

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

***REGULAR MEETING***  
***Thursday, September 21, 2023***  
***7:00 p.m.***

***THIS MEETING  
IS BEING HELD IN-PERSON  
In the John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room  
Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016***

***AND***

***REMOTELY via ZOOM Teleconference***  
**Meeting ID: 332 683 3563**  
**Passcode: townhall**

***DRAFT MEETING MINUTES***  
***\*\*\*\*\*Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting\*\*\*\*\****

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

**ATTENDANCE:** First Selectman Bowsza hosted the in-person meeting. Deputy Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska and Selectman Nordell were present at the in-person meeting.

**ABSENT:** All members of the Board of Selectmen were present this evening.

**GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person:** First Selectman Bowsza hosted the meeting. Ruth Calabrese, **Planning Director**; Amy Lam, **Town Clerk**. **PUBLIC:** Paul Anderson, Louis Reale, Keith Yagaloff, Wayne Shary.

**GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to meeting remotely:** Noreen Farmer; Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary.

**1. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:**

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First Selectman Bowsza called the September 21, 2023 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, CT 06016.

The meeting is being offered remotely as well.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**3. ATTENDANCE:**

See Attendance noted at the beginning of the meeting.

First Selectman Bowsza requested the addition of Agenda item 8F – **(NEW BUSINESS)** - F. FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 3 Memorandum of Agreement Town of East Windsor (due September 20, 2023).

**MOTION: To ADD Agenda item 8F – (NEW BUSINESS) - F. FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 3 Memorandum of Agreement Town of East Windsor**

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

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

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**A. September 7, 2023 Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting:**

First Selectman Bowsza requested a review, and motion, regarding the Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of September 7, 2023.

**MOTION: To ACCEPT the Minutes of the Board of Selectmen's September 7, 2023 Regular Meeting as presented.**

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

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

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**5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted the first opportunity for anyone present in the in-person audience to offer comments or questions on items not listed on the Board's Agenda.

**Louis Reale, 414 Canyon Ridge Drive:** Mr. Reale reported he would like to address a couple of safety issues related to the apartments at Canyon Ridge. He has seen several incidents of close calls for people trying to make the left turn into the apartment complex, with motorists speeding past him. He noted the speed limit is 35 miles per hour, and people have to slow down to turn into the apartments but no one is paying attention to the speed limit. Mr. Reale noted people speed past people trying to turn into the apartments, and tailgate residents as they try to turn into the complex. Mr. Reale reported the reason he's at this meeting is to report recent incidents of people passing in the left lane, which would cause a head-on collision at the driveway. Mr. Reale questioned if the State could add a sign prior to the driveway, maybe at Revay's (Gardens), noting this is a congested area and for people to slow down.

Mr. Reale also noted the sightline at the intersection of Yosky Road is a problem. The grass should be cut more frequently, or ground-cover planted in place of the grass. And, if you're exiting Yosky Road looking right if the State could cut back the grass, or some of the treeline it would give people a little more time to react to the traffic. Mr. Reale also noted people shouldn't be able to put up political and other signs at the intersection.

Mr. Reale also wanted to thank the Park and Recreation Department for a great concert series this year. It's a beautiful facility which is safe and clean, the Town did a good job with the facility.

Mr. Reale also wanted to thank "Tom" and his staff at the Broad Brook Opera House for running good programs. People from all over the state are talking about the performances. Whatever the Town can do to support them we should do.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street, Broad Brook:** Mr. Anderson advised First Selectman Bowsza that he sent him a copy of the letter he received from the Connecticut Water Company regarding the completion date of the work on Main Street in Broad Brook. Mr. Anderson noted the deadline listed in the letter (September 15<sup>th</sup>) has gone by. Information on their website lists September 15<sup>th</sup> as well. First Selectman Bowsza advised Mr. Anderson that he had been with

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representatives of the Connecticut Water Company yesterday and no comments had been made. Mr. Anderson acknowledged they had a lot of work to do but they should be able to give the Town a completion date.

