

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

***SPECIAL MEETING  
Thursday, November 16, 2023  
6:00 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 joined First Selectman Bowsza in the John Daley, Jr. Meeting Room.

**ABSENT:** All members of the Board of Selectmen were present at the in-person meeting this evening.

**GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person:** First Selectman Bowsza hosted the meeting.  
**GUESTS:** Paul Anderson, James Barton, Noreen Farmer, Keith Yagaloff.

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

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

First Selectman Bowsza called the November 16, 2023 Special Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to Order at 6:03 p.m. in the John Daly, Jr. Meeting Room, Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT 06016. This Special meeting is in lieu of the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting previously scheduled for 7:00 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

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

**3. ATTENDANCE:**

See Attendance noted at the beginning of the meeting.

**4. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(b)m strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation (Watts Law Firm Matter); C.G.S. 1-200(a), discussion concerning performance of a public employee (First Selectman's performance); Discussion of Public Works labor contract:

First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion for the Board to go into **EXECUTIVE SESSION**, which will include the five Selectmen.

**MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 6:04 p.m. Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200(6)(b)m strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation (Watts Law Firm Matter); C.G.S. 1-200(a), discussion concerning performance of a public employee (First Selectman's performance); Discussion of Public Works labor contract. Attending the EXECUTIVE SESSION will be First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell.**

**Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION: Non-debatible  
VOTE: In Favor: Muska/Nordell/Baker/DeSousa  
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

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Recording of the meeting ceased during the **EXECUTIVE SESSION**.

The Recording Secretary ceased remote transcription.

The Selectmen ceased their **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 6:36 p.m.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

First Selectman Bowsza announced the availability of the Minutes listed below for consideration; he called for comments or revisions, or a motion of approval.

**A. October 11, 2023 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting:**

**MOTION: To accept the Minutes of the October 11, 2023 Board of Selectmens Special Meeting, as presented.**

**DeSousa moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION:** Selectman Muska requested that on **Page 5, Agenda Item 5B – (NEW BUSINESS) – Authorize an Offer Letter to Preferred Candidate for Deputy of Police** which says “First Selectman Bowsza reported that Chief Carl of the Police Department has selected a candidate for Deputy Chief”. Selectman Muska noted it was a Selection Committee that selected the candidate, it was the Chief that announced the selection. Selectman Muska requested that the correction be noted.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa AMENDED her motion; Selectman Baker agreed to the amendment.

**AMENDED MOTION:**

**To accept the Minutes of the October 11, 2023 Board of Selectmens Special Meeting, with the following amendment: Page 5, (NEW BUSINESS) Item 5B – Authorize an Offer Letter to Preferred Candidate for Deputy of Police – be revised to acknowledge: “First Selectman Bowsza reported that a Selection Committee for the candidates selected the Deputy Chief, Chief Carl announced the selected candidate.”**

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

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**B. October 19, 2023 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the October 19, 2023 Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting Minutes.

**Muska moved/Nordell seconded/DISCUSSION:** Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted on Page 6, under BOARD AND COMMISSION RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS, a comment was made by "First Selectman Bowsza that two applicants have applied for membership on the Building Committee", Deputy Selectman DeSousa requested that "membership" should be deleted and replaced with the word "applicant".

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the October 19, 2023 Board of Selectmen Minutes with the following amendment:  
Page 6, under BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATION AND APPOINTMENTS, New Appointments, "First Selectman Bowsza noted two applicants have applied for membership positions on the Building Committee."

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

**C. October 25, 2023 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting:**

**MOTION:** To APPROVE the October 25, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes.

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

**6. 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.

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**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street:** Mr. Anderson addressed Selectman Nordell, noting he was sorry, we're going to miss you. Selectman Nordell thanked Mr. Anderson for his comments.

