

MEETING MINUTES
Easton Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting August 19, 2021
7:30 PM
Town Hall Conference Room A

ZOOM: BOARD OF SELECTMEN

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132994853?pwd=eENPRjFITTZlOTN3ZlIEcHR1RjV3dz09>

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

Present: David Bindelglass, Kristi Sogofsky(Via ZOOM) and Robert Lessler

1. Robert Lessler moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting, July 15, 2021, as amended. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Kristi Sogofsky moved to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen Special Meeting, July 29, 2021. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Nine member of the public spoke regarding 5G, proceedings regarding the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Ethics and Land Use Ordinances, postcards, the 9/11 20th Anniversary Ceremony of Remembrance, the WWHD and undocumented immigrants.
4. Robert Lessler moved to approve the following tax refunds as recommended by Krista Kot, Tax Collector. 1. GEORGE KELLY - \$695.71; 2. ALLY BANK, AGENDT FOR VAULT TRUST - \$488.65; 3. ALLY BANK, AGENT FOR VAULT TRUST - \$631.80. Dave Bindelglass seconded. Kristi Sogofsky abstained. Motion passed.
5. Robert Lessler moved to approve the the application for a Driveway Variance and Indemnity Agreement for the installation of Belgium block at 194 Morehouse Road. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kristi Sogofsky moved to add agenda item 5A. Discussion and possible action regarding a Resolution of Authority to the Connecticut Department of Housing for the Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant Program. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

5A. Robert Lessler moved to authorize Christine Halloran, Easton Town Clerk to certify the following resolution; resolved, that the Board of Selectmen may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Depat. Of Housing for the Affordable Housing Plan Technical Assistance Grant Program, any and all documents which it deems necessary or appropriate and further resolved, that David Bindelglass, as First Selectman of the Town of Easton is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents which he deems necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents and further certifies that David Bindelglass now holds the office of First Selectman and that he has held that office since November 03, 2019. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. After a discussion regarding of the appointment to fill a vacancy on the Region 9 Board of Education which occurred prior to the seat being officially vacant, Robert Lessler moved to appoint Sarah Lehberger to the Region 9 Board of Education to fill the unexpired term of 11/5/2019 – 11/7/2023. Dave Bindelglass seconded. Kristi Sogofsky feels this would be a good time to more thoroughly discuss this appointment, voted no. Motion passed. David Bindelglass moved to appoint Tom Dollard as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals for the unexpired term of November 7, 2017 to November 7, 2023. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. After a brief discussion, the Tax Exempt Handicap Vehicle Ordinance review is tabled to the next meeting. (Draft is available on our website located with the agenda.)
8. After a discussion on the first draft of the Ethics Ordinance, the review is tabled to the next meeting. (Draft is available on our website located with the agenda.)
9. Read only, South Park Advisory Committee Final Report. (Draft is available on our website located with the agenda.)
10. Read only, Easton Road Safety Audit. (Draft is available on our website located with the agenda.)
11. Dave Bindelglass moved to award the bid to Gold Seal Roofing in the amount of \$514,000.00 for the 660 Partial Roof Replacement as recommended by Edward Nagy, P.E., Director of Public Works. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
12. Robert Lessler moved to add: **"Whereas**, in light of the ruling of the D.C. Court of Appeals, in Environmental Health Trust, et al., v. Federal Communications Commission and United States of America filed 8.13.21, and ", to the current 5G Resolution and extend the resolution to December 31, 2021. (see attached) Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
13. Dave Bindelglass announced a Special Town Meeting to be held on September 13, 2021, with a referendum to follow on September 21, 2021. The agenda for the Special Town Meeting will be set at the Special Board of Selectmen meeting, September 1, 2021. The regular Board of Selectmen meeting scheduled for September 2, 2021 will be cancelled.
14. Eight members of the public spoke regarding publishing rules for Special Town Meetings, 5G, Affordable Housing Consultant, agenda items for the Special Town Meeting, Tax Exempt Vehicle Ordinance, bid for 660 Partial Roof Replacement, members of the Code of Ethics review, Land Use Ordinance and Region 9 politics, assessment of schools regarding 5G and finally, that it is hard to hear members of the public that were in attendance and spoke at the meeting.
15. Kristi Sogofsky reminded everyone that the Ethics, Land Use and Handicapped Vehicle Ordinances are available on the town website. She asked that the new Social Media Policy recently adopted by the Board of Selectmen be posted on the town website. She reminded people of why it is important to state your name and address before speaking at our meetings. Although we may know who you are, others may not.
 Robert Lessler noted that while the Planning and Zoning Commission, as all boards and commissions, gets to decide whether to have public comment and how to handle it, he hopes they will find a way to offer the public an opportunity to participate. He is hopeful the new school year will get off to a safe and healthy start and the best way to make sure what happens is for everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated against Covid 19 and to follow masking guidelines.
 Dave Bindelglass reported that COVID hospitalization numbers are not great. He will speak to the members of the Planning and Zoning Commission about their proposed new rules of procedure. He previewed the mask mandate about to be jointly implemented among the towns of Fairfield, Westport and Easton. He said more information will be coming regarding the Westport Weston Health District lawsuit. While he can't comment specifically on this litigation, he cautioned everyone that not all lawsuits have a solid foundation. He announced that the 9/11 Twentieth Anniversary Commemoration event will take place on Saturday, Sept. 11, starting at 10 a.m. at the memorial located in front of the library.
16. Robert Lessler moved to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. Kristi Sogofsky seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3A~08.19.21



Town of Easton

A Resolution calling upon all Telecommunications Companies and Public Utilities operating in Easton, Connecticut to cease the build-out of so-called "5G" Wireless Infrastructure until such technologies have been proven safe to human health and the environment through independent research and testing.

Whereas, the telecommunications industry is engaged in a massive deployment of microwave and millimeter-wave "small cell" antennas across the county to facilitate the next generation of wireless communications known as 5G, and

Whereas, this new technology uses existing wireless infrastructure and new types of radio-frequency (RF) microwave radiation to transmit large amounts of data, but requires significantly closer proximity to users, resulting in the dense deployment of antennas near residences, schools, and hospitals, and

Whereas, the deployment of 5G-enabled small cell antennas in our neighborhoods raises questions regarding the potential health and environmental impacts of long-term exposure to untested RF microwave radiation frequencies, and

Whereas, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has not conducted any long-term safety testing of new 5G wireless technologies, and has failed to update its human RF microwave radiation exposure guidelines since 1996, despite being advised to do so by the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO), the American Academy of Pediatrics, and hundreds of medical and scientific experts from around the world, and

Whereas, in light of the ruling of the United States Court Of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, in Environmental Health Trust, et al., v. Federal Communications Commission and United States of America filed 8.13.21, and

Whereas, a significant body of published, peer-reviewed, independent investigation suggests a link from exposure to RF microwave radiation with serious environmental and biological harm, including increased risk of cancer, reproductive problems and neurological impairments, and

Whereas, populations, especially at risk from this exposure include pregnant women, children, the elderly, and individuals with implanted medical devices, or cardiac or neurological problems, and

Whereas, Swiss Re, the second-largest re-insurance company in the world, called 5G a "high impact" liability risk due to health risks in its 2019 SONAR emerging risks report, and

Whereas, the theory that exposure to RF microwave radiation is harmless, which has been the underlying principle of all federal legislation and regulations regarding wireless technologies for more than twenty years, has now been questioned,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

that Easton calls upon all Telecommunications Companies and Public Utilities operating in Easton to cease and desist in the build-out of 5G-enabled small cell antennas until December 31, 2021.

Revision approved by the Board of Selectmen August 19, 2021