**Wayne Shary, Depot Street:** Mr. Shary advised the Board he's heard reports of bear sitings at Mill Pond Village, and elsewhere in town.

**Keith Yagaloff, 125 Depot Street:** Mr. Yagaloff opened discussion by thanking Mr. Reale for coming in to report the sightline issues because that's going to save lives.

Mr. Yagaloff reported that he also has a problem with Town vehicles and Town equipment being sold to Town employees, at below market value or for little to no value; Mr. Yagaloff feels this is unethical. Mr. Yagaloff noted he's not talking about the Police Vehicles, which aren't that old but have high mileage. Mr. Yagaloff suggested in the past those vehicles were used by Town employees to do inspections. Mr. Yagaloff suggested the last vehicle was sold on Facebook yesterday, but people don't a chance to inspect them before buying them. Mr. Yagaloff noted he also understands a lawn mower was sold to a Town employee for \$500.00. Mr. Yagaloff felt the Board should put a stop to those sales.

First Selectman Bowsza called for additional comments from the audience; no one else requested to comment.

First Selectman Bowsza then offered the remote participants the same opportunity to offer comments or raise questions on items not listed on the Board's Agenda.

**Noreen Farmer, 247 South Water Street:** Ms. Farmer noted there is a large DOT sign at the end of South Water Street, which doesn't describe what work will be done. Ms. Farmer called the Planning Office, the Zoning Enforcement Officer visited the site and contacted DOT but got no response either. Ms. Farmer questioned if a project was proposed for Bridge Street? The sign is on the corner of North Water Street and Bridge Street going into Windsor Locks. First Selectman Bowsza suggested he'll look into the issue. A resident speaking from the in-person audience suggested maybe the sign is related to a DOT project in Windsor Locks and they're alerting East Windsor drivers to possible traffic delays.

**6. COMMUNICATIONS:**

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A. Letter to Connecticut Siting Council regarding Petition 1572, East Windsor Solar Two:

First Selectman Bowsza noted a Hearing was recently held by the Siting Council, his testimony at the Evidentiary Hearing is included. First Selectman Bowsza reported he was not allowed to participate as a member of the public at the hearing.

B. Notice of Town of East Windsor Designation as a Connecticut Development Association (CEDAS) – Silver Certified Community:

First Selectman Bowsza acknowledged the work of Planning Director Calabrese and Planning Consultant D'Amato for their work contributing to East Windsor being designated a Silver Certified Community by the Community Economic Development Association (CEDAS). The recognition was made to acknowledge our organizational capacity and strategy working between departments related to communications which have been implemented between the Town, its employees, and the community, and policies and programming administered by the Planning and Zoning Commission to streamline the permitting process. First Selectman Bowsza noted there will be an awards ceremony held on October 17<sup>th</sup> to acknowledge the award.

7. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resignation: None

B. Reappointments:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the members of the various boards and/or commissions have acknowledged their willingness to be reappointed, he called for motions for the following reappointments.

1. **Blaine Simpkins, Sr. (R), Parks and Recreation Commission, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028:**

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**MOTION:** To REAPPOINT Blaine Simpkins, Sr., (R) to the Parks and Recreation Commission as a regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

2. James Richards (R), Water Pollution Control Authority, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028:

**MOTION:** To REAPPOINT Jim Richards (R), to the Water Pollution Control Authority, as a regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

3. Anne Gobin (D), Planning and Zoning Commission, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2027:

**MOTION:** To REAPPOINT Anne Gobin (D), as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring October 1, 2027.

Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

4. Stacey McKenna (D), Planning and Zoning Commission, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2027:

**MOTION:** To REAPPOINT Stacy McKenna (D) as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring October 1, 2027.

DeSousa moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

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5. **Alexandra Bowsza (D), Housing Authority, regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028:**

First Selectman Bowsza advised the Board the next appointment is for his wife as a member of the Housing Authority. He recused himself and left the John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room during the appointment process.

