

Minutes
Easton Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting February 15, 2024
7:30 PM
Town Hall Conference Room (In-Person)
And
Virtually via Zoom

Present: David Bindelglass, Kristi Sogofsky, Nicholas D'Addario

1. Nicholas D'Addario moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting, February 1, 2024. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Several residents spoke about the proposed lease for the property located at 18-22 South Park Avenue.
3. Kristi Sogofsky moved to approve the following tax refunds as recommended by Krista Kot, Tax Collector. 1. VICTOR & JULIA MEJIA - \$36.00. 2. VICTOR MEJIA - \$144.95. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. David Bindelglass moved to accept the 8-24 referral from the Planning & Zoning Commission regarding the proposal to lease 18-22 South Park Avenue to the New England Prayer Center. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Discussion and possible action on award of bid for a fence at the Easton dog park to Orange Fence & Supply Co., Inc. in the amount of \$14,965 as recommended by Danielle Alves, Director of Park & Recreation. No action taken.
6. Discussion and possible action on award of bid for the pickleball/tennis court renovations to McCarthy Concrete in the amount of \$296,158 as recommended by B&B Engineering and Danielle Alves, Director of Park & Recreation. No action taken.
7. David Bindelglass moved to approve the proposed changes to the Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance to be placed on the agenda for next Town Meeting.
8. Kristi Sogofsky requested tabling Board of Ethics because the policy for self-appointed candidates was not met. All approved. Kristi Sogofsky moved to appoint Patrick Barry as a member to the Board of Fire Commissioners for a term ending 1/2/29. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously. David Bindelglass moved to appoint Randy Shapiro as a member of the Human Resource Advisory Committee for a term ending 5/4/24. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously. David Bindelglass moved to accept the resignation of Joe Glavan from the Land Acquisition and Preservation Authority and thanked him for his service. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Nicholas D'Addario moved to appoint Roberta Cable as an alternate to the Land Acquisition and Preservation Authority for a term ending 1/2/26. David Bindelglass seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Kristi Sogofsky moved to appoint Ritu Agarwal as member to the Senior Center Advisory Board for a term ending 1/2/27. Nicholas D'Addario seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kristi Sogofsky moved to appoint Nicholas D'Addario, Gerard O'Brien and Maureen Williams to the Task Force for the Protection of Town Volunteers & Officials. David Bindelglass seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

9. David Bindelglass said the Emergency Medical Services Planning & Building Committee canceled the meeting on Tuesday, February 13th. The committee will plan to meet with the architects at the next scheduled meeting. A Phase II Environmental Site Assessment is scheduled to be completed for current property and property next door. The First Selectman's currently working on the contract to purchase the property next door. Discussions regarding the land purchase will be discussed at an upcoming Board of Selectmen meeting under Executive Session.
10. A resident thanked the BOS for appointing Patrick Barry to the Board of Fire Commissioners. Several residents urged residents to write a letter to the State Senators to exempt Easton and 13 other towns from the 8-30g watershed. Another resident spoke about early voting. A resident spoke about damaged mailboxes due to the snowplows, water main breaks in town, and boards and commissions. Lastly, a resident spoke about Town of Easton personnel.
11. Kristi Sogofsky thanked everyone that had sent a letter about the watershed and encouraged others to do so as well. Nicholas D'Addario echoed Kristi's sentiments. David Bindelglass mentioned that the selectmen wrote letters and encouraged residents to write one as well. He mentioned that damaged mailboxes due to snowplows are not covered by the town. Dave spoke to Aquarion about the water main breaks, Aquarion said there were no common factors in the three breaks. He apologized to Kristi and said he will get better about the process of self-appointed candidates to boards and commissions. He also mentioned receiving a four page single space letter from a resident regarding the lease at 18-22 South Park Avenue and that the letter has a lot of mis-interpretations and questioned how much we want to spend on legal costs to respond to the letter. Lastly, Dave spoke about scheduling a Town Meeting to cover a shortfall in the school budget, Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance and the lease at 18-22 South Park Avenue.
12. Nicholas D'Addario moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:27pm. David Bindelglass seconded. Motion passed unanimously.