work through the ERASE Grant, small business engagement, enhancements to expedite our permitting processes, market studies, utilization of tax abatements, stakeholder tours, collaboration between boards and commissions, a strong emphasis on customer service, and more. The full presentation was included in tonight's Board of Selectmen's agenda.

That same day, I was delighted to attend an event in the Town of Somers where they launched their own version of the ERASE Grant, emulating our program to aid businesses and nonprofits in their community.

On February 24th, I met with Capital Improvement Committee Chairman Adam Mehan to talk about community needs associated with bonded projects, and yesterday met with Dr. Tudryn about infrastructure needs for school buildings. It is my intention to bring a synopsis and project options to the Board of Selectmen in the next meeting or two, with the intention of any potential projects being included on the November ballot to allow for the highest taxpayer input as possible.

Later that night, I had the opportunity to meet with East Windsor's own Mary Turner, the first ever Miss Connecticut Teen Volunteer. Mary advocated for a cause near and dear to her heart – animal cruelty. You can learn more at www.milosmission.org.

The Town continues to work with our legislators to help residents of the School Hill neighborhood (Helena Drive, Elaine Drive, a small portion of Windsorville Road) navigate the state grant process to allow their failing community well to connect to Connecticut Water service.

I want to extend a big "Thank You" on behalf of the Town to the East Windsor Athletic Club, who have donated cornhole boards to the East Windsor Housing Authority and to the Senior Center.

Tonight, we congratulated Joe Ouellette for nineteen years of service to the Town on our Planning and Zoning Commission. Joe brought a lot of professional insight and leadership to many decisions that moved the Town forward over two decades, and we appreciate his service.

This Saturday, the Town will be offering a Household Hazardous Waste Collection event at the Department of Public Works at 6 Woolam Road. The collection hours will be from 8am to 1pm. This is open to Town residents. For more information, click on March 5th on the Community Calendar on the Town of East Windsor homepage.

The Town is now accepting donations for its Prom Dress Hero Drive. We are soliciting new or gently used prom dresses, purses, shoes, and jewelry until March 18th.

We are also looking for local business sponsors for our breakfast with the Easter Bunny, which will be held on April 9th at the Senior Center and co-sponsored by the East Windsor Rotary Club. Sponsorships are \$100 per business, and we are requesting those be submitted by April 1.

Our annual limerick contest is underway. This year's theme is animals. Submissions must be received by Parks and Recreation by March 14th. There are prizes available for the winners in each age group.

The Arts and Culture Commission is running a logo contest for East Windsor residents ages 10 and up. There is a cash prize for the winner. More information can be found on the Arts and Culture Commission's Facebook page.

Parks and Recreation is looking for summer help. Applications are available in the Office of the First Selectman or at Parks and Recreation.

Lastly, Eversource has notified the Town that they will be doing tree work along many Town roads over the coming months.

Respectfully submitted,



Jason E. Bowsza
First Selectman

BW 3/3/2022 Attachment D

March 3, 2022

Deputy First Selectmen Liaison Report

I attended the Water Pollution Control Authority meeting February 23, 2022.

The Receipt of Application from the East Windsor Historical Society was approved unanimously after a conceptual plan was reviewed.

The regular meeting was suspended for a Public Hearing for West River Farms LLC #22 and 24 West River Road, VP Property Management LLC and Fly Boys LLC but no public participation either in person via zoom partook in the meeting. The Facility Connection Charges were approved after coming out of the Public Hearing unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted

Marie E. DeSousa

Deputy First Selectmen

BW 3/3/2022 Attachment E

Selectmen's Report - March 3, 2022

On February 23, 2022 I attended the Board of Education meeting. The Board was joined by Dr. Michael Rafferty, from Leading for Learning, LLC for a literacy review. Dr. Rafferty provided the Board with six recommendations to the Broad Brook Elementary School and East Windsor Middle School's literacy program. The goal is to provide guidance for teachers to reach students and the suggestions include: updates to Assessments and Data Protocols, Phonics Instruction, Intervention Programming, Revising the Writing Curriculum and a Multi-Year Improvement Approach. If the School District was to adapt some of these recommendations, implementation would begin to take place in the Fall.

The Board made an adjustment to this year's school calendar for High School students only, making March 29, 2022 a shortened day due to SAT's. The Board approved the 2022-2023 school calendar. After doing much research as to when surrounding towns would be holding their April vacation, East Windsor decided to stick with the vast majority and hold April vacation from April 10-14, 2023. Beginning next school year, Kindergarten students will hold their first day of school on the same day as the other grades, to fulfill the 180 day school requirement that will now be required for Kindergarten attendees.

On February 28, 2022, the state mandate regarding masks in schools came to an end, leaving the decisions to local school boards and Superintendents. It has been determined that effective March 14, 2022 masks will be optional for students and staff in East Windsor Public School buildings. The decision to wait until the 14th, was to allow time for updating protocols and communicating them to staff, parents and students.

The Board unanimously approved an out of state field trip for the High School varsity baseball team to play a game at Doubleday Baseball Field and tour the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.

The Board appointed Jennifer Syme to represent the Town of East Windsor on the Rockville Regional Agricultural Education Consulting Committee.

On March 1, 2022, I attended the Economic Development Commission meeting at Town Hall. The Commission reviewed the rough draft of a letter to be addressed to area commercial realtors. The letter would be asking the realtor to share any commercial listings that they might have in Town in an electronic format that would be presented to a prospective buyer with the EDC, so the Commission could promote such properties in various avenues. The Commission would be interested in sending out ten letters at a time and would pay for postage out of their budget. The letter will be sent to the First Selectman for input before proceeding forward.

More information is to follow on the date of the East Windsor Business and Government Meet and Greet, which will occur in April at Town Hall in the John Daly Meeting Room. This will be a great opportunity to network with the business community in Town.

A few Commissioners reflected on attending the North Central Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Breakfast that was held on February 22, 2022, which the First Selectman mentioned.

The Commission would also like to work with the First Selectman's Office to help assist in Welcome Packets that go out to new residents of Town to ensure that our local businesses are being promoted.

The East Windsor Parks and Recreation Department's Limerick Contest is underway! This year's theme is animals. All entries must be received by March 14, 2022 for judging and can be submitted online at <http://www.EastWindsorRec.com/>

Submitted With Sincerity,

Sarah A. Muska
Selectman, Town of East Windsor
smuska@eastwindsorct.com

...