

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

SPECIAL MEETING

Thursday, July 8, 2021

5:30 p.m.

(In-person meeting)

Town Hall Meeting Room

11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT. 06016

Meeting also available via remote ZOOM Teleconference

Meeting ID: 332 683 3563

Passcode: townhall

REVISED Meeting Minutes

**(Please note revision, Page 4, American Rescue Plan Grant
Application e-mail address – highlighted in yellow)**

***** These 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

Charlie Nordell, Selectman

ATTENDANCE: First Selectmen Bowsza hosted the in-person meeting. Also present in-person this evening were Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, and Selectman Muska; Selectman Nordell joined the Board remotely.

ABSENT: All Selectmen were present this evening.

GUESTS/SPEAKERS: George Krivda, Jr., Consultant, American Rescue Plan Program.

GUESTS signing in to teleconference: Paul Anderson.

TIME AND PLACE OF MEETING:

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Special Meeting –July 8, 2021

In-person and

ZOOM Teleconference

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REVISED MEETING MINUTES

(See page 4, American Rescue Plan e-mail address correction)

First Selectman Bowsza called the July 8, 2021 Special Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to Order at 5:33 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook, CT.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

ATTENDANCE:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board has established a quorum with five members present. As noted earlier, First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy First Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, and Selectman Muska were present in-person this evening; Selectman Nordell joined the Board remotely. First Selectman Bowsza noted this is a new provision allowed for the next two years under the Implementer Bill for municipalities to hold in-person meetings while providing remote accessibility to the public as well.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the opportunity for public participation. No one was present in person; no one signed in remotely requested to speak.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS:

A. **Resignations:** None.

B. **Reappointments:** None

C. **New Appointments:** None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

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

***B. Polling Location Change:**

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

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

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

D. American Rescue Plan Update:

First Selectman Bowsza turned discussion over to Mr. Krivda, consultant for the American Rescue Plan Grant Program

Mr. Krivda reported that since the inception of this funding there has been much discussion with Staff and First Selectman Bowsza regarding the evolution of the program and the language presented in the American Rescue Plan Application which cites the criteria for a grant request submission. Mr. Krivda suggested the intent is for these grants to be an economic multiplier to kick start recovery for small businesses, and to create a dynamic plan for the use of the money.

Mr. Krivda noted the Federal requirements now include a statement identifying the negative impact of COVID 19 on a business, and show how the grant addresses those needs. Mr. Krivda then reviewed East Windsor's current potential grant application, noting the following revisions with the Board:

Eligibility:

- Definition of a small business - Deleting requirement that the business had been in existence for 12 months prior to COVID's impact. (Definition of non-profit remains the same.)
- Requirement that an applicant must be in good standing regarding tax obligations has been removed.

Mr. Krivda indicated they will be available to work with the applicants to identify their losses and identify the impact of those losses on the business, and then determine how they propose to use the grant to address those losses.

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First Selectman Bowsza indicated he has reviewed the proposed revised grant application with the Town Attorney, who has determined the Town is working within the scope of the program. He noted the intent is to post the grant application on the Town's website tomorrow; Mr. Krivda reiterated he will work with applicants as necessary.

First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion to the Board.

Deputy First Selectman DeSousa referenced the deletion of the tax liability. She indicated that while she wants to assist businesses which have been hurt by the pandemic she didn't feel it was fair if someone was several years behind on taxes to benefit from the intent to assist businesses impacted by COVID. First Selectman Bowsza reported the deletion was made at the suggestion of Tax Collector Kratochvil, as she felt they Town had other options to deal with lengthy tax delinquencies. Selectman Baker suggested including language which reserves the right to seek additional information if necessary. Deputy First Selectman DeSousa indicated she agreed with Selectman Baker's suggestion.

First Selectman Bowsza reported that on Monday, July 12, 2021 Senator Blumenthal, Senator Anwar, and Representative John Larson will visit town to announce East Windsor's American Rescue Plan Program. An applicant will have four weeks – until August 9th – to submit an application under grantateastwindsor.com grants@eastwindsorct.com. The intent is to have most of the assistance funding out the door by Labor Day.

First Selectman Bowsza queried the Selectmen for additional discussion; no comments were raised. First Selectman Bowsza requested a motion approving the COVID 19 Eligibility Criteria as amended.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the COVID 19 eligibility criteria for the East Windsor American Rescue Plan Program as amended during discussion above.

**DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION: Nothing additional
VOTE by rollcall: In Favor: Muska/DeSousa/Baker/Nordell
(No one opposed/No Abstentions)**

(Please see Attachment A)

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First Selectman Bowsza and Mr. Krivda indicated they both feel good about this program. Mr. Krivda suggested people are ready to come out of hiding and spend money to help local businesses.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

First Selectman Bowsza noted the second opportunity for public participation. No one was present in person. The following remote participant requested to speak:

Paul Anderson, 89 Main Street, Broad Brook: Mr. Anderson wanted to thank everyone for pursuing this; he can't think of any better way we can do as a Town as something like this. Mr. Anderson indicated he knew this wasn't easy, but he thanked everyone very much.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

First Selectman Bowsza noted the Board will hold a Regular Meeting next Thursday, July 15, 2021, using the hybrid model.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 6:18 p.m.

Muska moved/Baker seconded/DISCUSSION: None.

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

Respectfully submitted


Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary, East Windsor Board of Selectmen

ATTACHMENTS:

A – EMERGENCY RELIEF AND STABILIZATION EFFORT (E.R.A.S.E) COVID-19
GRANT - Eligibility Criteria



TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

EMERGENCY RELIEF AND STABILIZATION EFFORT (E.R.A.S.E) COVID-19 GRANT

Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility

For the purposes of this Grant:

A small business is defined as employing not more than 100 employees and has operations in East Windsor, CT (Examples: a trade name on file with the State of Connecticut or appearance on the Town's Grand List.)

A non-profit entity is defined as an entity with an East Windsor address organized and operated for a collective, public or social benefit (non-profit status may be demonstrated by supplying the organizations CT-990 form or 501(c) incorporation documents.)

- The applicant must be in good standing with the Connecticut Secretary of the State in terms of business/non-profit filings.
- Non-profits must have proof of 501c status.

Application Requirements

- Documentation should be supplied supporting the number of employees before the pandemic and at the time of this application.
- Listing of all federal or state assistance applied for and/or received (i.e., PPP loans, etc.)
- If applicable, dates of closure due to the pandemic need to be provided.
- The applicant must provide a written statement that will identify a need or negative impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency to your organization or business and must identify how your grant request addresses the identified need or negative impact.

Grants will be awarded based upon funds available and the number of applications received for an amount up to and not to exceed \$10,000. All grant awards are subject to conformity with federal requirements.