**MOTION: To REAPPOINT Alexandra Bowsza (D) to the Housing Authority as a regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2028.**

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

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

First Selectman Bowsza was called back into the John Daly, Jr.... Meeting Room.

- C. **New Appointments: None**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. **Discuss and Approve East Windsor Greater Together Grant Fiscal Sponsorship (American Legion Post 40 in Warehouse point):**

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Town has been asked to be the Fiscal Sponsor for the American Legion Post 40 in Warehouse Point as they apply for a grant through the Hartford Foundation Greater Together Grant Program. He noted the Town has been the Fiscal Sponsor for other groups in Town, he requested comments from the Board. Hearing no requests for discussion, First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion.

**MOTION: To APPROVE the East Windsor Greater Together Grant Fiscal Sponsorship for the American Legion Post 40 in Warehouse Point for their 2023 Grant application.**

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

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

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**B. Discussion of Ricoh Statement of Work (SOW) for Planning Document Scanning to Include Ruth Calabrese:**

Planning Director Calabrese joined the Board. She noted that last year the Planning Department started a program to scan thousands of documents in the Planning Department. They would like to continue the project this year by scanning mylars stored at the Town Hall Annex. The project would include scanning the documents, including indexing and record retention for ease of retrieval by the public. Planning Director Calabrese noted the contraction conditions are the same as last year, the cost is \$16,696.69.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted that the proposed cost is an estimated cost, what if taxes or some other charge were added to the contract. First Selectman Bowsza clarified that the Town would be tax exempt for the project. Planning Director Calabrese felt the contract stated the anticipated costs.

Selectman Baker questioned that the first round went well? Planning Director Calabrese replied in the affirmative, noting the scope of the project includes an external hard drive which is stored in the vault while the information is provided on the shared drive.

First Selectman Bowsza called for additional comments, or a motion.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the Ricoh Statement of Work CPQ-105 854 BT East Windsor 9-20-2023 Version One for the additional records.**

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

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

**C. Discuss Acceptance of Letter of Intent from Sandra Pearson Pertaining to South Road Conveyance and Forward to Town Meeting:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted that the Town has received a Letter of Acceptance from one more resident of the South Road complex regarding



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the reunification of homes with the underlying ground for the subdivided properties. This resident has provided her Letter of Intent to the Board, which requires the signature of the First Selectman, and subsequent referral to Town Meeting. There are 4 more residents at South Road who have been contacted regarding their parcels, one of the four has never responded to the Town's communications.

Selectman Baker questioned if the 8-24 Referral has been done? First Selectman Bowsza responded in the positive.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the Letter of Intent from Sandra Pearson pertaining to the South Road conveyance, and forward to Town Meeting.**

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

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

**D. Discuss and Approve Historic Documents Preservation Program application for Town Clerk to Include Amy Lam:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted that Town Clerk Amy Lam has applied for a grant through the State Library to continue digitalizing the preservation of Town documents and records under the Historic Documents Preservation Program. The application requires the signature of the First Selectman.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign Historic Documents Preservation Program grant application.**

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

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

**E. Tax Refunds:**

**MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$2,196.12.**

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

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

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**(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

**F. FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 3  
Memorandum of Agreement Town of East Windsor (due September  
20, 2023):**

First Selectman Bowsza noted that the Town is applying for a grant provided to work with the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection for Homeland Security, which provides funding to Towns which participate in the CROG region for the purposes of regional collaboration, enhancing intelligence sharing information and cooperation of Federal Agencies addressing emerging threats and emergency medical response systems, enhancing cyber security, combating domestic abuse extremism, enhancing election security, and enhancing community preparedness and awareness.

