

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

REGULAR MEETING

October 6, 2022

7:00 p.m.

***John Daly Jr. Meeting Room
11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016
In-person***

AND

Meeting also available 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 in-person meeting. Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell were present in-person. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa was unable to attend this meeting, either in-person or remotely, due to other commitments.

ABSENT: Deputy First Selectmen DeSousa was unable to participate in this meeting as noted above.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person: Mrs. Shary, Wayne Shary, **Director of Planning and Development:** Ruth Calabrese.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to meeting remotely: R. Leach; Nicole Vacila; Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary.

1. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

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First Selectman Bowsza called the October 6, 2022 Regular Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to Order at 7:00 p.m. in the John Daly Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, Connecticut. The meeting is also available via remote access.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza requested Selectman Baker lead the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ATTENDANCE:

See attendance as noted above.

4. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A. September 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes:

Selectman Muska noted the speaker identified under **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, page 3 and 4**, as Ken Martin at 115 South Water Street was actually James D. Barton, of 150 South Water Street. First Selectman Bowsza called for other revisions; no one requested any additional changes.

MOTION: To APPROVE the September 1, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes with the following amendment:
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION, Pages 3 and 4, the speaker identified as Ken Martin at 115 South Water Street should be identified as James D. Barton, 150 South Water Street.

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

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

B. September 15, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes:

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First Selectman Bowsza noted the availability of Meeting Minutes for the Board's Regular Meeting held on September 15, 2022, he called for corrections or comments. No one requested any changes. First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion of approval.

MOTION: To APPROVE the September 15, 2022 Regular Minutes as presented.

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

C. September 26, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes:

First Selectman Bowsza called for comments or corrections on the September 26, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes; hearing no one requested any revisions First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion of approval.

MOTION: To APPROVE the September 26, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes as presented.

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

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza queried the in-person audience for comments, questions, or concerns.

Mrs. Shary: Mrs. Shary indicated she supports First Selectman Bowsza's efforts on behalf of the Town.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mrs. Shary for her comments. He then offered the opportunity to comment to the remote participants; no one requested to speak.

6. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Significant Safety Concerns Along Rail Line Letter to Commissioner Guilietti:

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First Selectman Bowsza reported that when the Board of Selectmen conducted their walking tour with the Enfield Council Members along the rail line adjacent to Town Hall they experienced significant hazards along the route. They encountered a sink hole at least 15 feet wide and just as deep. First Selectman Bowsza noted that when a similar walk had been taken with Senator Saud Anwar and Representative Jaime Foster he had placed a traffic cone near the sinkhole to draw attention to it but that traffic cone has now been moved.

First Selectman Bowsza referenced his letter to Commissioner Giulietti, of the Department of Transportation. Photos have been included in the Board's packet to illustrate the condition of the tracks.

Selectman Muska questioned if First Selectman Bowsza had received a response from Commissioner Giulietti; First Selectman Bowsza replied he had not yet received a response.

7. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resignations:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the resignation submitted by Laverne Calsetta, who is currently the resident representative on the East Windsor Housing Authority. First Selectman Bowsza noted his regret at Ms. Calsetta's resignation, as she has served on the Housing Authority for some time.

1. Laverne Calsetta, East Windsor Housing Authority:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the resignation of Laverne Calsetta as a resident member of the East Windsor Housing Authority with regret.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: See comments above.

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

B. Reappointments: None

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C. **New Appointments:** None

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

*A. **Discussion of Windbrook Homes Developers Agreement:**

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

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Discuss and Approve 2023 Board of Selectmen Meeting Schedule:**

First Selectman Bowsza referenced the proposed 2023 Meeting Schedule for the Board of Selectmen, noting holding meetings on Thursdays enables Staff to be available if necessary. He questioned if anyone would like to suggest any changes. Hearing no requests for revisions First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion of approval.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the 2023 Meeting dates for the Board of Selectmen.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

B. **Discuss Permit Link Proposal for Development of Land Use Module:**

First Selectman Bowsza requested Planning Director Calabrese join the Board for discussion of this Agenda item.

Planning Director Calabrese advised the Board that when she first arrived in East Windsor the Building Department was online with PermitLink for Building Permits. The Planning Department has been handling Zoning Permits administratively while the Land Use Commissions are still filing paper copies. Planning Director Calabrese reported she has approached PermitLink to develop a module which would track Planning applications from receipt, to Public Hearings, to conclusion of the application. PermitLink is proposing to develop the requested module, which it would then market to other users.

