



BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday September 22, 2021
Town Hall Meeting Room –6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – A meeting of the East Granby Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at the Town Hall Meeting Room. First Selectman Hayden called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. Selectman Doering and Selectwoman Wimpfheimer were present.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – none.
3. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Town Attorney Ordinance Email, August Police Blotter, Eversource Service Disconnection Information, Center Street/Route 20 Traffic Signal Upgrade, Shared Service Leaf Disposal with Simsbury, General Government June and August Financials, Tax Collector June, and August Reports, June, July & August Treasurer’s Report, State-wide Meeting to Discuss Teen-age Car Thefts.
4. **MINUTES** – Selectwomen Wimpfheimer made a motion to accept the September 8, 2021, minutes as presented. Seconded by Selectman Doering. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**
5. **OLD BUSINESS** –
 - a. **School Town Building Committee Report** – The Air Conditioning Project at Allgrove is complete. Road paving and drainage work continues on Newgate Road and should be completed in October. Federal and State approval for the Floydville Bridge scour project has not been received and will delay the project until 2022.
 - b. **Economic Development Report** – The First Selectman reviewed the September 17, 2021, Economic Development Activities Report with the BOS. Of note is that during the summer, the P&Z approved a revision of a Special Exception for East Granby Meadows regarding their 47 unit Planned Unit Development off of East Street
 - c. **Back Office Shared Services Opportunities** – tabled, no new information.
 - d. **Long-Term Recovery Committee Report** – LTRC chair, Joe Doering submitted a written report to the First Selectman that included identifying an unmet need with adult mental health and addiction services as a result of COVID. Mr. Doering also has met with the East Granby Directors of Senior Services, Social Services and

Parks and Recreation to see if there are any additional unmet needs to address. The First Selectman said that America Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds may be available to finance qualified unmet needs and that he had spoken with CHR of Enfield regarding opportunities to work together. CHR currently provides support to East Granby and Suffield Police through a 5-year grant. CHR specializes in behavioral health and also works extensively with children and families for care coordination and addiction services.

- e. **American Rescue Plan (ARPA) Protocols and Controls** – First Selectman Hayden presented for BOS consideration the following ARPA guidelines:

Funding: \$760,593 has been received in June 2021 and \$760,593 is scheduled to be received in June 2022 for a total ARPA Grant of \$1,521,186 for municipal projects. Projects must be approved and funded by 2024 and completed by 2026. Specific interim rules for the proper dispersal of ARPA funds will be issued by the U.S. Treasury by the end of December 2021.

ARPA Eligible Items: programs related to the effects of the COVID pandemic that support the public health response, address negative economic impacts, invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, and replace lost municipal revenue.

ARPA In-eligible Items: programs that pay down unfunded pension liabilities and pay interest or principal on outstanding debt are in-eligible. ARPA funds cannot be used to reduce taxes or increase the “rainy day” fund. They also cannot be used retroactively for infrastructure projects. Covered costs begin March 2021

ARPA Guidelines:

- ARPA fund dispersals and approvals would be the responsibility of the First Selectman and the Board of Selectman
- Expenditures must be pandemic response related. Approved uses to be delineated by the U.S. Treasury will include public health response, address negative economic impacts, invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, and replace the loss of revenue.
- A separate account will be established by the Treasurer to track the funds.
- The First Selectman and the Treasurer will publish a monthly report of the ARPA fund balance and expenditures for the BOF and BOS.
- ARPA is intended to be one-time funding and should be used for one-time municipal projects minimizing the financial impact on the operating expenses when ARPA funding expires in 2026.
- The First Selectman will reach out to town department heads, the Long-Term Recovery Committee, and local non-profits to solicit projects that would address needs that could be met by ARPA funding.
- Similar to capital projects, ARPA projects under \$5,000 require administrative approval by First Selectman.
- ARPA projects over \$5,000 would require BOS approval.
- The BOS should consider hiring a grant manager to oversee the process of project identification, create eligibility criteria, solicit projects for BOS

approvals and balance the ARPA account with the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer.

- ARPA funds are to be used for costs incurred beginning on March 3, 2021.

Selectman Doering made a motion to accept the ARPA Guidelines as presented. Seconded by Selectwoman Wimpfheimer. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

- f. 5-year Capital Plan**– The First Selectman said that he presented the approved General Government 5-year Capital Plan to the BOF at their September 21, 2021, meeting. The BOF will act upon the 5-year Plan at their next meeting. First Selectman Hayden said that there was a late addition to the 5-year Plan by Buildings & Maintenance. The First Selectman suggested that the BOS amend the 5-year plan by adding \$20,000 for an addressable fire alarm at the Community Center to FY27. That would also change the FY27 total to \$485,000. The BOS consensus was to proceed with the additional item.

- g. Wildlife Crossing** – No new information.

6. NEW BUSINESS –

- a. Tax Refunds** – Selectman Doering made a motion to accept the Tax Refunds as presented by the Tax Clerk and the Assessor. Seconded by Selectwoman Wimpfheimer. **Motion Approved Unanimously.**

- b. Consider Commercial Incentive Draft Ordinance** – The First Selectman reviewed the draft Incentive Ordinance with the BOS which is still being worked on by the Town Attorney, Community Development Director, and the Economic Development Officers. The Town Attorney, Community Development Director and the EDC will make edits and forward to the First Selectman and the BOS for their consideration. The First Selectman expects that the BOS will consider and act upon the ordinance at their October 13th or October 27th meeting. After BOS approval, the next step would be to take the ordinance to Town Meeting in mid-November.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT – none

- 8. EXECUTIVE SESSION to Discuss Negotiations for the Property off Floydville Road and Personnel Matters** – First Selectwoman Wimpfheimer made a motion to go into executive session at 7:30 pm to discuss negotiations for the property off Floydville Road and Personnel Matters and no votes would be taken. Seconded by Selectman Doering **Motion Approved Unanimously.** The BOS came out of Executive Session at 7:48 pm.

- 9. ADJOURN** – Selectman Doering made a motion to adjourn at 7:48 pm. Seconded by Selectwomen Wimpfheimer. **Motion Approved Unanimously**

Respectfully Submitted,
James M. Hayden
First Selectman