

Special Town Meeting
March 31, 2008

Town Clerk, Debra H. Denette called the Special Meeting to order at 8:00 pm at the Grange Hall, Town Street, East Haddam. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

First Selectman Mark Walter motioned to nominate Deb Denette as Moderator. Bob Casner seconded the motion. Additional nominations were solicited, none were offered. The motion appointing Deb Denette as Moderator carried unanimously via voice vote.

The moderator briefly defined the rules of conduct and presented the call of the meeting. Bob Casner motioned to accept the call of the meeting as presented. Dick Everett seconded the motion. The motion accepting the call as presented carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 1. Emmett Lyman motioned, Bob Casner seconded, that the legislative body herein assembled accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the Town Meeting authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept and acquire a certain drainage easement over land of Peter Govert and June Plecan, or current owner known generally as #60 Bashan Road, East Haddam, Connecticut, together with the right to drain water and to install and maintain drainage facilities and appurtenances all as more particularly described in the proposed drainage easement and shown on a survey map of the same, copies of which are on file with the office of the Town Clerk.

Mr. Walter stated that this easement is necessary to address a water problem around the corner on Bashan Road by Lakeside Drive. The map was reviewed. No funds are being exchanged.

The motion authorizing the acceptance and acquisition of a drainage easement over land of Peter Govert and June Plecan as described above carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 2: Bob Casner motioned, Emmett Lyman seconded that the legislative body herein assembled accept a grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 from the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, entitled "FY 2008 Emergency Management Performance Grant".

Mr. Walter stated that these funds allow for planning for emergency and mock drills. Last year's grant was utilized to promote a mass vaccination clinic that was held in October. This year plans are being formulated for leadership training.

The motion authorizing acceptance of the FY 2008 Emergency Management Performance Grant carried unanimously via voice vote.

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Item 3: Emmett Lyman motioned, Jim Ventres seconded that the legislative body herein assembled accept the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That an Athletic Field Improvement grant in the amount of \$50,000.00 is hereby accepted upon the terms and conditions set forth in a certain Personal Services Agreement between the Town of East Haddam and the Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut, and the First Selectman, Mark B. Walter, is empowered to execute and deliver all documents necessary to said grant in the name and on behalf of the Town of East Haddam with the Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut for the fulfillment of the Athletic Field Improvement grant, and is authorized to affix the corporate seal of the municipality.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN: That Mark B. Walter was elected as First Selectman and his term of office began on November 7, 2007 and will continue until November 3, 2009. As the First Selectman, Mark B. Walter serves as the Chief Executive Officer for the Town of East Haddam and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of East Haddam.

Mr. Ventres advised that little league presently has 465 kids enrolled and there are not enough fields to support the number of participants. Funds from this grant will either fund an additional field at the elementary school (south side) or if that cannot come to fruition will be used for improvements at the girls softball field. Mr. Ventres stated that the grant comes with "no strings attached" and that opportunity for sweat equity is envisioned.

The motion accepting the athletic field improvement grant carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 4: Emmett Lyman motioned, Dick Everett seconded that the legislative body herein assembled approve an ordinance entitled "Code of Ethical Conduct" which establishes a Municipal Ethics Commission and which creates a Code of Ethical Conduct for town elected and appointed officials and town employees. Copies of said ordinance are on file in the Town Clerk's Office during normal business hours.

Mr. Walter stated that the prior administration began the work to develop an ethics policy several years ago. He stated that the present administration has refined it. The attorney's and the Board of Selectmen are comfortable that it is ready for adoption. Mr. Walter stated that the policy does not instill punitive action for violation, and offenses would require additional action.

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Responsive to inquiry from Ms. King, Mr. Walter advised that East Haddam has no ethical standards in place at the present time. He stated that the State has been working to create standards for a long time, but has yet to come to consensus.

The motion to approve an ordinance entitled "Code of Ethical Conduct" which establishes a Municipal Ethics Commission and which creates a Code of Ethical Conduct for town elected and appointed officials and town employees carried unanimously via voice vote.

Item 5: Bob Casner motioned, Emmett Lyman seconded that the legislative body herein assembled consider and act upon the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, that in regard to a certain subdivision known as Oak Ridge Farms, Phase I as shown on a certain map entitled: "Record Subdivision Map 'Oak Ridge Farms' Phase One Sheepskin Hollow Road Tax Map 21 Lots #5 & #6 East Haddam, Connecticut Scale 1"=100' Dated Jan. 15, 2005 revised through 6-12-05 Robert R. Weaver, L.S. Connecticut Registered Land Surveyor Sheets 1 and 2" said map being recorded in the East Haddam Land Records, the Town hereby accepts, as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24, the following:

1. A Conservation Easement and Conveyance of Development Rights associated with said subdivision, dated April, 2008, the First Selectman being hereby authorized to sign said Conservation Easement and Restrictions on behalf of the Town for recording in the Land Records.

RESOLVED, that in regard to a certain subdivision known as Oak Ridge Farms, Phase II as shown on a certain map entitled: "Record Subdivision Map 'Oak Ridge Farms' Phase II Sheepskin Hollow Road Tax Map 21 Lots #5 & #6 East Haddam, Connecticut Scale 1"=100' Dated Jan. 15, 2005 revised through 9-07-07 Robert R. Weaver, L.S. Connecticut Registered Land Surveyor Sheets 1 and 2" said map being recorded in the East Haddam Land Records, the Town hereby accepts, as recommended by the Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 8-24, the following:

1. A Conservation Easement and Conveyance of Development Rights associated with said subdivision, dated April, 2008, the First Selectman being hereby authorized to sign said Conservation Easement and Restrictions on behalf of the Town for recording in the Land Records.

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Mr. Ventres presented maps depicting the property. He stated that the resolutions have the approval of the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Inland Wetland and Watercourse Commission.

The motion accepting the conservation easement and conveyance of development rights as described above carried unanimously via voice vote.

There being no further business to discuss, and upon a motion made by Emmett Lyman, seconded by Jim Ventres the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Dated at East Haddam this 8th day
Of April, 2008

Attest: Debra H. Denette
 East Haddam Town Clerk
