

STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

MELINDA M. FERRY
A. LEO MILLER, JR.
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, January 11, 2016
Town Hall – Meeting Hall

Minutes

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori L. Spielman, Melinda M. Ferry, A. Leo Miller, James M. Prichard, David E. Stavens, Ronald F. Stomberg, John W. Turner

OTHERS PRESENT: Rob Butler, Ellington Board of Education; Katie Corrado, Fox 61 News; Don Davis, Office of Emergency Management; Meg Devlin, Ellington Board of Education; Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr., Finance Officer/Treasurer; Aaron Foster; Ben Healey, CT Green Bank; Matthew Lontz, Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps; Aysha Mahmoud, The Journal Inquirer; Tom Maroney, Fox 61 News; Scott Nicol, Ellington Board of Education; Tim Schneider, Earthlight; Timothy Webb, Public Works Director/WPCA Administrator.

I. CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Spielman called the meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to order at 7:03 p.m.

II. CITIZENS' FORUM

Ms. Spielman introduced Joe Tarzi as the temporary Recording Secretary of the BOS. She noted that said appointment would free staff to work on the redesign of the Town of Ellington's Web site.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. December 14, 2015 Special Town Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE SPECIAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2015.

B. December 14, 2015 Board of Selectmen Meeting

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2015.

IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps Service Vehicle

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CALL A SPECIAL TOWN MEETING FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016 AT 7:00 PM AT THE ELLINGTON TOWN HALL TO APPROPRIATE \$75,000 TO THE CAPITAL AND NON-RECURRING FUND FROM THE 2015-2016 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE ELLINGTON VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORPS (EVAC) SERVICE VEHICLE. EVAC WILL REIMBURSE THE UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE \$55,000 FROM THE EVAC CHARGING FUND AND \$20,000 WILL BE REIMBURSED TO THE UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE FROM THE FIRE MARSHAL'S 2015-2016 OPERATING BUDGET.

Mr. Lontz noted that there were two bids for the provision of the EVAC service vehicle. Carter Chevrolet submitted a bid of \$42,653.80 with a program for free general maintenance. Scranton Motors submitted a bid of \$43,994.39 without a general maintenance offer.

Ms. Spielman asked if both vehicles had identical specifications. Mr. Lontz responded that they did have the same specifications.

Mr. Turner asked about other possible bids. Mr. Lontz noted that EVAC had reached out multiple times to Northwest Hills dealership in Torrington, CT but they did not submit a bid.

Mr. Turner asked if the vehicle was a Tahoe-type vehicle. Mr. Lontz responded in the affirmative specifying that it was a Chevrolet Suburban.

Mr. Miller asked if the figure quoted by Mr. Lontz would likely increase to \$75,000 after outfitting. Mr. Lontz estimated that the final cost of the vehicle with equipment would fall around \$65,000.

Mr. Stomberg asked if the equipment on the existing vehicle would be transferred to the Fire Marshal. Mr. Lontz said that everything except one radio would be transferred to the Fire Marshal. Ms. Spielman called this a win-win situation.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Tax Refunds/Abatements

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE TAX REFUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,413.73 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE TAX & REVENUE COLLECTOR AND AS SPECIFIED IN THE REFUNDS/ ABATEMENTS STATEMENT DATED JANUARY 2016. (ATTACHED)

B. Small Cities Grant Application Preparation/Program Administration for FY 2016

1. Award Contract

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE FY 2016 SMALL CITIES GRANT APPLICATION PREPARATION AND PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION TO COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES GROUP, INC., BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, AS SPECIFIED IN THE PROPOSAL AND CONTINGENT UPON THE GRANT BEING AWARDED.

Mr. Stavens asked if other bids were submitted. Mr. Miller spoke in favor of Community Opportunities Group Incorporated.

2. Set Public Hearing Date

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON MARCH 14, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE ELLINGTON TOWN HALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO COMMENT UPON AND DISCUSS THE FY 2016 SMALL CITIES GRANT APPLICATION.

C. 2016 Small Cities Grant Program

1. Designate the Environmental Certifying Officer

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO DESIGNATE LORI SPIELMAN, FIRST SELECTMAN, AS THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON'S ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFYING OFFICER.

2. Designate the Fair Housing Officer

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO DESIGNATE DORIS CRAYTON, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES, AS THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON'S FAIR HOUSING OFFICER.

3. Designate the ADA Coordinator

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO DESIGNATE MARY BARTLEY AS THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON'S ADA COORDINATOR.

