

## MEETING MINUTES

Easton Board of Selectmen  
February 2, 2017 – 7:30 p.m.  
Town Hall Conference Room A

Adam Dunsby called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Adam Dunsby, Carrie Colangelo, Robert Lessler

1. Robert Lessler moved to approve the minutes of the Easton Board of Selectmen Meeting of January 19, 2017 with the following corrections: Item #4 should read "*Easton Grand List of October 1, 2016.*" Item #5, add "s" to employee. Item #8 in the third appointment the last sentence should have a "." at the end. Carrie Colangelo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. A resident discussed his disapproval of a recent letter to the editor that was published in the Easton Courier.
3. Carrie Colangelo moved to approve the following tax refunds as recommended by Krista Kot, Tax Collector:  
1. ALLY FINANCIAL - \$476.41; 2. GEOFFREY H. CHAPIN - \$133.10; 3. JUDE C. AND JEAN V. RYDZIK - \$249.26; 4. ROBERT A. SCHWAEBER - \$17.77. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Jean Stetz-Pulchalski of the Agriculture Commission discussed four action items with the Board of Selectmen. First, was the review and possible submission of an agreement for the joint partnership of the Farmland Preservation Program and the Community Farms Preservation Program between the State of Connecticut, Department of Agriculture and the Town of Easton to set the stage for potential applicants who may look for easements in agricultural lands for maintenance and preservation. Second, the Agriculture Commission has applied for a "Farmland Viability Grant" to campaign to have Easton named as the *Christmas Tree Capitol of Connecticut*. Third, the Commission has asked to be able to place flyers or a brochure at the front desk and Town Clerk area promoting the Agriculture Commission and farming in general in Easton. They also will be looking into possible signage for the farming activities at Samuel Staples Elementary School. Signage would provide educational information not only to the students who attend the school but also to the general public. Finally, the Commission requested funding from the Board of Selectmen for a membership with the Bridgeport Regional Business Council. The Agriculture Commission will report back to the Board of Selectmen on the issues noted above.
5. Robert Lessler moved to appoint Sandra Neubert to the Insurance Commission for the term 1/2/2017 expiring 1/2/2019. Adam Dunsby seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Robert Lessler moved to re-appoint Maureen Williams as an alternate on the Zoning Board of Appeals for the term 1/2/2017 expiring 1/2/2019. Carrie Colangelo seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
6. Ray Vergati, Site Development Manager with Homeland Towers, LLC presented an amendment to the existing ground lease between Homeland and the Town of Easton. Mr. Vergati indicated that Verizon has reduced the rent it is willing to pay to tower companies. Homeland's amendment is asking for a reduction on the gross rents from 50% to 40% and a reduction on the annual escalation from 3% to 2%. Carrie Colangelo made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss any action on the lease and amendment presented by Homeland Towers. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously. The Board of Selectmen commenced Executive Session at 8:45 p.m.

The Board of Selectmen returned from Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. No votes or other action was taken during Executive Session. Adam Dunsby presented a counter proposal to Homeland Towers. Mr. Vergati will return to Homeland with the suggested revision in the proposal and will keep the Board informed.

7. No board member comment.
8. Carrie Colangelo moved to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. Robert Lessler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3A~02-02-17