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Grant requires the signature of the First Selectman on a Memorandum of Agreement, and passage of a RESOLUTION. Noting the grant submission date must be submitted by October 1, 2023, he called for comments either regarding the grant submission, or the RESOLUTION. The Board made the following motions.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the FFY 2022 State Homeland Security Grant Program Region 3 Memorandum of Agreement checklist.**

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

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

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZING the following RESOLUTION:**

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**CERTIFICATION:**

**RESOLVED, that the Town of East Windsor may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and**

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**Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate; and  
FURTHER RESOLVED, that Jason E. Bowsza, as First Selectman of the Town of East Windsor, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and to do and perform all acts and things which he deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.  
I move the forgoing RESOLUTION.**

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

**9. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**

**A. Jason Bowsza:**

**(See Attachment)**

**B. Marie DeSousa:**

Deputy Selectman DeSousa indicated she didn't have anything to report other than the Housing Authority was supposed to meet last night but the meeting was cancelled for the Summer, maybe they'll start meeting again next month.

The Police Department had a Special Meeting the other day, with an Executive Session to review candidates openings so I didn't attend that meeting.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa indicated that was all she had to report.

**C. Sarah Muska:**

**(See Attachment)**

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**D. Charlie Nordell:**

On September 11<sup>th</sup> Warehouse Point Fire held their monthly meeting. The only thing of significance to report is they reported they had 55 incidents last month, and the Fire Marshal's Department completed 27 inspections.

On September 13<sup>th</sup> Selectman Nordell reported he attended the Board of Education Meeting. First Selectman Bowsza already mentioned the awards given to the five girls who donated their money accumulated over the Summer. In that meeting it was announced that Micelle Wiley was awarded Teacher of the Year, she currently teaches at the Broad Brook Elementary School. She gave a nice presentation that was very touching, and explained what she has to do when she competes on the State level as well. Then the Broad Brook Elementary Principals did a small introduction of what's being presented that's new in school this year. They're doing the Dare Program for this future year, and they're also starting an Elementary School band, which is significant because they're getting kids used to musical instruments and even help getting them musical instruments to use, whether they're used or new or even borrowed from other school people who don't use them anymore.

As far as upcoming events, Selectman Nordell noted there's the pig roast at the Warehouse Point Fire Department on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Selectman Nordell indicated that he believed that September 30<sup>th</sup> is also Bulk Waste drop off on Shoham Road.

**E. Alan Baker:**

Selectman Baker indicated he had one meeting, which was Planning and Zoning. It was 15 minutes long, and was strictly virtual, he was unable to get into the meeting.

**10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted this is the second opportunity for anyone present in the in-person audience to offer comments or questions on items not listed on the Board's Agenda.

**Keith Yagaloff:** Mr. Yagaloff noted he has comments regarding the playground at the Park. The original master plan for the playground had originally been approved across the street, and was then moved to the Reservoir. Mr. Yagaloff

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indicated he was fine with that as it offered the opportunity for people to enjoy the other amenities at the Park. Mr. Yagaloff noted one of the reasons given for the move was that it would increase the attendance fees, which he understands to be about \$12,000.00 a year.

Mr. Yagaloff noted the construction of the playground was funded through State money to provide inclusivity for everyone, whether they're handicapped or have a disability or whether they're poor or rich. Mr. Yagaloff felt the Town needs to reconfigure the cost of admission to the Park, he felt the Town shouldn't be charging admission to use a playground that was funded with State money, there's no reason to be charging people to go into that playground, or use other park amenities. Mr. Yagaloff agreed that people should be charged to use the swimming area because the Town has to pay for lifeguards but he felt the playground should be open for everyone to use for free.

**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** Mr. Anderson reported he heard a rumor that the Community Center bid package is out, is that true? First Selectman Bowsza replied in the negative, but noted it has been prepared. Mr. Anderson indicated he was satisfied with that response.

Mr. Anderson then noted he missed the deadline for naming the owl, he noted his name would have been "Whoooo".