4. Designate the Affirmative Action Compliance Officer

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO DESIGNATE LORI SPIELMAN, FIRST SELECTMAN, AS THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON'S AFFIRMATIVE ACTION COMPLIANCE OFFICER.

D. Set Public Hearing Date: Blight Ordinance

Mr. Turner expressed a desire to meet with the Zoning Department and the Building Department before soliciting public input so that the Ordinance Committee (Stomberg/Ferry/Turner) can speak from factual knowledge. He noted that the BOS is not yet ready for a motion. Mr. Stomberg agreed.

Mr. Miller encouraged the BOS to move forward with a Blight Ordinance so that something fruitful could arise from their discussions. Mr. Turner responded that the decision to move forward with a Blight Ordinance would depend on what the Ordinance Committee learns and what the public has to say about said ordinance.

E. Board of Education Solar Energy Project/Lease

1. Set Town Meeting Date

No Town Meeting date was set.

2. CGS 8-24 Referral to Planning & Zoning Commission

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO SEND THE ELLINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS SOLAR ENERGY PROJECT TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR A CGS 8-24 REVIEW.

Dr. Nicol began by estimating that the Solar Energy Project would save the Board of Education (BOE) approximately \$608,142 over the course of 20 years. He noted that the solar panels are leased but would be available for purchase by the Town of Ellington after eight years for about \$483,000. Dr. Nicol said that this project would install solar panels on Crystal Lake Elementary School, Center Elementary School, and Ellington Middle School and would fix the kilowatt hour (kWh) rate at 9.5 cents per kWh.

Dr. Nicol said that the BOE has entrusted this project to its Operations Committee. He noted that the Operations Committee performed due diligence on this project including taking solar panels off the table for Windermere Intermediate/Elementary School because of forthcoming roofing work and Ellington High School because of structural engineering issues at that site. He continued that the Operations Committee recommended the approval of this project to the BOE on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 and the BOE had not yet approved the project.

Dr. Nicol continued, as per the Town Attorney, that the role of the BOE in the Solar Energy Project is to purchase electricity through a purchasing agreement at a set rate. He said that the BOS needs to instruct the Planning and Zoning Commission to allow such an arrangement by January 25, 2016. The deadline is needed to lock-in the 9.5 cent per kWh rate. He noted that the BOS would need to set a Town Meeting.

According to Dr. Nicol, assuming approval by the Planning and Zoning Commission and the BOE, the next step, on February 8, 2016, would be for the BOS to set a Town Meeting. He said the Solar Energy Project would need to be approved by the Town Meeting by the end of February 2016 to keep the ZREC rate of 9.5 cents per kWh. He noted that he was speaking as Superintendent of Schools when he said that the Operations Committee feels very good about this project and the BOE is close to approval of the project.

Mr. Prichard asked what would happen if and when the roofs need to be shoveled of snow. Dr. Nicol responded that if the panels are damaged CT Green Bank would repair the panels since they have a vested interest in the panels working properly.

Mr. Miller asked who pays the bill for fixing the panels. Dr. Nicol responded that the CT Green Bank would pay said bill. Mr. Miller asked if the Town of Ellington was liable if it broke the panels. Dr. Nicol again responded that the CT Green Bank would pay to repair the panels except in the case of intentional damage. Mr. Schneider noted that snow removal would only be an issue at Ellington Middle School as the other schools have pitched roofs.

Mr. Turner asked what determines the number of panels installed. Mr. Schneider responded that the Solar Energy Project was limited based on the ZREC to 100 kilowatts.

Mr. Turner asked if conditions were made for snow drift. Mr. Schneider responded that his staff engineer says the sites are good even accounting for snow drift.

Mr. Turner asked if the roofs chosen are in need of replacement over the next 20 years. Mr. Schneider responded that the flat roof on the middle school may need replacement in 10 years and the cost to move the weighted, not fastened, panels would be approximately \$10,000.

Mr. Turner asked how the panels on the pitched roofs are anchored. Mr. Schneider responded that there were fastened with brackets and flashing that slide up under the shingle.

Mr. Miller asked if the concrete blocks holding down the panels on the flat roofs were going to be placed singly or bound together. Mr. Schneider noted that decision was up to the engineer.

Mr. Miller asked if the weighted panels could become projectiles in the event of a tornado. Dr. Nicol responded that the Town Attorney was looking into liabilities such as the aforementioned.

Mr. Miller asked for confirmation that the cost would be \$10,000 to remove the panels should the roofs need to be replaced. This figure was confirmed and Mr. Schneider noted that the panels would protect the roofs to a degree.

