

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, June 10, 2015 at 6:30 PM

Members present: Linda Cook, Chair; Christopher Ashley; Steve Flanders; Dan Goulet; Mary Layton, Vice-Chair; Neil Fulton, Town Manager and Jonathan Bynum.

There were about 12 people in the audience.

Also participating: Kris Clement, Dennis Kaufman, Steve Leinoff, Cheryl Lindberg, Suzanne Lupien, Doug Robinson, Henry Scheier, Irv Thomae

Cook opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). The Selectboard, by consensus, approved the Agenda as is.
2. Public Comments. None at this point.
3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Fulton's report included updates on the wildfire on Tigertown Road, the possibility of siting a solar project in the infield of the I-91/Route 10A interchange, and the progress of the Safe Routes to School project. There were some questions on the location, size, and esthetics of the possible solar project.
 - a. Norwich Pool Dam Replacement Status. There is a public forum scheduled for 23 June 2015. There was discussion of whether it was possible for fish to migrate up Blood Brook from the Connecticut, given the presence of the steep culvert under I-91.
4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). After some questions, Ashley **moved** (2nd Layton) to approve Check Warrant Report #15-28 for General Fund in the amount of \$55,438.27 and for Land Management Council Fund in the amount of \$512.50 for the period from 05/28/15 to 06/10/15. **Motion passed.**
5. Request to Expend \$13,200 from the Town Clerk Equipment and General Administration Reserve Funds to Replace Two Multifunction Printers (Discussion/Action Item). Fulton presented some options for replacing the Town's two multifunction copier/printers. The current machines are expensive to maintain. After discussion, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) to authorize the Town Manager to spend approximately \$4,985 from the Town Clerk Reserve Fund and \$8,215 from the General Administration Reserve Fund. **Motion passed.**
6. Ordinance to Regulate Alarm Systems in the Town of Norwich (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Leinoff and Robinson spoke in favor of the draft ordinance. After some discussion of the actual cost to the Town of responding to false alarms, the penalties described in the ordinance, and how this information would be disseminated to citizens, pursuant to Title 24 VSA § 1971, Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) for the Selectboard to adopt the Ordinance to Regulate Alarm Systems in the Town of Norwich and authorize the Chair to sign. **Motion passed.**
7. Process to Publicize VLCT Forum on Selectboard/Town Manger Form of Government (Discussion/Possible Action Item). After discussion of the usual forms of publicizing such events, Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) that Layton, coordinating with Cook and Fulton, draft a letter on the VLCT forum, and that Ashley, coordinating with Cook and Fulton, draft a letter on the Pool Dam forum for publication in the Valley News. **Motion passed.**

8. Effective Communications with the Public (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Cook submitted a copy of an electronic newsletter distributed weekly by the Windsor Town Manger as an example of effective communications with the public. After discussion of this idea and other means of disseminating information, Kris Clement suggested that the Selectboard appoint a Communications Committee to study how most effectively to communicate with the public. It was agreed to revisit this issue at the next meeting.

9. Finance Committee Charge and Appointment Process (Discussion/Possible Action Item). There was discussion of the difficulty in finding volunteers, the history of the Norwich Finance Committee, and the appointment process. It was agreed to revisit this issue at the next meeting.

10. East Central Vermont Telecommunications District. Approve that the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District Qualifies as a Communications Union District under 30 V.S.A. Chapter 82 and Appoint Irv Thomae as Norwich's Representative. (Discussion/Action Item). Irv Thomae presented the reasons why this step is necessary. After discussion, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) for the Selectboard to Adopt the Resolution Approving the Formation of the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District, which qualifies as a Communications Union District under 30 V.S.A. Chapter 82 and Appoint Irv Thomae as Norwich's Representative. **Motion passed.**

11. Correspondence (Please go to www.norwich.vt.us, click on Boards & Committees from the blue banner, click on Selectboard and click on Recent Selectboard Correspondence in the middle section to view resident correspondence): (Discussion/Possible Action Item)

- a) Memorandum from the Town Clerk re Dog Licenses. Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) to receive a Memorandum from the Town Clerk re Dog Licenses. **Motion passed.**

13. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 5/13/15 and 5/27/15 Selectboard Meetings (Action Item)
Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) to approve the minutes of the 5/13/15 Selectboard meeting and the minutes of the 5/27/15 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**
- b) Review of Future Agenda Items (Discussion/Possible Action Item)
- Burn ordinance
 - Statute on Budget Advisory Committee
 - Background on setting of tax rate/treatment of undesignated fund
 - Personnel policies
 - Selectboard calendar and goals
 - Meet with Rob Gurwitt
 - Expenditure from Conservation Commission Reserve Fund
 - FY16 Paving Program
 - Trustee of Public Funds Appointment
 - Norwich Pool Dam
 - Summer schedule

Goulet **moved** (2nd Flanders) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on July 8, 2015.

Jonathan Bynum

Linda Cook
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – June 24, 2015 at 6:30 PM

PLEASE NOTE THAT CATV RECORDS ALL REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE NORWICH
SELECTBOARD.