**Keith Yagaloff, 125 Depot Street:** Mr. Yagaloff referenced **Agenda Item 9E under NEW BUSINESS.** Mr. Yagaloff wanted to draw the Commission's attention to the Charter, Section 4-1, regarding "the composition of the Board of Selectmen, the Deputy First Selectman, and the other three Selectmen", and Section 4-8 talks about "compensation for the Board of Selectmen, its employees, and appointed personnel shall receive such compensations as may be determined by the budget submitted to and adopted as the result of the approved annual budget." Mr. Yagaloff suggested that compensation for anybody on the Board of Selectmen needs to go through the budget process, public hearings, budget approval. Mr. Yagaloff suggested the Board of Selectmen does not have the authority to override the Statutes. Mr. Yagaloff suggested in the past this happened, but he wasn't aware that it happened, and he didn't say anything at the time. Mr. Yagaloff suggested if the Board was considering action on **Item 9E** you need to be aware of the Charter that requires it to go to the annual budget, and the public hearing process, and approval, and that hasn't happened for any change in compensation for anyone on the Board of Selectmen.

First Selectman Bowsza thanked Mr. Yagaloff for his comments.

First Selectman Bowsza called for additional comments from the in-person audience.

**James Barton, 108 Main Street, Warehouse Point:** Mr. Barton wanted to thank Selectman Nordell for the job he's done over the past four or five or six years, whatever it was. He's been an asset to the Board and he wanted to thank Selectman Nordell. Selectman Nordell thanked Mr. Barton for his comments.

**Noreen Farmer, 247 South Water Street:** Mrs. Farmer wanted to congratulate all of you who have been relected, it makes her feel very hopeful for our continuing movement forward for our community. Mrs. Farmer also wanted to thank Selectman Nordell for everything he's done, he's been a wonderful asset to the Board and should be proud of everything that you've accomplished, and you will be missed, but she's sure we'll bring you back in for some other stuff now that you have more time. Be proud of everything you've done, you deserve much appreciation for all you've done. Selectman Nordell thanked Mrs. Farmer for her comments.

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First Selectman Bowsza queried the in-person for anyone else who would like to comment; no one else requested to speak.

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; no requested to be acknowledged.

**7. COMMUNICATIONS:**

**A. Thank you card from Deputy Chief of Police, Benjamin Murphy:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted the receipt appointment of Deputy Chief Murphy, who is present with the Board this evening. First Selectman Bowsza shared the receipt of a thank you card from Deputy Chief of Police, Benjamin Murphy. He also noted that on Veterans Day morning at 6:00 a.m. both Chief Carl and Deputy Chief Murphy were at the Police Department making breakfast for the officers who were changing shifts. First Selectman Bowsza suggested if that wasn't a representation of the service these men intend to provide to their Department he didn't know what was.

**B. Recognition of Selectman Charlie Nordell:**

First Selectman Bowsza wanted to take a minute to recognize the service of Charlie Nordell as a Selectman over the past four years. He noted in participatory Government, particularly at the local level where important roles are almost entirely populated by volunteers, the highest hope that we can have of those who will make the decisions for us is that they will make those decisions with the very best of intentions at heart. Charlie Nordell has done that. He is a man who has been here for all of the right reasons, putting the community first, offering common sense approaches and solutions to complicated community issues. He has stood by his values, he has been a quiet leader, and sometimes a forceful leader, but his leadership has been rooted in his morals and his balance. He has been fair, he has been considerate, he has served with honor and distinction. His contributions to the Town are many, they are meaningful, and they will be long-lasting. Charlie, I am truly grateful for having had the opportunity to serve with you, sincerely. However you next choose to serve our town, and I am confident that you will, you will be successful, and you will have my support. Thank you for your service, and thank you for your friendship.

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Selectman Baker indicated he was going to put this in his Selectman's Report but I'll bring it up now. Selectman Baker indicated he would echo First Selectman Bowsza's comments, but he would like to say he didn't know Charlie when we all came together as a Board. We were on opposing parties, I didn't know anything about you, but I found you to be a person of honesty and integrity, and never afraid to give your opinion. And we debated a couple of times here and there and it was always respectful and I never felt like it was going to be anything other than that. I felt that we could be open and honest with each other, so I really do appreciate your service, and I consider you a friend now, and good luck in the future.