**Louis Reale, 414 Canyon Ridge Drive:** Mr. Reale wanted to congratulate Chief Carl. When a cop enters a room he always wants to note his respect for that officer, and the men and women of his department. Mr. Reale noted he backs them 100%, you're doing the best you can, and it's troubling times. Thank you for all that you do. Chief Carl thanked Mr. Reale for his support.

First Selectman Bowsza then offered the remote participants the same opportunity to offer comments or raise questions on items not listed on the Board's Agenda.

**Noreen Farmer, 247 South Water Street:** Ms. Farmer reported she's excited that the playground got started, she noted the delay that was caused by some court issues was sad because the playground couldn't be there this Summer for people to use. Ms. Farmer is happy that that's coming to fruition.

Ms. Farmer also wanted to report that she attended an Arts and Culture Commission Meeting recently. It was one of the most enjoyable Commission meetings she attended in East Windsor. While some other Commission meetings

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can be acrimonious and boring Ms. Farmer enjoyed the Arts and Culture Meeting, and may attend it every month because it was so much fun. The ideas that flow out of their brains are remarkable, if people want to attend a fun meeting check theirs out.

11. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), Strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation, and C. G. S. Section 1-200 (6)(e), to include Chief Carl, Bob Leach, Tom Riordan, and Attorney Brian McCann:

**MOTION:** To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 7:51 p.m. Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), Strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation, and C. G. S. Section 1-200 (6)(e), to include Chief Carl, Bob Leach, Tom Riordan, and Attorney Brian McCann. Attending the Executive Session will be First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell, Chief Carl, Bob Leach, Tom Riordan, and Attorney Brian McCann.

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

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

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary signed out of the Meeting at 7:51 p.m.

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board exited the **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 9:00 p.m. No further actions were taken by the Board. First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion to **ADJOURN.**

13. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** To ADJOURN this Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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

**VOTE:** In Favor: Baker/Muska/DeSousa/Nordell  
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Respectfully submitted, -----  
Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- A. First Selectman Bowsza's Report
- B. Selectman Muska's Report
- C. First Selectman Bowsza's comment to the Connecticut Siting Council

Deputy Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, and Selectman Nordell's Report  
transcribed in the Meeting Minutes.

First Selectman's Report – September 21, 2023

I want to start off by congratulating Melissa Maltese on being recognized as the 2023 Outstanding Professional by the Connecticut Recreation and Parks Association. We all know that this is a long time coming, but to see Melissa recognized by her peers for her passion and dedication is wonderful to see. She will be presented with her award at a banquet to be held on November 21<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations Melissa, and keep up the great work.

I also want to recognize five students at Broad Brook Elementary School who spent time this summer operating a lemonade stand. On the first day of school, they presented Mrs. Foxx with their summer-long proceeds, a little more than \$250. The students asked that the money be donated towards books at the Broad Brook Elementary School library. Their thoughtfulness, entrepreneurship and generosity are truly appreciated.

I also want to acknowledge two staff members who will be leaving service to the Town of East Windsor in the next few days. Leo Szymanski, Jr. has been offered an opportunity to become a professional firefighter at Bradley Airport, a fantastic opportunity for him and his family. Luann McIntosh is retiring from the Town of East Windsor's Assessor's Office after many years, as of next Friday. We wish them both much happiness in their new adventures.

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, I was pleased to join the crowd for a ribbon-cutting event at Giroux Woodworking. A very supportive audience was on hand as this local favorite re-established themselves in new store space at Pasco's Common. As an interesting note, they are offering classes as well as product for sale. Classes are available for people of all ages.

Last Monday, tours of our schools continued, this time with Dr. Tudryn leading a group around the East Windsor Middle School. Participants included members of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance, Board of Education and Capital Planning Committee, as well as key Town staff. We will be touring the high school in the coming weeks. These tours are designed to coincide with the all-schools feasibility study that is taking place, which will position the Town to better plan for capital needs in our schools.