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Planning Director Calabrese reviewed the cost of what would be a 3-year contract with *PermaLink*. The initial cost to the Town is a discounted fee of \$7,000, the annual support cost – which includes cloud hosting – would be \$2,500. The cost to build this prototype is \$9,500, with 2 subsequent years of support at the \$2,500 rate. Planning Director Calabrese advised the Board the Town wouldn't pay the \$7,000 development fee until the product is built, when the product is up and running years 2 and 3 would be at the \$2,500 support rate.

First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion to the Board.

Selectman Baker questioned the anticipated timeframe for the vendor to build the product? Planning Director Calabrese wasn't sure but noted this project is a priority for *PermitLink*.

Selectman Baker questioned that this program would generate the corrective letters as well? Planning Director Calabrese replied affirmatively, and noted the product would track bonding status also. Selectman Baker questioned if the Planning Department database would be separate from a database for the Building Department, he noted he wants to be sure the Town has enough space to support both departments. Planning Director Calabrese suggested permits will be charged a user fee. Selectman Baker questioned if the Town would be paying for tech support for this product, Planning Director Calabrese suggested the \$2,500 annual fee is a support fee.

First Selectman Bowsza recalled that during a previous conversion the vendor held the Town's data hostage and wanted a fee to give the data back to the Town. Selectman Baker suggested if the Town will be using the cloud there is the question of who owns the data.

First Selectman Bowsza questioned if the Planning Department has the budget to pay for this product; Planning Director Calabrese replied affirmatively.

First Selectman Bowsza suggested the Board would hold off on approval of this product until the Town Attorney has commented. He suggested the biggest draw for him is that this product will also track bonding for projects.

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First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion to postpone action on this item of business.

MOTION: To POSTPONE signing the contract for the PermitLink module until the Board's next meeting.

**Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing further
VOTE: In Favor: Baker/Muska/Nordell
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

C. Discuss Pullman & Comley Letter to include Patricia Kratochvil:

First Selectman Bowsza referred the Board to the engagement letter from Pullman & Comley proposed to Tax Collector Kratochvil. He noted that Tax Collector Kratochvil would hire Pullman & Comley to assist with collection of delinquent taxes, and may include preparing properties for auction. The delinquent taxpayer would incur the cost of back taxes, and possible auction fees.

First Selectman Bowsza noted Tax Collector Kratochvil currently has 25 properties under consideration, he noted she works diligently on tax collection. That number will be significantly reduced going forward.

First Selectman Bowsza noted this document is a contract. Should the Board concur with the proposal he would need authorization to sign the contract.

MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the contract between the Town of East Windsor and Pullman & Comley for assistance with delinquent taxes.

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

D. Discuss and Approve Fiscal Year 2023 Dial-A-Ride Operating Assistance Grant Contract:

First Selectman Bowsza referenced the communication from the Greater Hartford Transit District requesting the Town to sign the contract for

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assistance via the Dial-A-Ride Grant for 2023 which provides transportation for the Senior buses. First Selectman Bowsza noted this grant is usually an 80/20 grant match. Although the grant was effective in July it just arrived in his office at the end of September.

MOTION: To APPROVE the 2023 Fiscal Year Dial-A-Ride Grant and AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the contract.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

E. Tax Refunds:

First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion to approve the Tax Refunds submitted this evening.

MOTION: To APPROVE the Tax Refunds in the amount of \$1,683.65.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

10. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

A. Jason Bowsza:

(See Attachment)

B. Marie DeSousa

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa was not present at this meeting; no report submitted.

C. Charlie Nordell:

(See Attachment)

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In additional discussion regarding the Board's September 26th Special Meeting to walk the Armory Rail Trail with the Enfield Town Council Members and Representative Hall, Selectman Nordell reported he and Selectman Muska also walked the **Redstone Rail Trail**, which is the continuation of that trail in East Longmeadow. Selectman Nordell estimated that trail is about a mile and a half long. It's very well equipped, the parking is great, at every intersection where it crosses the road they have lighted crosswalks, they have trash cans along the trail, and it's well paved. It was good to see what they did with that trail in their Town.