Selectman Muska indicated she was going to comment in her Selectman's Report as well, but it's been a honor to serve with Charlie. Selectman Muska indicated she knew Selectman Nordell made many sacrifices over the years with family time and he's put in a lot of hours here, and he will be missed on this Board, and she appreciates all that he's done for the community.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted that she didn't know Charlie at all until he was elected to the Board, and, as with any new Boards you sit on you worry about who you're going to be sitting with. Deputy Selectman DeSousa indicated she's been honored to sit beside Charlie in this current Board, and the way we work together. We made commitments when we both ran on various parties, saying that we were looking to unite the Board of Selectmen and the community together. You certainly made a major role in doing that. So, for that I want to say thank you. I want to say thank you for being someone who would speak your mind, whether you agreed with what I had to say or not what I had to say, and we were able to come to compromise. You are the epitome of what someone sitting on a Board should be, and you'll be a good role model moving forward for whoever wants to sit here. So, kudos, I wish you the best of luck, enjoy your free time, and when you get bored with your free time let us know, we'll find something for you to do.

Selectman Nordell thanked everyone for their comments.

First Selectman Bowsza then offered Selectman Nordell a small token of the Board's appreciation, which acknowledged that

***"The Town of East Windsor recognizes that Charles Nordell for your commitment, leadership, and your unselfish dedication to the Board of Selectmen and the Town of East Windsor. We thank you for your four years of service, your efforts, energy, and passion will always be with us."***

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*You have truly made a difference. Given on behalf of the entire Board of Selectmen of the Town of East Windsor, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2023.”*

Selectman Nordell thanked First Selectman Bowsza for the plaque, the audience stood and clapped in recognition of the appreciation of Selectman Nordell’s contribution to the community.

Selectman Nordell thanked everyone, and everyone who’s supported him over the years, it hasn’t been easy. Five years ago, when I used to sit in the audience like you, it’s tough to get through these meetings, they’re not fun, they’re not enjoyable, they’re not interesting. But I had to make a change in East Windsor and I decided to run for the Board, was elected, and it’s been an honor ever since. A lot of the things I wanted to see done, and get accomplished, were done. There’s still more, but I have faith in this group to see those through. Again, thanks to everyone who has supported me, especially to my family who’s put up with the last four years and not seen me. Thank you, everyone.

Members of the audience applauded Selectman Nordell.

**8. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:**

**A. Resignation:** None

**B. Reappointments:**

First Selectman Bowsza acknowledged the reappointment of Rick Webster to the Veterans Commission.

**1. Rick Webster (U), Veterans Commission, regular member for a term expiring December 1, 2027:**

**MOTION:** To REAPPOINT Rick Webster (U), to the Veterans Commission, regular member for a term expiring December 1, 2027.

**Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION:** Selectman Muska indicated she’s glad to see that Rick Webster wants to continue to serve as he takes a big role in the Veterans Road Race in November every year. She’s glad to see him continuing.

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

***2. New Appointments:***

First Selectman Bowsza acknowledged the appointment of Sarah Muska to the Youth Services Advisory Board for a regular member term expiring November 1, 2026.

- 1. Sarah Muska (R), Youth Services Advisory Board, regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2026:**

**MOTION: To APPOINT Sarah Muska (R), to the Youth Services Advisory Board as a regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2026.**

**Nordell moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION:** First Selectman Bowsza thanked Selectman Muska on her leadership on this issue, he understands this is a personal issue and he knows she'll do a great job.

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

**9. NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Discuss and possible action on the Settlement and Release Agreement between the Town and John Watts, dba Watts Law Firm:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted this is a legal issue that has been pending for the Town for longer than anyone now serving on the Board. The Board is currently considering a Settlement and Release Agreement which will permanently put this issue to bed. First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the Settlement and Release Agreement between the Town of East Windsor and John Watts, d/b/a Watts Law Firm.**

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

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

First Selectman Bowsza requested the motion also authorize him to sign the Settlement and Release Agreement.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the signature of the First Selectman on this Settlement and Release Agreement between the Town and John Watts, d/b/a Watts Law Firm.**

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

**B. Discuss Acceptance of Letter of Intent from Cheryl A. French Pertaining to South Road Conveyance and Forward to Town Meeting:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted the receipt of the Letter of Intent from Cheryl A. French regarding South Road. He noted this is the 14<sup>th</sup> of 15 letters of acceptance regarding South Road; he requested a motion of approval, and referral to Town Meeting.