Site work is underway at East Windsor Park as we continue the installation of our new playground. Once completed, it will be more than 4,500 square feet. This is the first significant investment at that park in terms of playground equipment in many years, and we look forward to a new generation of kids in East Windsor enjoying that amenity for many years to come.

Also in the coming weeks, the fuel pump at the DPW garage will be replaced with newer, bigger pumps that will allow for expanded storage and quicker fueling. The one being replaced was end of life, and needed to be replaced.

Our annual Scarecrow Contest is coming up soon, with this year's theme being "East Windsor Strong" and whatever that means to you as the participant. Scarecrows can be put up in front of Town Hall beginning October 13<sup>th</sup>. Voting for your favorite submission will begin on October 18<sup>th</sup> on the Parks and Recreation Facebook page. For more information, please call parks and recreation at 860-627-6662.

We're looking for booth participants for this year's Haunted Highway event, which will be held on October 26<sup>th</sup> at East Windsor Park. This event has been wildly popular among kids and families that have



come through, but also among the booth participants. If you'd like to participate by hosting a booth this year, please reach out to Parks and Recreation at 860-627-6662.

Hard as it is to believe, the holidays are coming up fast. We are now accepting signups for holiday meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Thanksgiving turkeys will be given out on 11/15-11/16, and Christmas hams on 12/20-12/21. We will be asking for donations to support those offerings shortly. We also will be sending out sponsor-a-child letters in the coming weeks. For more information, you can contact Social Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason E. Bowsza  
First Selectman

## **ATTACHMENT B**

### **Selectman Muska's Report - September 21, 2023**

On September 11, 2023 I attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. The Summer activity calendar was well received by the community, as there were lots of activities for the youth to take part in all Summer long. As you all know, it was rainier than normal, so campers were moved to the Annex or Scout Hall when camp could not be held at East Windsor Park due to weather. There were eleven summer concerts and there were no issues with alcohol or clean up by attendees.

Park Director Melissa Maltese went over her CIP submissions with the commission. She stressed how it is often difficult to get quotes for projects because the likelihood of funding is slim. She also stated how she is trying to be proactive and look ahead, rather than wait until something breaks and needs to be repaired. This year's submissions include: Skate Park Equipment for the BMX Skate Park, Replacement of gazebos at Volunteer Park, East Windsor Park and Broad Brook Pond, playground upgrades and replacements, basketball court repairs at East Windsor Park, Osborn Park and Prospect Hill and concrete pads and park amenities at all town parks.

The weather has slowed down the work on the ADA-compliant playground, as the contractor has been delayed in making progress on another project here in town, which must be completed first. There were some paperwork issues at the state level for the Abbe Road lightening project and the job was tentatively to start on Monday.

Last weekend was kickoff weekend for East Windsor Soccer and there is a partnership in place with CT Titans Baseball who is using Osborn Field.

After school programs will be offered soon and they include: CPR Certification, Home Alone Safety and Babysitting.

This year's Scare Crow Contest theme is East Windsor Strong and the Haunted Highway will be held on October 26th.

On September 12, 2023 the Arts and Culture Committee met. The carved owl that will be displayed at the Scantic Trail in Melrose will be named Gaia - which means Goddess of Nature in Greek. Congratulations to Jenna Pomeroy who gave the winning name! She received an American Heritage River Commission and an Arts and Culture T-shirt for being selected.

The Arts and Culture Committee is collaborating with the Soccer Club and moving forward on a mural that will be on a kickboard at Osborn Field.

The group discussed possible projects for upcoming grant opportunities and future events including an upcycle contest.

The Committee is also sponsoring a Food Drive Fundraiser at East Windsor Park on Sunday, October 1st from 12:00PM-4:00PM at East Windsor Park. Please bring canned goods and non-perishable items as your entry fee to the event to benefit the 5 Corner Cupboard. There will be music from three local bands, artists and vendors. Noreen Farmer contributed a very generous donation to cover the Committee's insurance that day to hold the event. All in all, it was a very refreshing and positive meeting with lots of laughter and great collaboration from everyone in attendance!

