

MEETING MINUTES  
Easton Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting January 21, 2021  
7:30 PM  
Town Hall Conference Room A  
ZOOM: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83523496554?pwd=MjBVbkFvUzdLYkFmaFVWaWZRdDh5dz09>

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 Selectman Meeting January 7, 2021 as amended. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Bob Lessler spoke about how one individual on several occasions has included anti-Semitic references and dog whistles in her commentary. The BOS will not tolerate any hateful rhetoric and should be empowered to interrupt the speaker and call out the offensive comment. If the resident persists, then the board should be empowered to direct the administrative assistant to mute the offending speaker. The board agreed but, generally speaking, the bar should be set very high for authorizing a call out or muting of a speaker. David Bindelglass noted that the board has been lax in enforcing the three minute time limit and will pay closer attention in the future.
3. A resident asked the board to support legislation relating to Connecticut State Statute 8-30g that would exempt watershed property from the affordable housing mandate.
4. Robert Lessler moved to approve the following tax refunds as recommended by Krista Kot, Tax Collector: 1. Mr. JOHN GONZALEZ - \$149.73; 2. TOYOTA LEASE TRUST - \$ 50.96. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Robert Lessler moved to appoint Jean Stetz-Puchalski as a member of the Agriculture Commission for the term of 1/2/21 – 1/2/24. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to appoint Lori Cochran Dougall as a member of the Agriculture Commission for the term of 1/2/21 – 1/2/24. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
6. David Bindelglass gave his update on COVID-19. The state has commenced the 1b rollout; hospitals are opening up more vaccine sites. Schools are doing well and remain open. We currently have 266 cases in Easton.
7. A resident asked for a copy of the research on the land use ordinance that Selectmen Robert Lessler prepared.
8. David Bindelglass commented that the town will enter into a voluntary mediation dispute resolution regarding the South Park Bridge. The Department of Public Works has done a great deal of work clearing fallen trees at Paine Open Space and Park and Recreation will help in the spring and fall with trail maintenance.
9. Kristi Sogofsky moved to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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