**MOTION: To ACCEPT this Acceptance Letter from Cheryl A. French pertaining to South Road and forward to Town Meeting.**

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

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

**C. Discuss Letter from Lauraine Ross and Consider 8-24 Referral Regarding Vacant Property at Morris Road (Lot 017-67-009A):**

First Selectman Bowsza noted a property owner named Lauraine Ross is interested in acquiring a piece of Town owned property adjacent to her home on Morris Road, the property is on the corner of Windsorville, Wapping and Morris Road. First Selectman Bowsza noted that there was some tree damage which occurred on the property prior to this Board taking office. First Selectman Bowsza indicated the Board should vote on

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an 8-24 Referral, and the decision will ultimately return to this Board for approval. He noted this is keeping in the spirit of disposing of small pieces of Town-owned property which it has no use for to adjacent property owners.

Selectman Baker felt it was a great idea for the property owner; he has no problem with the recommendation.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa questioned if the documentation provided for the Board suggested that the property owner wanted the trees taken down? She questioned which comes first, conveying the property or taking the trees down? Selectman Baker indicated he interpreted the documentation to read that the person has cleaned up the trees that have fallen on her garage a number of years ago, and would rather own the property. First Selectman Bowsza suggested the property owner is putting the Town on notice that there may be a potential issue, she's not asking that we remove any trees.

**Lauraine Ross (adjacent property owner):** Speaking from the audience Ms. Ross indicated that at first she wanted the trees taken down, but then considered that the property is sitting there unused. Ms. Ross indicated she used to take care of it but her son lives there now. When they took care of the trees there was a lot of mess and a continuous problem with vines growing up on the trees, she's recently repaired the garage and doesn't want that to occur again. Ms. Ross indicated she'll continue to take care of the property once it's given to her.

**MOTION: To MAKE AN 8-24 REFERRAL for vacant property at Morris Road, Lot 017-67-009 to the Planning and Zoning Commission.**

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

**VOTE: In Favor: Baker/Muska/DeSousa/Nordell  
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- D. Discuss and possible action on Memo – BOS East Windsor Park Drainage & Revaluation CIP Transfer and act on recommendations of Finance Director:**

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First Selectman Bowsza noted the following recommendation from the Finance Director to fund two outstanding projects:

- With the property revaluations occurring the Finance Director is recommending a transfer of \$10,000.00 from the Capital Improvement Planning Committee unallocated line to cover the reassessment.
- Regarding a drainage project at East Windsor Park, the Finance Director is recommending a consideration for the transfer of funds from the Capital Improvement Planning Committee.

Deputy Director of the Public Works Department, Joe Sauerhoefer, joined the Board.

Deputy Director Sauerhoefer reviewed the work occurring at the (East Windsor Park) playground, noting that the concrete has already been poured, when that work has cured in a couple of weeks they'll install a rubber base. Included in the design work was the installation of a curtain drain to absorb the water so the concrete doesn't crack. During additional review of the work they found that the upper end of the area is very wet; because Skinner Road is higher than the Park everything from Skinner Road runs down into the Park. That water either sits on the grass, or during heavy rains it sheetflows across. The current drainage runs everything into catch basins which run into a water quality unit, which would send the water through the water quality unit and go into the brook across the road. They're proposing to run a curtain drain along the hill to pick up 75% to 90% of the sheetflow.

Selectman Nordell questioned what the project would entail, would it be something people would see, or would it be under the grass? Deputy Director Sauerhoefer indicated they're proposing to install a catch basin at the top of the hill and go across with a curtain drain which would be covered with stone. They'll put another catch basin near the shed at the playground to "make a 90" and come down and connect to the new drainage.