I unfortunately missed the Veterans Commission meeting, but was informed that most of their discussion was focused on the upcoming road race on November 11th.

Submitted With Sincerity,

Sarah A. Muska, Selectman  
[smuska@eastwindsorct.com](mailto:smuska@eastwindsorct.com)



## **TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR**

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

September 6, 2023

Connecticut Siting Council  
c/o Melanie Bachman, Esq.  
Executive Director  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Petition 1572, East Windsor Solar Two

Honorable Members of the Connecticut Siting Council,

Please accept these written comments submitted by the Town of East Windsor pertaining to Petition 1572 – East Windsor Solar Two, LLC petition for a declaratory ruling.

As you may recall, the East Windsor Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission jointly submitted a letter to the Connecticut Siting Council (“the Council”) in September of 2021 stating the Town’s collective position on the continued subsumption of farmland to facilitate additional grid scale solar projects (attached). In that correspondence, the Town noted an abundance of already-sited projects consuming considerable farmland in a town that takes great pride in its agricultural heritage and feel. The Town also requested that no further grid-scale projects be approved on farmland or forestland within the community.

Several years ago, there was an effort to decentralize the siting of landfills and trash-to-energy facilities away from urban centers, citing environmental justice concerns around the adverse effects of those facilities in only a few municipalities. Now, the same phenomenon is happening, only this time to a small handful of rural municipalities being required to host renewable energy projects, against our will. This time, the voices crying out for relief are not coming from urban centers, but rather from small towns that have had enough.

Regrettably, another grid-scale project is now before the Council for your consideration. The Town asks that the comments submitted to the Siting Council in September of 2021 be considered.

In addition,, there are significant areas of concern with Petition 1572. While we recognize that local jurisdiction does not apply to the work of the Council, the Town asks that the Council consider the East Windsor Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). In that document, the Town clearly lays out that the “rural, village, agricultural and business character that define

East Windsor must be preserved to keep the Town an attractive place to live, work and play.”<sup>1</sup> The plan further says that “residential and village area development must be carefully guided to ensure compatibility with community character (*emphasis added*) and allow East Windsor to prepare for the impacts of future growth and age populations. Economic development must be retained and expanded to support the community with services, jobs, and taxes, while remaining sensitive to the community’s environment and quality of life (*emphasis added*)”<sup>2</sup>.

In light of the Town’s comments from September 2021, and the conditions established for the overall vision for East Windsor’s future in the POCD, there are legitimate concerns that Petition 1572 fails to consider the cumulative impact of these developments on the greater community. It is understood that grid-scale solar projects will result in a long-term loss of farmland and open space, and impact community character and streetscapes. In fact, the project as proposed would directly disrupt the Town’s scenic road loop<sup>3</sup>, affective viewsheds along that loop and the aesthetics of the historic village of Windsorville.

Beyond the clear conflicts between the project and the Town’s POCD, noise is a concern as well. The applicant was responsible for the development of East Windsor Solar One (Petition 1426) that has resulted in pervasive noise issues affecting abutting property owners. The Town submitted correspondence to the Council in December of 2020, March of 2021, and March of 2023 raising concerns about the impact of East Windsor Solar One on farmland and on abutting property owners. The upshot of those concerns is that noise remains a pervasive problem in a residential area, unmitigated, and consumption of farmland has presented a significant deterioration of the rural landscape. No meaningful mitigation factors were employed by the applicant to address the concerns of the Town, and Petition 1572 seeks to further compound these issues. In summary, the track record of the applicant’s work in the community is poor, and should be a heavily weighted factor in terms of any further petition approvals.

The Town has been working collaboratively with concerned citizens who have raised other, valid concerns regarding the siting of this project, including but not limited to further erosion of farmland, stormwater runoff, groundwater contamination, toxins, fire hazards, aesthetic degradation, and more.

