



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday March 25, 2020**  
**Virtual Meeting– 6:30 PM**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – A meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on Wednesday March 25, 2020 at the Town Hall Meeting Room. First Selectman Hayden called the meeting to order at 6:35pm. Selectman Doering and Selectman Ziobro were present.

First Selectman Hayden briefly discussed COVID-19 and the effect on the town and community. Virtual meetings via Zoom will be held for town board and commission meetings. Where possible, GCTV will tape or record the meetings for review on the town website. In the absence of GCTV, Zoom archives will be linked to the town website. He asked for patience as new technology is used and reminded residents to use social distancing.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**– None
3. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Zoom Meeting Participation Instructions, Conference Call Information, CCM on Town Budgets and Meeting Requirement, CSP Letter on Governor’s Executive Order Regarding Enforcement of Non-Essential Workers Staying Home, Frequently Asked Question on CT Actions Related to COVID-19, Treasurer’s Reports – FY20 Final, January and February 2020, Eversource Lattice Tower Replacement Project, State Bond Package,
4. **MINUTES** – Selectman Ziobro made a motion to accept the March 11, 2020 minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**
5. **OLD BUSINESS** –
  - a. **Tax Incentives** – No new information.
  - b. **School Town Building Committee Report** – No new information since there has not been a Committee meeting since the last BOS Meeting. The Allgrove air conditioning and electric upgrade will be discussed next week’s Building Committee meeting. The

goal is to have air conditioning at Allgrove this fall depending on impact of the Coronavirus Outbreak and closure of the schools on the timetable

- c. **Economic Development Report** – First Selectman Hayden mentioned there are two consultants who will be starting this week, one who specializes in business/developer/real estate and the other in marketing. For the remainder of the fiscal year they will work 14-21 hours weekly, moving forward. Barring any changes with the new budget, there will be 14 hours dedicated to “boots on the ground” economic development assistance in the upcoming year.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Act and Consider on Emergency Declaration** – First Selectman Hayden explained that a Declaration of Emergency is a notification to residents and the State and Federal Government that there is an emergency. The President and the Governor have declared an emergency and the local declaration is a means by which the Town can officially request mutual aid from neighboring towns and apply for reimbursement from FEMA for expenses that are spent to combat the emergency. Both Connecticut General Statute 28-8a and East Granby Ordinance 20-1 reference states of emergency. Selectman Doering made the following motion:

### DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY GLOBAL PANDEMIC OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE

“WHEREAS, there exists a global pandemic of Coronavirus Disease 2019 ("COVID-19"); and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has resulted in the spread of infections throughout the United States and the State of Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, the Governor declared a public health emergency and civil preparedness emergency throughout the State pursuant to sections 1 9a-13 la and 28-9 of the General Statutes; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency pursuant to section 501 (b) of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207 (the "Stafford Act"); and

WHEREAS, it is critically important that the First Selectman have all authorities necessary to limit the spread of the COVID-19 and protect public health and safety within the Town of East Granby; and

WHEREAS, upon the declaration of a state of emergency by the First Selectman, the First Selectman will assume such complete central direction over Emergency

Management and may do whatever he may deem necessary for the purpose of meeting the emergency.

NOW, THEREFORE, I HEREBY DECLARE pursuant to section 20-1 of the Ordinances of The Town of East Granby, that a state of emergency exists in the Town of East Granby as a result of the global pandemic of COVID- 19; and

I FURTHER DECLARE that such state of emergency shall exist until declared to be terminated by the Board of Selectmen; and

I HEREBY DIRECT Town Personnel to meet the emergency by continuing to mobilize, organize and direct the resources of the Town and to continue to call upon and cooperate with the forces of the federal government, the State and other political subdivisions.”

Seconded by First Selectman Hayden. Selectman Ziobro said he thought it was too early to declare an emergency and he thought that in doing so, too much power was put in the hands of the First Selectman. The First Selectman explained that this was standard operating procedure during urgent situations, and part of the Unified Command Structure. The President and Governor are operating under emergency declarations and this would be for the municipal level. An emergency declaration was last enacted during the 2011 Halloween Snowstorm. The declaration will allow the Town to receive Federal FEMA reimbursement for expenses associated with COVID-19 and request mutual aid from neighboring towns. The declaration also gives the First Selectman central direction over Emergency Management and the authority necessary to protect public health and safety in town. Selectman Doering said that he thought that if anything was an emergency it was COVID-19 and he thought enactment of the declaration was appropriate. **Motion Approved** – Hayden and Doering in favor. Ziobro opposed.

**b. Governor Lamont’s Executive Order 7I and the Extension of FY21 Budget Deadlines** – First Selectman Hayden said that as a result of Executive Order 7I, the Board of Finance, which normally develops the annual budget and brings that budget to Town Meeting/Referendum for approval and then sets the Mill Rate will now approve the Annual Budget and set the Mill Rate. The Executive Order allows for budget deadlines to be extended. It is planned that there will be a virtual budget hearing but not a Town Meeting or Referendum. Selectman Doering made the following motion:

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, Governor Lamont issued declarations of public health and civil preparedness emergencies, proclaiming a state of emergency throughout the State of Connecticut as a result of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak in the United States and confirmed spread in Connecticut; and

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Executive Order No. 7C, dated March 15, 2020, among other things, extended deadlines for municipal budget preparations and provided that

the Board of Selectman may alter or modify the schedules and deadlines pertaining to the preparation and submission of a proposed budget and the deliberation or actions on said budget by the legislative body or other fiscal authority, including any required public hearing(s), publication, referendum or final budget adoption: Now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectman of the Town of East Granby hereby alters the budget deadline for the Annual Town Budget for FY 20-21 in accordance with the new schedule to be submitted by the Board of Finance to the First Selectman; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the First Selectman is hereby authorized to negotiate, review and approve the new budget deadlines for the Annual Town Budget for FY 20-21 in accordance with the new schedule submitted by the Board of Finance

Seconded by First Selectman Hayden. Selectman Ziobro expressed his concern about the second “Resolved” of the Resolution. First Selectman Hayden said that the negotiation, review and approval pertained strictly to the dates and not to anything else regarding the budget. **Motion Approved** – Hayden and Doering in favor. Ziobro abstained.

c. **Tax Refunds** – Selectman Ziobro made a motion to accept the tax refunds as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – None

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Not needed.

9. **ADJOURN** – Selectman Ziobro made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously** at 7:20pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Nicole Sokolowski