Mr. Stomberg asked how the Solar Energy Project could be certain that there would not be additional savings by waiting. Mr. Healy responded that the estimate is based on historical trends. He continued by stating the Solar Energy Project should not be thought of as a boon to the Town of Ellington's coffer but rather as a certainty about energy prices and a hedge against rising energy prices.

Mr. Stavens asked what the cost to the Town of Ellington would be for the Solar Energy Project. Mr. Healy responded that there would be no up-front cost and positive cash-flow from day one. Mr. Stavens asked if this condition would eliminate the bidding process. Dr. Nicol responded that the BOE isn't actually buying the panels but rather locking in a rate so the normal bidding process doesn't apply in this case.

Mr. Stavens asked if the energy price is comparable to similar programs. Mr. Healy noted that the price is comparable to market rate in the State of Connecticut.

Mr. Prichard asked if the BOE wasn't already locked into another similar rate-controlled program. Ms. Devlin noted that the BOE was locked into a program until June 2016.

Mr. Prichard asked for confirmation that 20 years was the lease term. Dr. Nicol confirmed the 20-year lease term with an option to purchase after eight years. Mr. Healy noted that the BOE might be able to obtain free electricity by purchasing the panels after eight years.

Ms. Spielman asked if the Solar Energy Project was a consideration for other Town of Ellington buildings. Mr. Healy noted that should there be interest in expanding to other Town buildings CT Green Bank would be a resource.

Mr. Miller asked if it was stipulated that the lessor has to remove the panels after 20 years. Mr. Healy answered in the affirmative. Mr. Miller stated that the only negative aspect of the Solar Energy Project would be the \$10,000 cost for removal in the case of roof repairs.

Mr. Stomberg asked if there was a point within the 20 year lease where the Town could choose to upgrade to the latest technology. Mr. Healy responded no; he said to remember that the Town is buying the kWh, not the technology.

Mr. Stomberg asked if this project boils down to the fact that the CT Green Bank technically wants to rent the roofs. Mr. Healy responded that investors have an appetite for tax credits and it is more advantageous for those investors to rent the roof than for the Town of Ellington to buy the panels outright.

Mr. Turner asked if an energy audit of the affected schools had been performed. A BOE representative responded that no audit had been performed at this time.

Mr. Turner asked if there was a requirement with the Solar Energy Project to perform an energy audit on the buildings. Mr. Healy said the CT Green Bank does not require such an audit.

F. Waste Haulers Registration Form

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE WASTE HAULER REGISTRATION FORM IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 149-8A OF THE SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE.

Mr. Stavens asked if the waste haulers know they have to register. Mr. Webb responded that they would get a notice in the mail.

Mr. Stavens asked the reason for this change. Mr. Webb responded that it was a State of Connecticut requirement. He noted that solid waste is a major problem in Connecticut.

Mr. Turner asked if the Town of Ellington would be responsible for any tonnage fees. Mr. Webb responded not at this time. Mr. Turner noted that this process would give an accurate measure of the tonnage coming out of the Town of Ellington.

Mr. Stomberg asked if this resolution would interfere with, for example, the rental of a dumpster. Mr. Webb responded that this resolution would not interfere with such rentals.

Mr. Miller noted an error within a Town of Ellington ordinance. According to Mr. Miller Chapter 149, Article 1, Section 149-8, Sub-section A, should not read as “[...] insurance for general liability for operation of a motor vehicle [...]” (see attached). He asked the First Selectman to advise the Town Attorney of the error. Mr. Miller continued stating that evidence of insurance for operation of a motor vehicle falls under auto liability, not general liability.

Mr. Stavens asked when All-American Waste would collect recycling every week. Mr. Webb responded that would happen when people recycle enough to justify weekly pickup. He also noted that the Town of Ellington does offer a free second recycling container.

Mr. Miller asked if waste haulers were making a profit picking up recycling. Mr. Webb responded that the margins are not as high now that everyone has moved to single-stream recycling but waste haulers do make a profit.

G. Permanent Status: LouAnn Cannella, Executive Assistant

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO GRANT PERMANENT STATUS TO LOUANN CANNELLA, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 23, 2015.

Ms. Spielman and Ms. Ferry expressed praise for the quality of Ms. Cannella’s work.

H. Disposal of Surplus Equipment: DPW 2003 GMC Pickup Truck

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS TO DISPOSE OF THE SURPLUS 2003 GMC PICKUP TRUCK.

