

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

***SPECIAL MEETING***  
***Wednesday, October 11, 2023***  
***5:30 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 in attendance at this meeting.

**GUESTS/SPEAKERS in-person:** First Selectman Bowsza hosted the meeting. **Broad Brook Fire Department Members:** Tom Arcari, Chief, and Gerald (Jerry) Bancroft, Assistant Chief.

**GUESTS/SPEAKERS signing in to meeting remotely:** Heidi Alexander; Rich Tuller; Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary.

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

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First Selectman Bowsza called the October 11, 2023 Special Meeting of the East Windsor Board of Selectmen to Order at 5:30 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. 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. 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.

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

First Selectman Bowsza noted the two appointments listed below and requested motions from the Board.

A. **Resignation:** None

B. **Reappointments:** None

C. **New Appointments:**

1. **Jeffrey Ostrout** (U), Building Commission, regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2026:

**MOTION:** To **APPOINT Jeffrey Ostrout** (U), Building Commission, regular member for a term expiring November 1, 2026.

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First Selectman Bowsza indicated that if the Department re-starts the lease agreement, it will double the number of days for receipt of the truck from 450 to over 900 days, it will also require the lease to fall under new EPA emissions standards, which would increase the total value of the vehicle to around half a million dollars.

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First Selectman Bowsza indicated that after discussions with the Commission the smart move is to acquiesce to the change in terms and move forward versus taking the chance of the price being significantly higher than currently proposed.

First Selectman Bowsza opened discussion to the Board.

Selectman Baker questioned if there were any other cost overruns, Chief Arcari replied this was the first delay, which was probably attributed to COVID.

Deputy Selectman DeSousa recalled that previously the Board approved locking in the vehicle cost because we knew things would go up, she questioned why the manufacturer is now asking for additional costs. Chief Arcari and First Selectman Bowsza clarified the previous issue had been an increase in interest rates rather an increase in the principal cost. First Selectman Bowsza noted the issue now is the emission standards. Assistant Chief Bancroft suggested this issue is the manufacturer being able to build the truck for what they originally said they could.

Chief Arcari wanted to note that once the budget passed this year there is no additional cost to the taxpayer.

First Selectman Bowsza summarized that the funding is budgeted, the warranty would be extended/doubled, and we would avoid the EPA changes. Chief Arcari reviewed the EPA requirements.

Selectman Muska noted the letter regarding the increased cost of the vehicle was dated August 14<sup>th</sup>, and they had wanted communication to occur within 30 days, she questioned if communication with Seagraves occurred following that letter? Chief Arcari replied affirmatively, noting they had communicated via ZOOM. He indicated the discussions resulted in the reduced vehicle cost of \$130,000.00.

**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman and any other signatures for the amendment to order terms between Seagraves Fire Apparatus and the Broad Brook Fire Department.**

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

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

Discussion regarding the next step regarding this lease amendment. First Selectman Bowsza clarified that the request would be discussed at the next Board of Finance Meeting, and would then need to go to Town Meeting if approved.

Selectman Baker proposed an amendment to his motion, Selectman Muska agreed to the amendment.

**AMENDED MOTION:**

**To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman and all other signatures to sign the Amended Lease Agreement with Seagraves, and to send it to the Board of Finance and to Town Meeting.**

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

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

**B. Authorize an Offer Letter to Preferred Candidate for Deputy of Police:**

First Selectman Bowsza reported that Chief Carl, of the Police Department, has selected a candidate for the position of Deputy Chief of Police. Chief Carl indicated the new Deputy Chief is Ben Murphy, who has recently retired from the New Britain Police Department and would be bringing 20 plus years experience to East Windsor. Chief Carl reported he's known Mr. Murphy for a couple of years, they attended Southern Southern Police Command Development School, and they also attended the FBI National Academy in 2019, and attended Boston Executive Research forums through the Senior Management Institute. Chief Carl indicated Mr. Murphy fits exactly what he's looking for, he brings energy to the community and was heavily involved in community engagement in New Britain. Chief Carl indicated the Police Department hopes to have Deputy Chief Murphy on board in the next month.

Chief Carl requested First Selectman Bowsza to sign the conditional offer to Ben Murphy. First Selectman Bowsza suggested he felt Mr. Murphy will be a great assest to the Department and to their Leadership Team.

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**MOTION: To AUTHORIZE the First Selectman to sign the Engagement Letter between the Town of East Windsor and Benjamin Murphy.**

**DeSousa moved/Muska seconded/DISCUSSION:** Deputy Selectman DeSousa indicated that the process was a tough one. She noted that when Chief Carl commented that he knew the individual through his agreements they have between the towns. Having recently gone through the process of hiring another individual this year for a top position this process was one where everyone took their own individual notes and collectively agreed on the candidate.

Selectman Muska agreed, the Town had a great group of applicants, and thorough interviews, and everyone had their own tests that the Chief put together, and took our own notes, and talked at the end and agreed on a lot of things. Selectman Muska felt that Ben Murphy will be a great fit for the Department, and she looks forward to him following Chief Carl's leadership, she felt good things are to come for the East Windsor Police Department.

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

**C. Discuss Acceptance of Letter of Intent from Jennifer Hennessey pertaining to South Road Conveyance and Forward to Town Meeting:**

First Selectman Bowsza noted this item should not have appeared on this Agenda as the Letter of Intent with Jennifer Hennessey had been voted on at a previous Selectman's Meeting.

**7. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation:**

**MOTION: To GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION at 5:46 p.m. Pursuant to C.G.S. 1-200 (6)(b), strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation. Attending the Executive Session will be First Selectman Bowsza, Deputy Selectman DeSousa, Selectman Baker, Selectman Muska, and Selectman Nordell.**

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

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Recording Secretary signed out of the Meeting at 5:46 p.m.

First Selectman Bowsza noted no action will be taken after the **EXECUTIVE SESSION** this evening.

LET THE RECORD SHOW the Board exited the **EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 6:37 p.m.

**8. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 6:37 p.m.**

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

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