

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

February 23, 2015 – 7:30 p.m.

**Samuel Staples Elementary School, 515 Morehouse Road, Easton
MINUTES**

Present: Adam W. Dunsby, First Selectman; Scott Centrella, Selectman; Robert Lessler, Selectman; Christine Halloran, Town Clerk

Attendees: Approximately 21 members of the public

The First Selectman convened the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

The First Selectman asked for a motion to appoint a Moderator. Karen Martin nominated Bill Kupinse. The motion was seconded. The nomination was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator called upon the Town Clerk to read the call of the meeting. A copy is attached. The Moderator then preceded with the agenda items.

1. Discuss and approve the Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance as recommended by the 2014 Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee.

The Moderator called for a Motion to discuss the Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance. Dori Wollen moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator called for presentation of official comments, discussion, public comment, and questions. Paul Lindoerfer, Chair of the 2014 Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee, presented background regarding the ordinance, committee charter, committee responsibility, senior tax relief history, and proposed ordinance changes (copies attached). The purpose of the ordinance is to assist elderly homeowners with a portion of the costs of real estate property taxation and ensure that the Town of Easton provides the most relief to those homeowners who need it the most. The ordinance is not able to account for every conceivable variation for each homeowner, so there is an appeals process through the Board of Selectmen. After discussion and questions, the Moderator called for a Motion on the approval of the Tax Relief for the Elderly Ordinance as recommended by the 2014 Tax Relief for the Elderly Committee. Eric Lawton moved. The motion was seconded. No further discussion, public comment, or questions. The "aye" wins. Motion carried by majority voice vote.

2. Discussion and possible action on a resolution to approve a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Agreement (C-PACE).

The Moderator called for a motion on possible action on a resolution to approve a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Agreement (C-PACE). Cathy Alfandre moved. The motion was seconded. The Moderator called for official presentation, discussion, public comment, and questions. Alex Kovtunencko, Junior Counsel for C-PACE Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority, discussed the possible participation of the Town of Easton, the C-PACE process, and how municipalities opt into the program. C-PACE is for non-profit, commercial, industrial and multi-family building owners

approved by Connecticut legislation and used as a financing tool to help ensure Connecticut's energy security and community prosperity by realizing its environmental and economic opportunities through clean energy finance and investments. The role of municipalities includes: placement of benefit assessment lien on the land records; levy of benefit assessment; continuation, recording, and release of lien; assignment of benefit assessment lien; and billing and collection with payment to CEFIA (Clean Energy Finance and Investment Authority). Of the 169 towns in Connecticut, 105 have opted into the program. Moderator called for a motion for "(a) that we, the Town Meeting, constituting the legislative body of the Town of Easton, hereby approve the C-PACE Agreement, and (b) that the First Selectman, Adam Dunsby, is hereby authorized and directed, on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver the C-PACE Agreement, substantially in the form attached to this Resolution, for the purposes provided therein, together with such other documents as he or she may determine to be necessary and appropriate to evidence, secure and otherwise complete the C-PACE Agreement." Chris Griffin moved. The motion was seconded. No further discussion, public comment, or questions. The "aye" wins. Motion carried by voice vote.

3. Adjournment.

Bill Kupinse called to adjourn the meeting. Michael Licamele moved. The motion was seconded. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Submitted,
Christine Halloran
Easton Town Clerk