Deputy Director Sauerhoefer indicated he's already spoken to the Planning and Zoning Department regarding this work, only minor work is occurring within the Upland Review Area.

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First Selectman Bowsza suggested he's been advised that the Board of Selectmen have the authority to transfer these funds out of the CNR unallocated funds to cover this project.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa questioned if the stone would be a problem for the kids using the park? Deputy Director Sauerhoefer noted they'll use small crushed stone, and eventually the grass will grow over it. He noted that they've used this same method on Tromley Road, and Norton Road.

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

**MOTION: To APPROVE the transfer of \$10,000.00 from the unallocated CIP account 300354111-573900 to the Assessor's Reval 30054131-576005, and to MAKE A TRANSFER of \$30,000.00 from the unallocated CIP, same account, to the P&R drainage 30054503-574003.**

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

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

**E. Discussion and possible action on Performance of First Selectman:**

Deputy Selectman DeSousa took over the Chair of the meeting; First Selectman Bowsza vacated the Town Hall building, as this item of business affects him.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted the Board is considering Agenda Item E – the Performance of the First Selectman.

Selectman Baker noted that earlier the Board considered the performance of the First Selectman, he proposed the following motion.

**MOTION: That in line with the performance review over the First Selectman's last four years we'd like to give a merit increase of 3 ½%.**

**Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION:** Selectman Nordell noted the public participation comments made earlier regarding the Charter. Selectman Baker suggested the Board makes salary adjustments

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all the time, every Board of Selectmen does. Just as we did earlier tonight, we can move things around and make adjustments, whether we've done it mid-term as we've done many times, as so does other Boards. Selectman Nordell suggested the section of the Charter referenced was very short, and very vague, he read the following, "Members of the Board of Selectmen, its employees, and appointed personnel shall receive such compensation as may be determined by the budget submitted to and adopted as a result of the approved annual Town Budget." Selectman Nordell suggested that could be interpreted a number of different ways, as far as he was concerned, if the money is available, which it is. Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted that there have been budgeted increases for that position through the budget process. Selectman Baker noted the Board is not appropriating money that's not already in the budget; Deputy Selectman DeSousa and Selectman Nordell concurred.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa called for other comments; no one requested to be acknowledged. Deputy Selectman DeSousa called for a vote.

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

A member of the Board asked First Selectman Bowsza to return to the Town Hall meeting room. Deputy Selectman DeSousa relinquished the Chair to First Selectman Bowsza.

**F. Discussion and possible action on Tax Refunds:**

First Selectman Bowsza called for a motion to approve Tax Refunds.

**MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds in the amount of \$8,786.56.**

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

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

**10. SELECTMEN COMMENTS AND REPORTS:**

**A. Jason Bowsza:**

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First Selectman Bowsza wanted to offer a heartfelt thank you to the voters of East Windsor for their trust and confidence in me to serve for another four years as First Selectman. I am truly grateful. I also want to offer my congratulations to everyone who was elected on November 7<sup>th</sup>, Democrat and Republican. I hope you find the opportunity to serve the Town fruitful and rewarding, and I'm happy to offer any help that I can to anyone as you assume, or continue, your roles. All newly elected office holders will be sworn in at a ceremony to be held on November 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 p.m., right here, the swearing in will be performed by Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz. To everyone who ran for office but wasn't successful thank you for your willingness to put your name on the ballot and to volunteer your time. Everyone has something to offer, and there is a place for everyone to serve who wants to.

I want to take a moment to recognize the service of Charlie Nordell. Thank you very much, Charlie, you've been an important part of our team, and you're going to be missed.

As we look to the future, I also want to share that we had the official bid opening on the Community Center Project today. We received nine bids, eight of which were below our project funding approval amount which means we have eight qualified bids. We'll now be working with the USDA through their bid award process and the bid submissions and the USDA recommendations will be forwarded to the Building Committee. For anyone interested the low bidder on the project was \$3.65 million, the highest qualified bid was \$4.5 million. The approval was for \$4.72 million, and we have eight to choose from below that. Which is great, it's very exciting, that means the project is full steam ahead.