I. Procedure for Submitting Recommendations to Full Board by BOS Subcommittees

Mr. Miller referenced a letter he submitted to the BOS. His letter requests the following draft motion be referred to the Town Policies Committee:

The committee making a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for its consideration shall do so in the form of a legible motion with a copy for each Selectman and the Recording Secretary prior to the Board of Selectmen considering and taking action on the recommendation.

Mr. Miller asked that someone make a motion to refer the draft to the Town Policies Committee.

Mr. Prichard noted that the problem described in the draft had only occurred once.

Mr. Miller said it was essential to get every potential motion in writing before taking action. He said there is nothing that forces the Town of Ellington to come forward with a written motion everyone can understand before voting on it.

Ms. Ferry asked if there was a way the BOS could request to always have a written recommended motion. Mr. Prichard said the BOS already does that.

Mr. Prichard noted that a similar motion had already been passed. Mr. Miller expressed frustration that the motion already passed had been altered and did not express his current sentiment.

Mr. Prichard noted his agreement that all potential motions should be written out but expressed concern that it would take an extra month to get anything passed.

Ms. Ferry asked if a projector could be used instead.

Mr. Turner expressed concern that Mr. Miller's draft motion would require too many exceptions.

Mr. Stromberg noted that every motion should be written down.

The First Selectman tabled the discussion.

J. Inter-Town Capital Equipment (ICE) Purchasing Incentive Program: Sewer and Utility Field Camera Inspection Vehicle

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT LORI SPIELMAN, FIRST SELECTMAN OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, IS AUTHORIZED AND DIRECTED TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THE ELLINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND TO DO AND PERFORM ALL ACTS AND THINGS WHICH SHE DEEMS TO BE NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE TO CARRY OUT THE TERMS OF SUCH DOCUMENTS, AND TO ENTER INTO A BINDING AGREEMENT WITH THE OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACCORDING TO TERMS OF THE INTER-TOWN CAPITAL EQUIPMENT (ICE) GRANT PROGRAM. THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON WILL PARTICIPATE WITH THE TOWNS OF VERNON AND STAFFORD TO PURCHASE A SEWER AND UTILITY FIELD CAMERA INSPECTION VEHICLE WITH THE TOWN OF VERNON AS THE LEAD TOWN. FURTHER TO ADD THIS ITEM TO THE FEBRUARY 8, 2016 TOWN MEETING TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THIS PURCHASE.

Mr. Webb noted that this purchase would give the Town of Ellington a true document of everything it owns below ground.

Mr. Miller praised the wording of the motion.

Ms. Spielman clarified that the sewer and utility field camera inspection vehicle would winter in Vernon. The Town of Ellington would use the vehicle three months of the year while Vernon and Stafford would also each be entitled to three month terms.

K. Town Hall Addition & Renovation Study: Additional Appropriation

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (MILLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE AN ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$53,000 FOR THE TOWN HALL ADDITION AND RENOVATION STUDY PHASE II FROM THE 2015-2016 UNASSIGNED FUND BALANCE, PENDING BOARD OF FINANCE AND TOWN MEETING APPROVALS. FURTHER TO ADD THIS ITEM TO THE FEBRUARY 8, 2016 TOWN MEETING TO ALLOW CITIZENS TO DISCUSS AND VOTE ON THIS ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION.

Mr. Webb distributed blueprints of the proposed addition and renovation. He noted that visitors to Town Hall use the Tax Office, Assessor's Office, and Town Clerk's Office the most so the redesign had the need of those offices in mind. Mr. Webb was proud that the addition would allow the Town of Ellington to move any offices out of the basement of Town Hall. He also stated that the Community Development Office could be moved to add an additional conference room on the top floor.

Mr. Miller noted that a current conference room was made into a conference room because of an air quality issue and expressed concern about it being turned into an office. Mr. Webb responded that the air quality issue was specific to a single employee.

Mr. Miller asked if there would be room for a potential Town Manager/Town Administrator. Mr. Webb responded that there is room for future growth and that the Department of Public Works (DPW) was trying very hard to maintain the historic building.

Mr. Stavens asked if the addition would be built on a slab of concrete or have a basement. Mr. Webb responded that it would be built on a slab of concrete.

Mr. Stomberg asked how many years of growth the engineers plan for. Mr. Webb responded that such matters would be determined in Phase II.

Ms. Spielman noted that the Town Clerk's and Assessor's Offices are tight and cramped.