Finally, according to the Citizen’s Guide to Siting Council Procedures document issued by the Connecticut Siting Council, the Council itself notes that your “jurisdiction is limited to hearing applications presented to it; *the Council has no planning function* (*emphasis added*). This puts a finer point on the need to consider local factors such as cumulative effect on host communities when siting grid-scale solar facilities. Municipalities do have planning functions, most obviously found in local Plans of Conservation and Development. While local jurisdiction concerning the approvals of these projects may not apply, the work done regularly to develop and implement these POCDs should be strongly considered by the Council when determining cumulative effect on host communities.

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<sup>1</sup> Town of East Windsor 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development, pg. 2

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

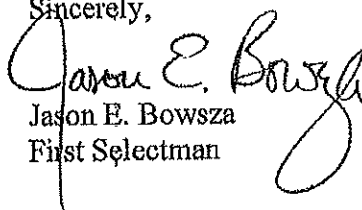
<sup>3</sup> POCD, page 22

Because of these factors, and others, the Town is requesting that the declaratory ruling for the process be denied and that the process for a full certification of environmental compatibility and public need be imposed. Furthermore, CGS §16-50p requires, as part of the certification process, that the Council consider "the environmental impact of the facility alone *and cumulatively* (*emphasis added*) with other existing facilities, including a specification of every significant adverse effect, including but not limited to, (i) electromagnetic fields that, whether alone or cumulatively with other effects, impact on, and conflict with the policies of the state concerning the natural environment, (ii) ecological balance, (iii) public health and safety, (iv) scenic, historic and recreational values, (v) agriculture, (vi) forests and parks, (vii) air and water purity, and (viii) fish, aquaculture and wildlife."<sup>4</sup>

The Town further restates our position of September 2021 – that we have done our part as citizens in Connecticut towards large-scale renewable energy projects, and that, especially when taken cumulatively, further siting of these projects in East Windsor is not warranted or appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of these concerns, submitted on behalf of the Town of East Windsor.

Sincerely,

  
Jason E. Bowsza  
First Selectman

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<sup>4</sup> Connecticut General Statute 16-50p(3)(B)

*BS 9/16/2021*

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR**  
FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSA

September 21, 2021

Melanie Bachman, Esq.  
Executive Director  
Connecticut Siting Council  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Dear Attorney Bachman,

Please accepted this letter as an affirmation of the perspective of the Town of East Windsor's Board of Selectmen and Planning and Zoning Commission pertaining to the future siting of grid-scale solar development projects in the Town of East Windsor.

The Town is aware of the state's efforts to achieve a goal of forty percent (40%) renewable energy sold in Connecticut by 2030<sup>1</sup>, and one hundred percent (100%) carbon neutrality by 2040<sup>2</sup>. We are also aware of the state's long-term goal to preserve one hundred and thirty thousand (130,000) acres of prime farmland. We support these goals, although we recognize that due to the nature of the parcels preferred by solar developers, they may well conflict with each other.

As you know, East Windsor will be the host community for the largest grid-scale solar development in New England once Gravel Pit Solar comes online in 2023. Based on information publicly available on the Connecticut Siting Council's website, East Windsor will be host to more than one hundred and thirty-eight (138) megawatts of generation. That equates to more than twenty-five percent (25%) of the total sited generation to date. East Windsor has certainly done our part to help reach the state's established goals.

We respectfully request that no further grid-scale projects be approved on farmland or forestland in the Town of East Windsor, and we believe that ample opportunity exists elsewhere to still meet our goals. We would support the siting of solar generation on rooftops, highway medians, or over-excavated gravel pits.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

*Jason E. Bowsza*  
Jason E. Bowsza  
First Selectman

*Anne G. Gobin*  
Anne Gobin  
Chair, Planning and Zoning Commission

Cc: Board of Selectmen  
Planning and Zoning Commission

<sup>1</sup> <https://portal.ct.gov/PURA/RPS/Renewable-Portfolio-Standards-Overview>

<sup>2</sup> <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-3.pdf>