**B. Marie DeSousa:**

Deputy Selectman DeSousa reported the only meeting she attended since our last meeting was the Police Commission Meeting, and they just gave a review of their financials, so I don't have anything there really to discuss.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted she had already offered her good luck to Charlie.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa noted she'd like to make an appeal to everyone in the room today, the holiday seasons are coming, and if you've

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been on Facebook you've already seen that Melissa Maltese and her group are looking to sponsor, as they do every year, the children and at last count they are about fifteen sponsorships short, so if anyone has it in their ability to do something or is interested reach out to Melissa Maltese so those kids can have a good Christmas.

**C. Charlie Nordell:**

Selectman Nordell reported that on November 6<sup>th</sup> he attended the Warehouse Point Fire District meeting. The Department responded to 56 incidents during the month of October, and the Fire Marshal was absent, so we didn't get a report for inspections from him.

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, last night, I attended the Board of Finance meeting. Unfortunately, Jerilyn wasn't there so everyone could say goodbye to her for her last meeting, but her service will also be missed. Tax collections were announced to be on track for the year. The Board of Education was also stating the same, and Dr. Tudryn had a few announcements – that 20 plus of the local veterans participated in schools here across Town on Veterans Day for different activities and assemblies throughout. He said they've always done a great Veterans Day Program here and have always encouraged learning on Veterans and what it is that they've done for service for the Town and for the country as a whole. He also stated that over 20 Middle School students participated in this year's Veterans Day Road Race, which is pretty neat, that's pretty good.

And, lastly, Selectman Nordell thanked everyone who supported him over the years. I will miss sitting here with all of you. It's been a pleasure, and good luck to you all. I'm probably not going to go away but I'll probably be a little visible.

**D. Alan Baker:**

Selectman Baker reported that Monday night he went to the Broad Brook Fire Department Commissioners Meeting. They've had 720 calls so far this year, it's about 80 a month. They had two house fires this month alone. So, they've been pretty busy and steady throughout the year. They did spend some time correcting the Minutes, there was a discrepancy in the September Minutes, which we'll hear a little more about tonight, about the Seagraves, the cost of that went up a little bit. They were able to

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negotiate it back down a little but we'll be talking about approving that tonight. They're in the early stages of their Feasibility Study so we'll be hearing more about that over the next year or so.

Tuesday night I went to the Planning and Zoning Meeting. Probably the most important thing they did there that night was they approved a new Section 507 to the Warehouse Point Design District, which was the result of the Warehouse Point Study that went on over the last four or five years. I think it looks pretty good. They held it open for two meetings of this last go-round for public input and there really wasn't any input over the last four or five years, although they had a number of meetings. They did get input in the beginning how people wanted it, and that was incorporated into the final document. It looks pretty good. That's done.

They had a Public Hearing for the project up on 74 Newberry and 9 Craftsman Road, which I think I've talked about. That was continued to the next month, so at the next meeting they'll be taking that up.

And, also there was correspondence about a cell tower. I think people have probably heard about it but there's a cell tower being proposed next to the existing cell tower that's attached to a water tower on Chamberlain Road. That's in front of the Siting Council.

And, the POCD timeline was discussed, they didn't set any times but they're starting that process. So that will go on for the next year or so. So, we'll need to be watching that.

Selectman Baker noted he did stop by the Board of Finance last night, mainly to say goodbye and give my thanks to Jerilyn but she wasn't there. I'll have to catch up with her, but she served ten or twelve years on the Board of Finance, and she did an excellent job, and I do appreciate that.

And lastly, Selectman Baker wanted to thank the voters of East Windsor for re-electing me. I'm looking forward to seeing through some of the projects we have going and finishing them up in the next few years.

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**E. Sarah Muska:**

Selectman Muska reported she the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting on Monday was cancelled.