First Selectman Bowsza questioned if that was where the trail stops, in their Town center? Selectman Nordell indicated it pretty much stops at the five-way intersection. First Selectman Bowsza questioned if it stopped at the rotary? Selectman Nordell reported there's a beautiful little train station coffee shop at the end of it. There's even a person who has a gas-powered miniature train with a quarter of a mile of rail line set up where kids and adults can get a ride. First Selectman Bowsza questioned what the distance would be if East Windsor created a trail to the East Longmeadow location? Selectman Nordell wasn't sure, noting they drove back along the trail to get an idea of where it crosses streets and what it's behind. He noted the East Longmeadow line is about a mile short of reaching the Massachusetts/Connecticut state line going south. They'd have to extend it about a mile to connect with our line going through Broad Brook and Enfield. Selectman Nordell noted the line goes through basically an industrial area, the Baypath satellite university is nearby, the Hasbro building is also nearby as well.

D. Alan Baker:

Selectman Baker reported he attended the **Diversity Council** Meeting, they're still working on the Witness Stone Project. They're trying to get more awareness to their Facebook presence, you've probably seen a little more effort there in the past couple of weeks. The third thing they're working on is another workshop at Town Hall. Selectman Baker felt this new workshop would be a different topic than previously discussed, he didn't think they had solidified a date yet.

Selectman Baker reported he attended the **Conservation Commission** Meeting. They're still trying to get an RFP for clearing the overgrown

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shade tobacco field and restoring the barn on Reservoir Avenue on the Kogut property.

Selectman Baker reported he missed the Agricultural Commission Meeting because it coincided with the Town Meeting regarding the (Police Commission) Ordinance change. Selectman Baker suggested he echoed Selectman Nordell's comment that it was great to see so many people attend, there were 103 people who showed up to express their opinion.

Selectman Baker reported the Planning and Zoning Commission had a fairly light schedule, some of the applications got postponed. They discussed edits to the new Warehouse Point Zoning Regulations, which is kind of an offshoot of the Warehouse Point Study and the Route 5 Study, so it's all coming together to propose changes that hopefully will spur residential or commercial development in the Warehouse Point area. Selectman Baker reported Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell also attended that meeting; you'll need to take a look at that if you want to have an opinion before they finalize it. Selectman Baker suggested the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting scheduled for October 11th will include significant discussion during the Public Hearing for the East Windsor Historical Society's request for the event center. Selectman Baker noted they also have a lot of other stuff on the agenda, he anticipates that meeting will be a long night.

In subsequent discussion Selectman Baker noted he also attended the Inland Wetlands Commission Meeting on October 5th. Four people attended and requested informal discussions on potential proposals, which is something people do to figure out what they can do with their property. That meeting went on for a long time but Selectman Baker felt people went home with good answers.

E. Sarah Muska:

(See Attachment)

11. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza offered an opportunity for members of the in-person audience to speak.

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Wayne Shary, 119 Depot Street: Mr. Shary wanted to thank First Selectman Bowsza for his help regarding the collection of information on several properties (113, 117, 119, and 120 Depot Street) that Mr. Shary wanted to do work on. Mr. Shary reported his paperwork isn't available anywhere. He noted he ended up having to hire a soil scientist and he was told he needs to have an engineered septic system. Mr. Shary reported all that information had been documented but it's not available. He reported he went to the records department and all he could see was his Building Permit. First Selectman Bowsza questioned who installed Mr. Shary's septic system? Mr. Shary noted it was Richard Pippin but the North Central District Health Department was told they don't have anything.

Mr. Shary reported his experience with the North Central District Health Department was lousy; he was told he had been assisted by a temporary staff member who wasn't familiar with the department information. First Selectman Bowsza advised Mr. Shary he'll follow up on the situation and get back to Mr. Shary.

Mr. Shary also questioned the status of the Blight Ordinance. First Selectman Bowsza suggested it's still a work in progress, noting there have been some lengthy discussions on the draft. Mr. Shary questioned why the **Blight Ordinance** was needed? He noted this gentleman (pointing to Selectman Nordell) who had suggested people may have problems selling their house because of some of the language in the Blight Ordinance. Mr. Shary suggested blight and property management should not be said in the same breath, they're two different things. First Selectman Bowsza suggested definitions were one of the continuing discussion issues. Mr. Shary suggested creating a committee of Town residents, he volunteered to work with staff on the Blight Ordinance taking photos and talking to people. Mr. Shary suggested he wants to keep East Windsor a farming community and if he has a tire sitting in his yard for two weeks, he doesn't want to deal with someone telling him to get rid of the tire. He wants the option of taking it somewhere himself, he doesn't want to live in a crappy looking property either. First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mr. Shary for his interest.