Mr. Miller was concerned that the plan was not big enough for future growth. Mr. Webb noted that the building could be built capable of supporting a second level for future expansion. Mr. Prichard asked how much more it would cost to build the building second level capable. Mr. Webb did not know but did not imagine it would cost too much more.

Mr. Stomberg noted his concern that the Town of Ellington's bureaucracy would grow to fit the size of the building but he was pleased that the extension would not be visible from Main Street.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS: So noted.

A. Building Department

B. Emergency Services

1. Resident State Troopers' Office
2. Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps
3. Ellington Volunteer Fire Department
4. Crystal Lake Fire Department

Ms. Spielman noted that there had been a bid opening for the new firetruck and three bids were received.

5. Emergency Management Director

C. Fire Marshal

D. Hall Memorial Library

E. Tax & Revenue Collector

F. Town Planner

G. Department of Public Works

VII. SELECTMEN COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Personnel Committee:

1. Resignations

MOVED (FERRY), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JAMES W. ALEXANDER FROM THE BUILDING CODE BOARD OF APPEALS.

2. Appointments

MOVED (FERRY), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT HELEN FILLORAMO, SUSAN HANNIGAN, JAIME S. FOSTER AND SUSAN STACK TO THE HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS ENDING JANUARY 31, 2020.

MOVED (FERRY), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT GRACE BOUCHER AND J. WILEY DUMAS TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS ENDING JANUARY 31, 2020.

MOVED (FERRY), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT GORDON OLIVER, THOMAS BOSCARINO, CYNTHIA COSTANZO AND ROBERT LAREW TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO FOUR-YEAR TERMS ENDING JANUARY 31, 2020.

MOVED (FERRY), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO REAPPOINT CHARLES JACKSON TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS TO A THREE-YEAR TERM ENDING JANUARY 31, 2019.

B. Town Policies Committee

1. Senior Center: Use of Facility Rules & Regulations Update

C. Other

There was no other business.

VIII. SELECTMEN LIAISON REPORTS

There were no Selectmen Liaison Reports.

IX. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT

A. Resignation: Ashlee O'Rourke, Assistant Animal Control Officer

The First Selectman reported that Ashlee O'Rourke, Assistant Animal Control Officer, resigned her position effective January 3, 2016 after 8 years of service.

B. Other

- Resident State Troopers Office

The First Selectman conducted interviews at Troop C for new Resident State Trooper, replacing Keith Timme who was recently promoted to Sergeant. Anticipated start date is January 22, 2016. Interviews for the new Resident State Trooper Sergeant are scheduled for later in the month.

- Community Voice Channel Update

The First Selectman will be meeting with Marc Diwinsky at Community Voice Channel facility in Bolton on January 19 to discuss recording/airing board meetings and other public information programing on Public Access TV.

- Barn Yard Ribbon Cutting

The First Selectman will be attending the January 23 ribbon cutting of the new Barn Yard building on Village Street.

- Update on the Neighborhood Assistance Act Program Proposal for the Replacement of Light Fixtures at the EVAC Facility

The First Selectman reported that due to the number of proposals received, EVAC's \$16,000 request cannot be fully funded and the pledge to EVAC was reduced to \$5,985.97. If it is feasible, EVAC can use this money to begin the replacement of light fixtures and then re-apply for the remaining funds necessary to complete the job in February 2016.

- Status of DEEP Grant for the Control of Aquatic Invasive Species

The First Selectman stated that Dave Arzt, Chairman, Ad Hoc Milfoil Committee, reported that Ellington is being funded \$15,000 for the removal of milfoil in Crystal Lake (\$25,000 was requested).

- Charter Revision Commission

The First Selectman reported that the next meeting of the Charter Revision Commission is Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 PM in the Meeting Hall.

- 9 Green Street

The First Selectman reported that 9 Green Street is delinquent in taxes. The fair market value of the house is lower than taxes due to the Town. This is a strict foreclosure so the Town will take over ownership on April 19 if the owners don't redeem it before then. This maybe a future agenda item to determine what the Town wants to do with the property.

Mr. Turner asked if there was electricity to the property. Ms. Spielman reported that there was but the roof is not intact. Mr. Stavens asked how long the taxes have been unpaid. Ms. Spielman reported that the property owes \$69,000. Mr. Turner expressed concern that the house was not habitable. He suggested moving forward with foreclosing the property if the residents are in sub-standard living conditions even if the Town would not recover the full value of the taxes. Mr. DiCorleto suggested getting the Town Attorney involved. Ms. Spielman described the house as being on a very small lot. Mr. Prichard wanted to know how much of the taxes owed were principal taxes and how much were interest. The BOS discussed possible solutions to the problem of 9 Green Street. Ms. Spielman described it as a no-win situation. Mr. Stomberg noted that this situation might fall under a blight ordinance.

- Capital Improvements Meetings

The First Selectman reminded the BOS of the following meeting dates:

January 14 - BOS Capital Improvements Subcommittee Meeting

January 25 - Capital Improvements Deliberations (full board)

February 9 - BOS Capital Improvements presentation to the Board of Finance

- New Web site

The First Selectman reported that the new redesigned Web site would go live by the end of the month.

- 6 Nutmeg Drive

The First Selectman reported that the Town of Ellington closed on this property on January 7. The building will be referred to as Ellington Volunteer Fire Department Station 243.

- Staff Meetings

The First Selectman reported that she held her first department head staff meeting on January 4, 2016. It was productive and informative.

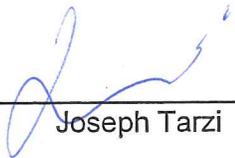
X. CORRESPONDENCE

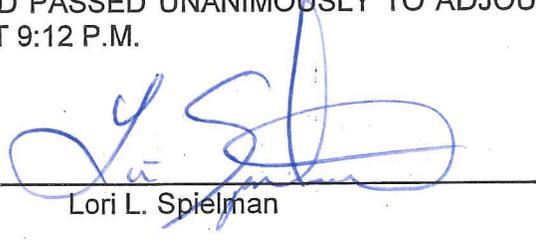
- A. Letter from Timothy Webb, Director of Public Works dated December 30, 2015
re: New Recycling Projects

Mr. Webb described the content of his letter (attached). Mr. Webb also reported that the Town of Ellington was selected as one of seven towns in Connecticut to receive an experimental weather station.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 9:12 P.M.

Submitted by  _____
Joseph Tarzi

Approved by  _____
Lori L. Spielman

*Town of Ellington, CT
Monday, January 4, 2016*

Chapter 149. Solid Waste

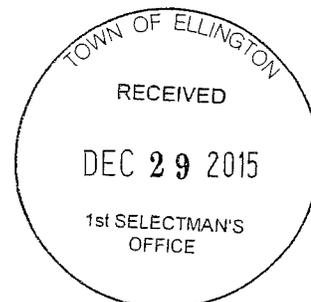
Article I. Recycling

§ 149-8. Waste haulers.

- A. All waste haulers and collectors shall register with the Department of Public Works and gain Town approval for hauling recyclable material prior to any transporting or collecting of any recyclable materials. The Selectmen shall adopt and implement application forms to identify the waste hauler, his address, name of the responsible person, mailing address, telephone number, emergency telephone number, and evidence of insurance for general liability for operation of a motor vehicle and contamination resulting from improper handling of waste material in the Town.
- B. All waste haulers or collectors operating within the Town of Ellington shall notify the Town's Director of Public Works of those persons, partnerships or corporations that have discarded recyclable material as defined in § 149-3B of this article with other solid waste.
- C. No waste haulers or collectors shall knowingly mix recyclable material with other solid waste.
- D. Any waste hauler or collector who or which violates this article shall be subject to the penalties provided herein as well as those penalties provided by the Connecticut General Statutes.

**TOWN OF ELLINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Lori Spielman, First Selectman
FROM: Timothy M. Webb, Director of Public Works *TWW*
DATE: December 30, 2015
RE: New Recycling Projects



The Public Works Department will be working with the vendors approved by the Mid-Northeast Recycling Operating Committee to enhance our recycling program. We will be adding textile recycling and holding one day events within the community for electronic recycling.

The first endeavor will be the placement of two containers here at the DPW facility for which residents may recycle various textiles. This is not a Goodwill or Salvation Army collection box. These containers would be for textiles, clothes, sheets, blankets, etc. that may be in a condition that cannot be reused for the purpose they were purchased for, but could become useful for other uses such as shop rags, new covers and others. The vendor is Bay State Textile Inc. out of Pembroke Mass. A \$100.00 per ton rebate will be paid to the Town by Bay State Textile.

The other program is being offered to us by our electronic recycling vendor Take 2. We will be selecting a day, Saturday's during the month of February to hold these events. Take 2 will hold a 9 a.m. to noon collection at our various school locations to collect electronics. The dates and locations will be worked out during the month of January. Once secured, they will be made public via the Towns Web-site and notices placed in the local papers. This will enable our residents to dispose of their old electronics on a weekend day when our site is closed as well as offering a more convenient location to do so.

ljs