

TOWN OF NORWICH
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Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Tuesday, June 24 , 2003 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Liz Blum, Chair; Jack Candon, Linda Cook; Nancy Hoggson; Suzanne Stofflet; Dennis Pavlicek, Town Manager, Secretary Tina Moses.

Also Participating: Emily Bensen, Terry Boone, Paul Donohue, Jennie Hubbard, Ralph Hybels, Dennis Kaufman, Jeff Mathias, Lynn McGrew, Nelson Kasfir, Chris Katucki, Cheryl Lindberg, Creigh Moffatt, Peter Richardson, Liz Russell, Henry Scheier. There were approximately 20 members in the audience at this meeting.

Blum opened the meeting at 6:30pm

- 1) Approval of Agenda – Hoggson **moved** to approve the agenda (second Cook). **Motion passed.**
- 2) Public Comments – McGrew asked why he had seen the Sheriff's Department so frequently in town and if we were paying them. Pavlicek said we are not paying for any services with the Sheriffs Department at this point.
- 3) Town Manager's Report – Pavlicek mentioned the following items; the tragic events of a week ago and thanked Norwich's Fast/Fire and Police Departments for their hard work and dedication during this difficult situation, the bids for the bridgework and salt shed projects, the Emergency Management Grant to install the generator at Tracy Hall and his meeting with Andy Hodgdon, Jake Blum and Chief Soares and the Conservation Commission regarding road and tree issues.
- 4) Finance
 - a) Legal Bills – One to Brady and Callahan for professional services related to the Klem appeal in the amount of \$60. One to Desmeules, Olmstead and Ostler in the amount of \$773.50 for deed work related to the Transfer Station and Highway Garage.
 - a) Orders on the General Fund – Hoggson **moved** to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #223 in the amount of \$48,708.37, Accounts Payable Warrant #224 in the amount of \$9,000 from the designated funds and the payroll warrant for the period ending 6/21/03 in the amount of \$33,235.51 (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.** Candon disclosed that there were checks in the warrant for paying the Selectboard. Each Selectboard member is allotted a stipend of \$500 per year and is made in two semi-annual payments.
- 5) Town Seal – Stofflet said the judges had over 300 seals to choose from. She complimented the entire group of children for all their hard work. She said the seal chosen was made by fifth grader, Emily Bensen. Ms. Bensen presented the board with framed and signed copy of her seal. Hoggson **moved** to accept Bensen's seal (second Candon). **Motion passed.**
- 6) Roads
 - a) Review of Class 4 Road Report
 - i) Consideration of initiation of 19 VSA §708 proceeding for consideration of reclassification or discontinuation of specific Class 4 Roads – Members of the committee came forth to discuss their final report and the process needed to continue. Hoggson **moved** to initiate proceeding to layout, alter or reclassify the roads as presented according to 19VSA 708 (second Stofflet). Cook asked if we are looking to discontinue the Lost Road and Richardson said yes. She asked if the deeds could be

reviewed and what it would cost to do so. Pavlicek said he did not know at this time what it would cost to do that but that he would try to research the highway books out himself before hiring anyone. **Motion withdrawn.** Cook **moved** that the consideration of the initiation of 19 VSA §708 proceeding for consideration of reclassification or discontinuation of specific Class 4 Roads be postponed to a date certain (second Candon). **Motion passed.**

7) Regional Planning Commissions

- a) Possible vote on joining Hartford with the study – Stofflet gave a general overview of the events that have taken place over the few weeks and due to these she **moved** to join the study with Hartford and pay the cost's proportionately based on Norwich's population (second Hoggson). There was much discussion between the board and the audience on this topic. Hoggson **moved** to call the question. **Motion passed** (3-2), Cook-Candon- no. The original **motion passed** (3-2). Cook-Candon-no.

8) DRB

- a) Study and Training Committee Final Report – Stofflet presented the report and pointed out particular items of interest with regard to timing. She thanked the committee who worked on this and complimented them on a fine job done.
- b) MAPA Committee Final Report - Katucki said he would suggest Candon read the recommendation of the committee aloud to the group. Candon read aloud the report and made some comments. Hoggson **moved** to accept the recommendations of the Training and Support committee which is recommending training DRB members now for implementation in the fall and the MAPA committee which is recommending not to adopt MAPA at the same time (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
- c) Appointments – Blum said we have received 10 applicants for the DRB and she read the names of the applicants aloud. Candon **moved** to appoint the ten members to the DRB with a chair to convene the first meeting and their status as to full or alternate members be determined by the board at a date before the first hearing. **Motion passed.**

9) Affordable Housing Committee

- a) Route 5 issue – Candon recused, as he was the attorney for the school during the sale of the Route 5 property. Blum said the Affordable Housing Committee went before the Dresden School Board to discuss the possibility of a feasibility study on the property on Route 5. Moffatt presented a handout outlining some of the reasons why people were pro or con on this issue. She gave her feeling as to why she believes this would be a great thing for the Town of Norwich to be involved in. Hoggson **moved** that the Norwich Selectboard draft a letter to the Dresden School Board at the request of the Affordable Housing Committee in support of doing a feasibility study to look at the possibility of workforce housing on the Route 5 property (second Stofflet). **Motion passed** (3-1), Cook-No. Candon-abstained.

10) Correspondence – Willey Hill speed issue – Pavlicek said he has turned this issue over to the Chief of Police and will let the board know once he has heard back. He will notify the residents that we are still working on the issue.

11) Selectboard

- a) Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
 - i) June 10, 2003 – Candon said he will not vote as he was not present. Postponed to next meeting.

Hoggson **moved** to adjourn at 9:30pm (Second Stofferlet). **Motion passed.**

Next Regular Meeting – July 8, 2003 at 6:30 PM

Approved by the Selectboard on July 22, 2003.

By, Kristina Moses
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum
Selectboard Chair