Hearing no additional requests to be recognized First Selectman Bowsza offered the remote participants an opportunity to comment.

Nicole Vacila, 53 Prospect Hill Drive: Ms. Vacila reported she's glad to see the Board recognize **October as Domestic Violence month**, she questioned what the Board is proactively doing to counteract domestic violence?

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First Selectman Bowsza reported the Town funds a portion of the Network Against Domestic Abuse, he noted he's been a past board member and Selectman Muska is active regarding domestic abuse as well. We have funding for mental health considerations in the Police Department, which includes the recent hiring of a social worker. There are proposals which have been submitted through the community wide survey which was recently done which could potentially be funded through the ARPA funding. If you have suggestions the Board welcomes them.

Ms. Vacila suggested her concern is less about mental health than violence and how to stop that. Ms. Vacila indicated she had no ideas but she doesn't see a plan in place to address violence. She would like to see the ball get rolling on that, and suggested perhaps discussion could be a future agenda item for the Board.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Ms. Vacila for her suggestions.

Hearing no other requests from the remote participants to be recognized First Selectman Bowsza moved on to the **EXECUTIVE SESSION**.

- 12. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), negotiations, (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:

First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion for the Board to go into Executive Session.

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:53 p.m. Attending the EXECUTIVE SESSION will be First Selectman Bowsza, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska and Selectman Nordell in person.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted there will be no action after the close of the Executive Session.

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LET THE RECORD SHOW the members of the in-person audience vacated the room, and the Recording Secretary signed out of the meeting at 7:53 p.m.

First Selectman Bowsza reported that the Board exited the Executive Session at 8:51 p.m.

No further action will be taken. He called for a motion to Adjourn.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Baker moved/Nordell seconded/VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. First Selectman Bowsza's Report
 - B. Selectman Nordell's Report
 - C. Selectman Muska's Report
- (Selectman Baker's Report is included in the Minutes transcription)

First Selectman's Report – October 6, 2022 **ATTACHMENT A**

We have a few exciting construction projects underway at the moment. First, the Town has issued an RFQ for qualified vendors for the installation of lights at the Abbe Road Soccer Field and playground expansion in town. Thank you to Senator Anwar, Representative Foster and Representative Hall for their efforts to secure state funds for those projects.

We also have issued an RFQ for a project manager who will assist us with the plans and bid documents necessary to replace the roof on East Windsor High School and install HVAC systems at each school. Superintendent Tudryn and I have been working closely to move forward with both projects. Once the studies are complete, voters will be asked to vote on each project. That is likely to happen in the first half of next year.

We have also worked with the Board of Education to remove playground equipment at East Windsor Middle School and to do associated grading work, ahead of the planned replacement of recess equipment at that school.

The Town's statutorily mandated revaluation process is underway, and we anticipate final numbers on that sometime next month. Once notified, any taxpayer who feels that their assessment is inaccurate can appeal that assessment to the Board of Assessment Appeals. Keep an eye out for timelines associated with that. The revaluation is based on market conditions over the last two years, which could lead to higher-than-expected valuations, so keep the appeals process in mind.

Architectural and Engineering plans for the Community Center have been submitted to the Building Official and the Fire Marshal for their preliminary review. The Planning and Zoning Commission and the Wetlands Commission will review them in the coming weeks, and of course voters will vote on whether to move forward with that project on November 8th. Please remember to vote on Question #2.

I've had the good fortune to serve on the Connecticut Inter-Local Risk Management Agency's (CIRMA) Board of Directors over the last year, and the recently asked me to chair their Claims Advisory Committee. CIRMA is the insurance provider for the Town of East Windsor, and about 100 other towns in the state. I'm honored to have the opportunity to contribute to that fine organization.

On September 22nd, I attended the North Central Connecticut's Chamber of Commerce Legislative breakfast, held at their Senior Center. Candidates for all legislative offices in the towns that the NCCCC serves were invited to attend. It was a great networking opportunity with the people from our region who will be setting state policy over the next two years.

