

MEETING MINUTES
Easton Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting January 7, 2021
7:30 PM
Town Hall Conference Room A

ZOOM: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83145075214?pwd=TW53UTRzbnc3V3BPa2pYaExBeG5xdz09>

David Bindelglass called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: David Bindelglass, Kristi Sogofsky and Robert Lessler

1. Kristi Sogofsky moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting, December 17, 2020. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. A resident commented on the status of the trees at the Paine Property and about the bids for the Senior Center handrails for the ramp. The next resident suggested FOIA training for boards, commissions and committees, especially the newly formed ones. Another resident commented on 5G and the possible upcoming state and federal bills. The next resident asked about the new generator for EMS and whether or not the South Park Property should or should not be cleaned up and at what expense. He also asked what company was responsible for the UI tree work in town (Asplandh). Another resident commented on her concern regarding 5G and the effect it will have on our animals and beekeepers because we are a farming community. The last resident to comment spoke of 5G, the need for resurrecting the Road Commission and the Library Board of Trustee meeting.
3. Robert Lessler moved to approve the following tax refunds as recommended by Krista Kot, Tax Collector: 1. MRS. DEBRA FERRANTE - \$12.68; 2. NISSAN INFINITI LT - \$429.79. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. David Bindelglass moved to approve the expenditure previously approved by the Board of Finance for the new EMS 30kW Generac generator from Huntington Power in the amount of \$21,635.00. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
5. After a discussion, David Bindelglass moved to extend the 5G Resolution originally approved on May 7, 2020 and which expired on December 31, 2020 to June 30, 2021. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Kristi Sogofsky moved to appoint Chris Peritore as a member of the Easton Diversity and Inclusion Task Force for the unexpired term of 8/20/2020 – 1/2/2022. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Robert Lessler moved to re-appoint Tara Donnelly Gottlieb as an alternate on the Board of Finance for the term 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2027. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Phil Tamallanca as a member of the Park and Recreation Commission for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Robert Lessler moved to re-appoint Rocky Sullivan as a member of the Park and Recreation Commission for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Jay Habansky as an alternate on the Planning and

Zoning Commission for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Wallace Williams as a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2026. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Prabha Gupta as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Robert Lessler moved to re-appoint Sally England as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Eunice Hanson as a member of the Senior Center Advisory Board for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint Ron Berry as a member of the Insurance Commission for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Robert Lessler moved to re-appoint Anne Hughes as a member of the Commission for the Aging for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2024. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to re-appoint James Yeotsas as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners for the term of 1/2/2021 – 1/2/2026. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. David Bindelglass gave his update on COVID-19 saying that EMS has been reporting a much higher rate of COVID-19 cases needing transport to the hospital although the rate of hospitalization has not dramatically increased. Hybrid schooling starts next week for Samuel Staples Elementary School and Helen Keller Middle School; Joel Barlow High School will remain entirely remote. Most, if not all, first responders in Easton have received their first dose of vaccine. The hope is to begin vaccinating tier 1B next week. This group includes those over 75 years of age, essential workers and teachers (for a full list, see the www.ct.gov).
8. A resident thanked the board for extending the Resolution banning 5G to June. A resident asked if there was age data of the COVID cases and disapproved of the Library's living exhibit of inspirational quotes planned for the library grounds thinking it would detract from the 9/11 Memorial. The last public comment was regarding the resident's concern that the EDIT was not following town ordinances and felt it was dividing the town not unifying it.
9. Robert Lessler distributed research he had done on the proposed changes to the Land Use Ordinance. He also reflected on the horror of and extreme dismay regarding the events at the U.S. Capitol. Kristi Sogofsky called the attack on the U.S. Capitol appalling, disappointing and surprising, but is looking forward to the next chapter in this country. David Bindelglass concurred, adding that he felt the country expressed appropriate reactions to the horror. The words of former President George Bush, especially resonated with him.
10. Robert Lessler moved to adjourn at 8:36 pm. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.