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Selectman Muska reported she attended the Arts and Culture Meeting on Tuesday evening. The Committee painted a “selfie” board for last Saturday’s Veterans Road Race. There was discussion of possibly adding a QR code or a little sign, so photographers can tag the Arts and Culture Facebook page and post their photos going forward. There are hopes to

collaborate again with the Veterans Commission on future projects. The Committee is collecting plastic bottle caps of all sizes for a future project. There are collection boxes in the hallway right here by the bench, the Town Hall Annex, and all three schools for those who wish to donate. Upcoming projects include creating a birdhouse which they’re getting a donation from Home Depot for the wood and birdhouses, which is great for people to decorate, and they might have a contest for that. Open “mic” night, artist’s demos, and Arts and Culture Day, which will be May 18, 2024; more info is to follow. This group continues to have positive energy and motivation, so there will be good things to come from them in the next year.

Thank you to the Board for appointing me to the Youth Services Advisory Board this evening. I am honored to serve in this role, and I look forward to working with many community stakeholders to ensure that there are resources and programs available to the youth in our community. Thank you to Police Chief Matt Carl for his countless hours of work to keep us functioning, and to Community Services Director Melissa Maltese for all that she does for families and children within our community.

Selectman Muska noted she would like to thank two dedicated public servants for the Town of East Windsor, both of whom she has the privilege to serve with. Jerilyn Corso, Chairman of the Board of Finance, and Selectman Charlie Nordell. Jerilyn has served on Boards and Commissions for over a decade, and Selectman Nordell has been an active and incredible asset to this Board over the last four years. Thank you both for the sacrifices that you’ve made to serve our community, taking time away from your families and putting other things to the side so you could attend meetings and events. Your countless hours of volunteerism have been appreciated, and you both will be missed. It’s been an honor serving with this Board over the last four years, and I’m proud of the accomplishments we’ve made together, and a sincere thank you to the voters for the opportunity for myself to serve for another two years.

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The East Windsor Police Union Stuff-a-Cruiser Toy Drive will be at Walmart on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Members of the Police Department and the Social Services Staff will be collecting new, unwrapped toys to benefit East Windsor families this holiday season.

And, on a personal note, in honor of our military, many of whom will not be home for the holidays, I will be “rucking”, which is walking with a weighted pack on Thanksgiving at midnight, 31 miles from East Granby to Manchester, to benefit the Fisher House Foundation. I will actually be rucking in honor of East Windsor’s own, Nick Macsata, who served in the Iraq War from 2005 and 2006. I’m a member of a fourteen-person team, and thank you to those who have supported me, and this incredible charity. It’s truly amazing to be part of something bigger than yourself, and to give back to those who have given so much to us.

And, I’m wishing you all a safe, happy, and healthy Thanksgiving.

**11. 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, 125 Depot Street:** Mr. Yagaloff noted that tonight the Board approved money to put a curtain drain at the Reservoir Park. Might I suggest that you get an engineering study before you spend more money putting in a curtain drain. I don’t if you recall we took out several hundred mature trees in exactly the area of the flooding, the area behind Skinner Road and down Reservoir Road. There was no engineering study to determine the impact of taking out hundreds of mature trees in exactly the area you’re getting the flooding and now you’re replacing all the water that was absorbed by the trees without flooding the park. So, instead of just paying for a curtain drain maybe we should get an engineering study. We have an \$800,000.00 playground in there, and a \$500,000.00 splash pad with a lot of infrastructure to protect. And, it should be done properly before we start digging it up. Especially for those neighbors around Skinner Road and Reservoir to try to do some kind of short-term solution. Let’s get it done properly.

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**Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street, Broad Brook:** Mr. Anderson reported the East Windsor Housing Authority is going to have an open to the public meeting at 5 o'clock, November 29<sup>th</sup>, at Park Hill on "How to run a meeting", and Freedom of Information, and anything else that people want to bring up. That's wide open to anyone who wishes to attend. Five o'clock, November 29<sup>th</sup>.

First Selectman Bowsza called for additional comments from the in-person audience; no one requested to speak.

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; no requested to be acknowledged.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** To ADJOURN this Meeting at 7:23 p.m.

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

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

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