On September 26th, the entire Board of Selectmen hosted members of the Enfield Town Council on a walking tour along the railroad tracks that bifurcate much of Broad Brook. The point of the walk was to share our vision of conversion of that rail line into a linear park from Broad Brook Center all the way to the state line. Along the way, we saw several truly hazardous instances of dilapidation that would make renewed use of the line for freight unrealistic. Thank you to our colleagues from Enfield for joining us!

On September 29th, I joined Matt Hart, the executive director of the Capitol Region Council of Governments, for a conversation with House Majority Leader Jason Rojas about ways of strengthening regionalism in the area and empowering municipalities to address critical workforce shortages. Rep.

Rojas has been a great collaborator over the years, and we look forward to continuing to work with him in the next session.

That same night, Denise Menard was honored as the East Windsor Rotary Club's final Citizen of the Year. Denise is an excellent choice to earn this year's recognition. She's dedicated many years of service to our community, and we thank her for that.

On September 30th, I was happy to join Rep. Carol Hall and business leaders from our town to welcome Soapy Noble at their Grand Opening. The business owner, Mike Frisbee, is truly visionary and has a statewide reputation as someone good to do business with. We wish him and his (now!) companies much success in our community.

The Town is getting ready for this year's energy season. Anyone interested can contact East Windsor Social Services to schedule an appointment. The program is designed to assist low-income households heat their homes during the cold weather months. Certain income guidelines apply based on the number of people living in each home above 18 years of age.

Community Services and East Windsor Community Wellness Association are teaming up with the Five Corner Cupboard to provide income and asset qualified families the opportunity to receive a holiday turkey or ham and a gift card. Sign up forms can be found at Community Services at 25 School Street, or on the Town website. The deadline for signing up for Thanksgiving is tomorrow.

Mark your calendars for this year's Haunted Highway at East Windsor Park. That event will be on October 27th from 5-7pm. Any East Windsor families who want to participate are welcomed to attend and drive through the venue. There will be lots of spirited booths handing out candy.

And staying on the Halloween theme, our annual Scarecrow contest is right around the corner. The contest is open to individuals, families, groups, organizations, and businesses. This year's theme is participant's choice, so let your imaginations take control! To register your scarecrow idea, please call Parks and Recreation at 860-627-6662. Scarecrows can be set up between October 15th and 18th and taken down by November 9th.

And finally, just a reminder that the Town is running our Small Business Passport Program. We have twenty participating small businesses, and the purpose of the program is to encourage people to buy local. Passports are available at any participating location, or at the Town Hall. A full list of participants can be found on the Town website.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza
First Selectman

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN – 10/6/2022 – ATTACHMENT B

Selectman Nordell's report 10/6/2022

On September 21st I attended the Board of Finance Meeting

Year end Financials are complete \$298000 is being returned to the general fund putting us back to our 20% cap.

The tax Collector is reporting 53% of taxes have been collected. The town audit will start on October 11th.

The BOE is expecting a \$220,000 return from fiscal year 21-22. The BOE has filled all their business office positions. Unexpected and unbudgeted Special ed placement for 3 special ed out placements are expected to cost this year's schools budget \$350,00.00. This is a prime example of how the schools budget can fluctuate without enough notice to budget for the expense.

Board of Education reporting a more normal school year. Sign language has been added as a curriculum to world language courses. Teacher conferences will happen in person this year, Oct 5-7.

On September 22nd I attended the Town Meeting to discuss and vote on amending the Ordinance establishing the East Windsor Police Commission. I was pleased to see so many people participating in our local form of government and exercising their rights to speak and vote on the matter.

On September 26th I attended the Board of Selectmen's meeting in conjunction with members of the Enfield Town Council and Representative Carol Hall to walk the Armory Rail Line. A collaborative effort is working on the viability of creating a rails to trail on this right of way that would extend from Broadbrook to the existing Redstone Trailway in East Longmeadow. Sarah Muska, a few others and myself walked the 1.5 mile trail later that week. Though this trail is short it is well equipped with benches, lighted crosswalks, signs, many trash cans and great parking lots. There is even a nice coffee shop at the north end of the trail. Creating this trail would be a great addition to East Windsors recreational activities.

