

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

***REGULAR MEETING
Thursday, December 7, 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 First Selectman
Alan Baker, Selectman
Sarah Muska, Selectman
Keith Yagaloff, Selectman

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

ABSENT: All members of the Board of Selectmen were present at this evening's meeting.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person: First Selectman Bowsza hosted the meeting.

GUESTS: Westfield State Students and Professor Charles DeStefano; **Finance Director** Amy O'Toole; **Deputy Director of Public Works** Joe Sauerhoefer.

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GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to meeting remotely: Tom Lansner; Averie; Kelson Burke; Natasha Perales; Joanie Mirabelli, Rachel Gelino; Gail; Ehsan Azizi of Westfield University; Richard Tuller; K Bowsza; Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary.

1. TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

First Selectman Bowsza called the December 7, 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.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

3. ATTENDANCE:

See Attendance noted at the beginning of the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. November 16, 2023 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2023.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

B. November 21, 2023 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting:

MOTION: To APPROVE the Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2023.

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Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: Deputy First Selectman DeSousa noted a spelling error on page 2, under **NEW BUSINESS, Item 5**, election/appointment of Marie DeSousa as Deputy First Selectman

Selectman Muska and Selectman Baker accepted the AMENDMENT.

AMENDED MOTION: To APPROVE the Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2023 AS AMENDED.

VOTE: Muska/Baker/DeSousa/Yagaloff
(No one opposed/No abstentions)

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

6. COMMUNICATION:

Paul Anderson suggested that every department uses identical methods to store the data information.

7. BOARD AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. Resignation: None

B. Reappointments: None

C. New Appointments:

1. Courtney Kataja (D), Arts and Culture Committee, regular member for a term expiring October 2, 2024:

MOTION: To POSTPONE the appointment of Courtney Kataja to the Arts and Culture Committee as a regular member for a term expiring October 1, 2024.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded for discussion/DISCUSSION:

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Selectman Muska noted that the Arts and Culture Committee currently has all Democrats and Unaffiliated, with one vacant spot, and unfortunately it can't be a Democrat. I think that Courtney would be a wonderful addition to the Board but unfortunately there's one vacant spot and there's zero Republicans on there, so for minority representation purposes it cannot be a Democrat, which I don't necessarily agree with for this Committee because I think she'd be an excellent fit. That's the way it is currently. First Selectman Bowsza concurred. Selectman Yagaloff suggested if she converted to Unaffiliated, he thought she may be able to join if she did that. Minority representation doesn't require Republican, it just says you can't have a super majority of Democrats. So, maybe someone could reach out to her and tell her that would be an option if she wanted to at least think about that. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa indicated she didn't agree with that concept of majority representation, Selectman Muska indicated she didn't agree either.

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

First Selectman Bowsza requested a 5-minute RECESS at 7:35 p.m.

MOTION: To GO INTO RECESS at 7:35 p.m.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

First Selectman Bowsza RECONVENED the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Graduate Presentation from Westfield State Organizational Behavior Class:

No motion

B. Discussion of Fiscal Sponsorship of Agencies and Groups by the Town to include Amy O'Toole:

MOTION: That the Town of East Windsor serve as the fiscal sponsor for Park Hill for the Greater Together Grant.

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Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

C. Discussion and Approval of FY 24-25 Budget Letter and Calendar:

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 calendar.

DeSousa moved. Selectman Baker questioned if the Board had set meeting times? First Selectman Bowsza questioned the Board's ability to start budget meetings at 5:30 p.m., all members agreed to a 5:30 p.m. meeting starting time.

AMENDED MOTION: To ACCEPT the Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025 Budget Calendar, with meetings to begin at 5:30 p.m.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing further.

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

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Volunteer Organizations Serving the Town budget letter, excluding the second paragraph.

DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing further.

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

D. Discuss Boards and Commissions Liaison Assignments:

No motion

E. Discussion and Possible Ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement Between the Town and the Public Works Department: AND

F. Discussion and Potential Vote on Settlement of Catholic Cemeteries Association Tax Appeal

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MOTION: To TABLE Agenda Items 8E and 8F until after the Executive Session.

Muska moved/DeSousa moved/DISCUSSION: None

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

G Discuss and Vote on Resolution Setting Referendum Hours for Calendar Year 2024 Pursuant to C.G.S. 7.9(b):

MOTION: To FORWARD THE RESOLUTION for setting Referendum hours for calendar year 2024 – 2025 to Town Meeting pursuant to C.G.S. 7-9(b) to Town Meeting.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

H. Discuss and Vote on Resolution Authorizing the First Selectman and Treasurer to Borrow on Behalf of the Town:

MOTION: To FORWARD THE RESOLUTION authorizing the First Selectman and Treasurer to borrow on behalf of the Town to Town Meeting.

Muska moved/Baker moved/DISCUSSION: None

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

I. Discussion and Vote on Resolution Authorizing First Selectman to Enter into Agreement with the Connecticut Department of Transportation:

MOTION: To FORWARD THE RESOLUTION authorizing the First Selectman to enter into agreements with the Connecticut Department of Transportation to Town Meeting.

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Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

J. Establish Meeting Date for Annual Town Meeting:

MOTION: To SET THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING DATE for
December 28, 2023.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

K. Discussion and Potential Vote on the Recommendation of the Permanent Building Commission for the Bid Award for the Community Center Project:

MOTION: To ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE
PERMANENT BUILDING COMMITTEE as reviewed
by the USDA and authorize the First Selectman to sign
the contract.

Baker moved/Yagaloff seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

MOTION: To AUTHORIZE THE FIRST SELECTMAN to award
the final contract documentation and all the
documentation as necessary to commence work on the
Community Center Project.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

I, Tax Refunds:

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MOTION: To APPROVE Tax Refunds totaling \$2,637.43.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

- 10. EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), (Brian McCann, re: Windsor Show Stables, Catholic Cemeteries Tax Appeal Settlement, and Bob DeCrenscenzo: re: Solar Appeal (6)(e) discussion of any matters which would result in the disclosure of possible records, or the information contained therein described in subsection 1/210 - Action possible.

MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

Baker moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board has gone into EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:08 p.m; action will follow.

The Recording Secretary signed out of the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

First Selectman Bowsza reported the Board of Selectmen have exited the EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 10:00 p.m. He requested the Board consider **Agenda Item 8E – Discussion and possible ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and the Public Works Union.**

MOTION: To RATIFY the Agreement between the Town of East Windsor and a Local 1303-166 of Connecticut Council #4 AFSCME AFL CIO and AUTHORIZE THE SIGNATURE of the First Selectman.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

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MOTION: To POSTPONE Agenda Item 8F until our next meeting.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

11. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 10:01 p.m.

Muska moved/DeSousa seconded/DISCUSSION: None

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

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen
