



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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JAMES M. PRICHARD
Deputy First Selectman

SARAH D. COOK
MELINDA M. FERRY
DAVID E. STAVENS
RONALD F. STOMBERG
JOHN W. TURNER

LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, August 20, 2018
Town Hall – Meeting Hall

MINUTES

SELECTMEN PRESENT: Lori Spielman, James Prichard, John Turner, David Stavens, Ronald Stomberg, Melinda Ferry, Sarah Cook

OTHERS PRESENT: Marie Sauve, Human Resource Coordinator/ Executive Assistant; William Correia, Heather Stavens, Tom Palshaw, Charter Revision Commission; Matt Mullin; Rich Malone; Joseph Burns; Peg Busse; Jennifer Mullin

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by First Selectman Spielman.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. CITIZENS' FORUM [non-agenda items]

William Correia (65 Cider Mill Road) stated that the people he voted for have turned their backs on what he believes in and they voted in favor of the turf field project. He is very disappointed in the BOS members who voted for the field.

Matt Mullin (14 Maplewood Drive) said that he was not aware that this meeting was occurring tonight until he heard by word of mouth. Many people get their information from the Journal Inquirer and if the meeting is not advertised in the newspaper, then many people do not know about it. Mr. Mullin feels that the artificial turf project is moving way too fast. Many residents of Ellington do not even know what is going on and won't have a chance to weigh in. He does not think that this is right or fair. Mr. Mullin feels as if the turf field is not for the common good of the Town and not everyone will get a benefit out of it. There are a lot of disadvantages.

Rich Malone (5 Middle Road) said that the Recreation Department came back with a petition because they have a grudge against the Finance Department. He has spoken to people from other towns that have put in a similar field and students came down with respiratory virus infections. He feels there is a chance the kids could get cancer, and anyone who has asthma cannot get near the field or breathe it in. There are many health concerns and a need to run a sprinkler multiple times per day. He would not allow his children to play on this field.

Joseph Burns (229 Windsorville Road) said that the people who circulated the petition did a good job, but it's time for them to take a step back and look at what the kids will be playing on. If there is even a small chance that an illness can be caused from playing on the field, it is not worth it. Everyone should take a close look at what can happen to the children.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Charter Revision Commission Final Report

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION'S FINAL REPORT DATED AUGUST 15, 2018 AND TO THANK THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION MEMBERS FOR THEIR SERVICE.

B. Approval of Charter Revision Proposals/Ballot Questions

CRC Proposal #1

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (FERRY) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTIONS 602 AND 1006 TO PROVIDE THAT A REFERENDUM VOTE ON THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET SHALL BE HELD TWO (2) WEEKS, RATHER THAN ONE (1) WEEK, AFTER THE ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING IS ADJOURNED AND TO CLARIFY THAT ADDITIONAL REFERENDUM VOTES WILL BE HELD EVERY OTHER WEEK THEREAFTER UNTIL THE BUDGET IS ADOPTED.

CRC Proposal #2

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTION 205 AMENDING THE TIMEFRAME TO FILL VACANCIES IN ELECTIVE TOWN OFFICES FROM 45 DAYS TO 30 DAYS AND PROVIDING THAT THE TERM FOR THE VACANT ELECTIVE OFFICE FILLED WILL CONTINUE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE OFFICE TERM RATHER THAN UNTIL THE NEXT REGULAR ELECTION.

CRC Proposal #3

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO REPEAL SECTION 808 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION.

CRC Proposal #4

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTION 923 TO GIVE THE TOWN FLEXIBILITY IN DETERMINING WHO WILL PROVIDE EMERGENCY SERVICES TO THE TOWN SHOULD THE ORGANIZATIONS BECOME INCAPABLE OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES AS DEFINED IN THEIR CONTRACT.

CRC Proposal #5

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED [AYE: PRICHARD/TURNER/STAVENS/STOMBERG; NAY: FERRY, COOK] TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTION 302 PROHIBITING THE TOTAL VOTES CAST FOR AN UNSUCCESSFUL FIRST SELECTMAN CANDIDATE FROM COUNTING TOWARD THE CANDIDATE'S VOTES FOR A SEAT ON THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN.

CRC Proposal #6

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED [AYE: STAVENS/FERRY/COOK/SPIELMAN; NAY: PRICHARD/TURNER/STOMBERG] TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTION 605 CLARIFYING THAT ADVANCE NOTICE OF A SPECIAL TOWN REFERENDUM TO OVERRULE ACTION TAKEN AT A TOWN MEETING BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEWSPAPER AND AMENDING THE MINIMUM PERCENTAGE OF VOTERS NEEDED TO VOTE IN A SPECIAL TOWN REFERENDUM TO OVERRULE ACTION TAKEN AT A TOWN MEETING FROM 15% TO 10%.

CRC Proposal #7

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED [AYE: PRICHARD/TURNER/STAVENS/STOMBERG/FERRY; NAY: COOK] TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO CHANGE SECTION 910 PROVIDING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ASSUME EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CARE, MAINTENANCE, AND REPAIR OF HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY FACILITIES AND GROUNDS.

Some BOS members expressed concern about the word "exclusive." Ms. Ferry asked if the members of the Charter Revision Commission could elaborate on why they chose to leave the word in.

Heather Stavens (35 Pinnacle Road) said that in the Library Board of Trustees section, the word exclusive is included, and since Public Works already takes care of the building, the members thought it should be included in both sections so that it matches. Mr. Correia agreed, stating that the word "exclusive" is important so that it is clear that Public Works takes care of the Library just like other Town-owned buildings.

Ms. Stavens clarified that the word "exclusive" refers to the maintenance of the building, not in the way the Board of Trustees takes care of or spends their money.

Peg Busse (37 Abbott Road) asked for clarification in regards to where the word "exclusive" is used in the Board of Trustees section and why the Library is singled out with this word versus the other Town buildings. Ms. Stavens responded that the word "exclusive" is used in the new wording of CRC final report proposal number eight.

Tom Palshaw (120 Pinney Street) informed the BOS that two votes were taken on this particular question and the Charter Revision Commission was not unanimous in their voting.

Marie Sauve, Human Resource Coordinator/Executive Assistant, clarified to the BOS that the only choice tonight is whether to approve or reject the proposal. Ms. Busse questioned why the word exclusive is not on the proposed ballot questions. Ms. Sauve responded that the Town Attorney drafted the questions and she did not know why the word was not included. Mr. Turner explained that the questions are a synopsis of the detailed changes. A whole section of the Charter cannot be published.

CRC Proposal #8

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (PRICHARD) AND PASSED [AYE: PRICHARD/TURNER/STAVENS/STOMBERG/FERRY; NAY: COOK] TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVISION PROPOSAL TO ADD A SECTION ENTITLED "LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES" ALLOCATING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF HALL MEMORIAL LIBRARY TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ALLOCATING EXCLUSIVE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE MAINTENANCE, CARE, AND REPAIR OF LIBRARY FACILITIES AND LIBRARY GROUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

Mr. Stomberg asked the purpose of creating the Library Board of Trustees if it is already in existence. Ms. Spielman responded that they wanted to recognize the Board in the Charter. Mr. Palshaw stated that this creates the Charter section so that the maintenance sentence can be applied to that section. His understanding is that if you remove the word exclusive from one section, it should be applied to both. The only purpose of this change was to give control of the maintenance to Public Works.

Mr. Turner stated that the First Selectman's Office has an obligation to provide text explaining the ballot questions. There is concern that the word "exclusive" is absent from the ballot question but not absent from the wording that will go into the Charter. He recommended amending the questions.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AMEND BALLOT QUESTIONS #7 AND #8 TO READ AS FOLLOWS AND TO APPROVE THE BALLOT QUESTIONS AND SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORS FOR APPROVAL OR REJECTION AT THE REGULAR ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018;

- *Ballot Question #7: Shall language be added to Section 910 providing that the Department of Public Works shall have exclusive control of the care, maintenance, and repair of Hall Memorial Library facilities and grounds?*
 Yes No
- *Ballot Question #8: Shall a chapter entitled "Library Board of Trustees" be created allocating responsibility for the administration of Hall Memorial Library to the Library Board of Trustees and allocating exclusive control for the maintenance, care, and repair of Library facilities and Library grounds to the Department of Public Works?*
 Yes No

APPROVED CHANGES WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2019.

C. Charter Revision Ballot Questions Explanatory Text

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE TOWN CLERK TO PREPARE AND TO CAUSE TO BE PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 9-369B OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF CONNECTICUT, REVISION OF 1958, AS AMENDED, AN EXPLANATORY TEXT WITH RESPECT TO THE CHARTER REVISION BALLOT QUESTIONS THAT WERE APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ON AUGUST 20, 2018 AND TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018 PURSUANT TO SECTION 7-7 OF SAID GENERAL STATUTES; AND TO FURTHER AUTHORIZE THE TOWN CLERK, IN HER DISCRETION, TO PREPARE AND DISTRIBUTE SUCH ADDITIONAL EXPLANATORY MATERIALS WITH RESPECT TO SUCH QUESTIONS AS ARE PERMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SAID SECTION 9-369B.

D. Ellington High School Turf Field Project – Petition to Overturn Planning and Zoning Commission CGS 8-24 Disapproval

**1. Set Public Hearing Date
(August 29, 2018 at Ellington High School, 37 Maple Street)**

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AT THE ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER, 40 MAPLE STREET, ELLINGTON, CT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO COMMENT UPON AND DISCUSS A PETITION RECEIVED BY THE TOWN

CLERK ON AUGUST 13, 2018 AND CERTIFIED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 17, 2018, SEEKING TO OVERTURN THE JULY 23, 2018 PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S CGS 8-24 DISAPPROVAL OF THE 2018 ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD ARTIFICIAL TURF CONVERSION AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES LIGHTING PROJECT.

Ms. Spielman explained that if certain dates are not met, the turf field project will not be able to go on the ballot at the November election. Mr. Turner clarified that there are events that can happen at each meeting that can change the outcome or vote the project down.

The members of the BOS expressed concern that more people may be in attendance than the Senior Center can hold. Ms. Spielman was able to confirm that the Ellington High School would be available for use. Ms. Sauve stated that the information would be published in the Journal Inquirer for printing on August 22nd.

Ms. Mullin confirmed with the BOS that the vote will be done by paper ballot at the Town Meeting and that voter identification would be verified.

Mr. Turner offered an amendment to the above motion to change the location of the Public Hearing from the Ellington Senior Center to the Ellington High School.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AT THE ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, 37 MAPLE STREET, ELLINGTON, CT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO COMMENT UPON AND DISCUSS A PETITION RECEIVED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 13, 2018 AND CERTIFIED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 17, 2018, SEEKING TO OVERTURN THE JULY 23, 2018 PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S CGS 8-24 DISAPPROVAL OF THE 2018 ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD ARTIFICIAL TURF CONVERSION AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES LIGHTING PROJECT.

Jennifer Mullin (115 West Road) clarified that the Public Hearing and Town Meeting are to overturn the Planning and Zoning Commission's vote only. The issue is not to inform everyone on details, it is just to overturn that vote. Mr. Turner confirmed and stated that it is important that the people speak to the issue which is the petition.

2. Set Town Meeting Date

(August 30, 2018 at Ellington High School, 37 Maple Street)

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (STOMBERG) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A TOWN MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AT THE ELLINGTON SENIOR CENTER, 40 MAPLE STREET, ELLINGTON, CT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING ELECTORS AND CITIZENS QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN MEETINGS OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, CT TO CONSIDER AND VOTE UPON A PETITION RECEIVED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 13, 2018 AND CERTIFIED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 17, 2018, SEEKING TO OVERTURN THE JULY 23, 2018 RULING OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S CGS 8-24 DISAPPROVAL OF THE 2018 ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD ARTIFICIAL TURF CONVERSION AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES LIGHTING PROJECT.

Mr. Turner withdrew the above motion and this withdrawal was seconded by Mr. Stomberg in order to move the Town Meeting to Ellington High School.

MOVED (TURNER), SECONDED (COOK) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO HOLD A TOWN MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2018 AT 7:00 PM AT THE ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL, 37 MAPLE STREET, ELLINGTON, CT FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING

ELECTORS AND CITIZENS QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN TOWN MEETINGS OF THE TOWN OF ELLINGTON, CT TO CONSIDER AND VOTE UPON A PETITION RECEIVED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 13, 2018 AND CERTIFIED BY THE TOWN CLERK ON AUGUST 17, 2018, SEEKING TO OVERTURN THE JULY 23, 2018 RULING OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION'S CGS 8-24 DISAPPROVAL OF THE 2018 ELLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL FIELD ARTIFICIAL TURF CONVERSION AND ATHLETIC FACILITIES LIGHTING PROJECT.

Mr. Correia asked about the process of this project. Mr. Stavens stated that if this project is voted down then there are no more petitions. Mr. Mullin clarified that if the project is approved at the Town Meeting, it will go on to the Board of Finance (BOF). Mr. Prichard said that if this is shot down at the BOF meeting, there could be another petition. Once the project is voted on at referendum in November that is the final decision.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED (PRICHARD), SECONDED (STAVENS) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AT 8:05 PM.

Submitted by meaghan maguire
Meaghan Maguire
Recording Secretary

Approved by Lori L. Spielman
Lori L. Spielman
First Selectman

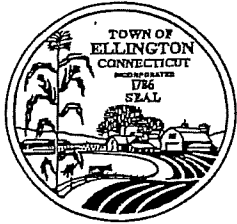
*Charter Revision Ballot Questions
November 6, 2018 Election*

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on August 20, 2018

1. *Shall language be added to Sections 602 and 1006 to provide that a referendum vote on the annual town budget shall be held two (2) weeks, rather than one (1) week, after the annual town budget meeting is adjourned and to clarify that additional referendum votes will be held every other week thereafter until the budget is adopted? Yes No*
2. A. *Shall language be added to Section 205 amending the timeframe to fill vacancies in elective town offices from 45 days to 30 days? Yes No*

B. *Shall language be added to Section 205 providing that the term for the vacant elective office filled will continue for the remainder of the office term rather than until the next regular election? Yes No*
3. *Shall the section creating the Public Safety Commission be repealed? Yes No*
4. *Shall language be added to Section 923 enabling the Board of Selectmen to provide additional means of emergency services in lieu of the Town's current volunteer services should the organizations become incapable of providing services as defined in their contracts? Yes No*
5. *Shall language be added to Section 302 prohibiting the total votes cast for an unsuccessful First Selectman candidate from counting toward the candidate's votes for a seat on the Board of Selectmen? Yes No*
6. A. *Shall language be added to Section 605 clarifying that advance notice of a special town referendum to overrule action taken at a town meeting be published in the newspaper? Yes No*

B. *Shall language be added to Section 605 amending the minimum percentage of voters needed to vote in a special town referendum to overrule action taken at a town meeting from 15% to 10%? Yes No*
7. *Shall language be added to Section 910 providing that the Department of Public Works shall have exclusive control of the care, maintenance, and repair of Hall Memorial Library facilities and grounds? Yes No*
8. *Shall a chapter entitled "Library Board of Trustees" be created allocating responsibility for the administration of Hall Memorial Library to the Library Board of Trustees and allocating exclusive control for the maintenance, care, and repair of Library facilities and Library grounds to the Department of Public Works? Yes No*



LORI L. SPIELMAN
First Selectman

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING – Wednesday, August 29, 2018

NOTICE OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – Thursday, August 30, 2018.

Notice is hereby given that the Ellington Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, August 29, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Ellington High School Auditorium, 37 Maple Street, Ellington, Connecticut, for the purpose of allowing citizens to comment on the following:

A petition that reads as follows: We the undersigned electors petition to overturn the ruling of the Planning and Zoning Commission on July 23, 2018 regarding the resolution for various athletic facility improvements at Ellington High School.

A Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meetings of the Town of Ellington, CT will be held on Thursday, August 30, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Ellington High School Auditorium, 37 Maple Street, Ellington, Connecticut, to discuss and vote on the following:

A petition that reads as follows: We the undersigned electors petition to overturn the ruling of the Planning and Zoning Commission on July 23, 2018 regarding the resolution for various athletic facility improvements at Ellington High School.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Any party needing an accommodation may contact the First Selectman's Office at (860) 870-3100 at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.

Dated at Ellington, Connecticut, this 21st day of August 2018.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

LORI SPIELMAN
FIRST SELECTMAN

Journal Inquirer: Printed August 22, 2018