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On September 28th I attended the Board of Education meeting. Asst. Principal Mr. Ryan gave a presentation on how the Broad Brook Elementary school is working on improving literacy skills. They used a variety of programs recommended from an outside consultant. Heggerty, Foundations and other programs help with pronunciation, hand writing, phonics and language arts fundamentals.

The Board of Education deals with handling 5 union contracts all of which are currently in negotiations. The Board all split up into teams of 3-4 people to help get through those upcoming negotiation meetings.

Dr. Tudryn discussed the purpose of how to use the 2% fund. He was seeking advice as to how the Board wants to handle setting goals for the 2% fund and how it will be handled. They will ultimately be discussing this with the Board of Finance as well.

The Board voted on adopting a new policy on Mandated Reporting: Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault. This policy originated from the state mandated practices and statute.

On October 4th I attended a Connecticut Water Company meeting.

Ct water is continuing the low income household water and wastewater assistance program. 4.9 million dollars have been budgeted by the state. However, that number has to cover all the utility assistance programs in the state so filing ASAP is crucial. The deadline will be May 31st.

CT water also has other assistance programs for customers who have difficulties paying their bills. Monthly payment plans and other assistance programs are available and you can get information by calling their customer service number. Through CT water Community Giving Program, WHP Library and the EW Veterans commission were in town recipients of sponsored funding.

CT water is reporting supply chain issues when planning and completing projects. Electrical equipment and pipe have been the major supply issue factors affecting current and future projects.

The Hunt Water Treatment facility in East Windsor is still under construction but on track for its completion date.

East Windsor is still in a moderate drought situation so CT water is still encouraging customers to use water wisely.

A new Law 22-58 went into effect 10-1. That law states Any Commercial Well testing lab must report findings to DPH and local health departments. This will

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also have to be done when a new well is dug or a real estate is sold that has a working private well.

CT trolley is still conducting their annual Pumpkin Patch and rails to the Darkside events.

The East Windsor Small Business Passport program is already halfway to the deadline so keep collecting those stickers and support East Windsor businesses.

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN – 10/6/2022 – ATTACHMENT C

Selectmen's Report - October 6, 2022

On September 26, 2022 I was proud to join the Board of Selectmen, Enfield Town Council and State Representative Carol Hall on a tour of the railroad tracks from Town Hall to the Melrose section of Town. The potential is there to make this a beautiful trail/bike path for the community to enjoy and I am fully supportive of the idea and look forward to being part of the process and steps forward. Selectman Nordell and I also walked the East Longmeadow portion of the trail; the Redstone Rail Trail. The paved trail was established in 2010 and is well maintained with many beautiful benches, signs and garbage cans throughout the 1.5 mile stretch.

On September 29, 2022 I attended the East Windsor Rotary Club's Citizen of the Year Dinner at The Nutmeg honoring Denise Menard. This recognition for Denise was well deserved, as she has given countless hours of service to our community and you could definitely tell the impact she has had on so many by the turnout of people there to celebrate her that night!

On October 4, 2022 I attended the Economic Development Commission's meeting. Members expressed the need for recruiting new people to become involved to serve on their board and other boards and commissions with vacancies. If you are interested in serving, please fill out an application and submit it to the First Selectman's Office.

After such a great turnout at the Meet and Greet held at Town Hall a few months ago, the Commission is planning to host two business events at Town Hall next year; one in the Spring focusing on welcoming new businesses and celebrating expanded businesses in Town and one in the Fall honoring beautified businesses. More information and details will follow in the coming months.

James Richards was re-elected Chairman and the Commission approved their portion of the Annual Report.

East Windsor Social Services, East Windsor Community Wellness and the Five Corner Cupboard are working together again this year to provide holiday baskets to eligible families. The deadline to sign up for Thanksgiving is tomorrow, October 7th and the deadline for Christmas is November 11th. Forms can be

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obtained at the Socials Services Office at 25 School Street or at the Five Corner Cupboard at 124 Scantic Road.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and Domestic Violence Awareness Month, two causes that are very near and dear to my heart, and these are causes that affect many of our loved ones. Let's use this month to celebrate a survivor, raise awareness or offer help to someone who may need it. There are resources available and people out there who care.

Submitted With Sincerity,

Sarah A. Muska

Selectman, Town of East Windsor

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