

## **Old Lyme Board of Selectman Meeting Minutes**

### **06 March 2023 at 5:30 PM**

The meeting was hybrid - held in person in the Meeting Hall of the Memorial Town Hall with a phone-in option. In attendance: (in person) First Selectman Timothy Griswold, Selectman Matthew Ward and Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker.

First Selectman Griswold called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

#### **Approval of Minutes:** 6 February 2023 (Reg.) and 24 February (Spec.) 2023

Selectman Ward made a motion to approve the 6 February 2023 regular meeting minutes and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The motion passed.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to approve the 24 February 2023 special meeting minutes and Selectman Ward seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The motion passed.

#### **Public Comment**

Carolynn Miranda, Biscayne Blvd. was in attendance to voice her concerns about road safety on route 156. Why can't the town control speeding. She also would like the public to have access to Zoning meetings. The technology is there for Board of Selectmen meetings; why not Zoning. Minutes do not come out in a timely fashion.

Selectwoman Shoemaker said she has not seen a Police Department monthly report in a while. She asked that Trooper Weber put emphasis on speed control. Selectman Ward will speak with him.

Greg Futoma said heading east on route 156 by Smith Neck Rd. the speed limit is 45 mph, but heading west on the same stretch the speed limit is 40 mph.

#### **1. Communications:**

a. Sen. Murphy's Office – Grant Possibilities – Erin McBride

Erin McBride handed out a document that provided guidelines for grants available in Old Lyme's congressional district. She gave a brief overview and applications are open until March 19, 2023. First Selectman Griswold stated the Town's immediate funding needs are Emergency Management Operation Center, HVAC & security for schools, Senior Center Expansion and the Sound View Sewer project.

b. Open Space – Eklund Pond – Phragmites Removal – Greg Futoma

Greg Futoma introduced Anne Redfield who gave an overview of Eklund Pond project. The property is 7 acres with a freshwater pond abutting the DEEP facility. Invasive phragmites are filling in the pond and Open Space proposes to use an herbicide to abate the invasives and restore the pond as a wildlife refuge. First Selectman Griswold made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance that Open Space be authorized to spend up to \$40,000 over several years to eradicate phragmites in Eklund Pond and to seek grant funding. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

#### **2. Appointments:**

Water Pollution Control Authority - Selectwoman Shoemaker moved and Selectman Ward seconded a motion to approve the appointment of Brad Yerks to fill an unexpired Regular term ending 31 January 2026. Discussion: None. The motion was approved.

Inland Wetlands Commission - Selectman Ward moved and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded a motion to approve the appointments of Todd Crolius to an unexpired Regular term ending 31 January 2025 and the appointment of Scott Basham to an unexpired Alternate term ending 31 January 2026. Discussion: None. The motion was approved.

### 3. Old Business:

#### a. Project Updates

- i. Halls Rd. Improvement – Referred to Bd. of Finance on 24 Feb 23  
First Selectman Griswold said the contingency cost was reduced by \$500 to \$6,000.
- ii. Sound View Sidewalks – No Report  
First Selectman Griswold said the decorative boulder is being delivered soon.
- iii. Sound View Sewers - No Report  
First Selectman Griswold said there is a DEEP phone call at the end of the week.
- iv. Senior Ctr. Expansion - Update & \$15,000 recommendation to the BOF
- v. Ferry Road Sidewalk - Update  
First Selectman Griswold sent a letter to the owners of 11 Ferry Rd. notifying them that their fence must be removed from Town property. He will also send a letter to DOT requesting a one-year extension of the STEAP grant completion date of August 2013.
- vi. Swan Brook Outlet - Update  
First Selectman Griswold said the wood crib rebuild project is underway. An additional inspection of the pipe via a camera will be considered when the wood crib is completed.

#### b. Tantummaheag Landing – No Report

First Selectman Griswold said there will be a meeting with Mr. Frampton on Wednesday.

#### c. 36-1 Buttonball Rd.: Update

Selectman Ward said the property was marked out by Mike Barnes & Mike Aurelia and is ready for the Committee's viewing. John Mesham and Jared Bombaci are drafting the Committee's recommendations for the Board of Selectmen's approval.

#### d. Shoreline Gateway Committee: Update

Selectwoman Shoemaker said the February meeting with First Selectman Griswold and Chairs of Planning and Zoning was successful and the Committee will draft its mission statement.

### 4. New Business:

- a. Recommendation to BOF to proceed with Police Body/Dash Camera Hardware and Software:  
Selectman Ward made a motion to recommend that the Board of Finance move forward with this project. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. Discussion: None. The motion passed.
- b. Electric Rates for the Town and Possibly Other Agencies:  
First Selectman Griswold said the town is looking to bundle rates with the library and LYSB to reduce electric costs.
- c. Frontier Communications – Installation of Fiber Optic Cable Network:  
First Selectman Griswold said Frontier is installing fiber optic cable to support 3,500 households. Residents may purchase the upgraded high speed internet capabilities. The installation will be complete in May.

### 5. Other Business:

First Selectman Griswold made a motion to urge the Board of Finance to contract with Michaela Pearson as editor of the Annual Report. Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

Selectman Ward said the Police grievances have been resolved.

Selectman Ward would like to see the main doors of Town Hall opened to the public.

### 6. Adjournment: Selectman Ward made a motion and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m. The motion passed.

Minutes prepared by: Suzanne McAuliffe