

TOWN OF NORWICH
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Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Tuesday, November 25, 2003 at 6:30 PM

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

Also Participating: Lucy Gibson, Dennis Kaufman, Brian Livingston, Alison May, Stuart Richards, Henry Scheier, Irv Thomaе. There were approximately 10 members in the audience at this meeting

Blum opened the meeting at 6:30pm.

- 1) Approval of Agenda – Cook **moved** to approve with changes (second Hoggson). **Motion passed**
- 2) Public Comments – Cook announced she was invited to speak on a panel and have discussion with NH and VT towns on Class 4 roads at 7:00pm on December 4th. Hoggson said she really liked the new changes in the format of the recent issue of the Happenings. She applauded the staff of the Happenings for their hard work. Stofflet said she spoke with Bob Franzoni about distribution of the tapes of the Selectboard meetings. CATV will work on providing them earlier to the library so they will be more readily available to residents.
- 3) Discussion regarding 6th grade tuition – Hoggson said she asked for this to be placed on the agenda as she watched the tape of the last Dresden meeting and had some concerns. She asked Scheier and May what they anticipated might happen at the meeting tonight. Scheier said he presented a proposal concerning resolution of the 6th grade issue. He said he doesn't know what will happen tonight but that it is scheduled as an item for action. He explained his proposal to the group. Thomaе explained how the issue with the 6th grade tuition issue came up and he also raised his concern about why the topic is on the selectboard agenda when it is clearly a school board issue. Hoggson said she believes that is a topic the board may discuss as it is of concern to all of the residents of Norwich.
- 4) Town Manager's Report – Pavlicek read his report aloud for the group. Candon asked Pavlicek to check the Adelphia contract if one exists and make sure there are no hidden costs. Pavlicek will report back to the board with his findings.
- 5) Finance
 - a) Legal Bills – One payment to Desmeules, Olmstead and Ostler in the amount \$182.25 for professional work related to the trails.
 - b) Orders on the General Fund – Hoggson **moved** to approve Accounts Payable Warrant #04-14 in the amount of \$473,996.41, Accounts Payable #04-15 (Highway Garage Fund) in the amount of \$56,665.00, and the Payroll Warrant for the period ending 11/13/03 in the amount of \$25,699.06 with corresponding payroll taxes in the amount of \$9,118.46 (second Stofflet). Candon voiced his concern about not being able to see how the checks they are approving are affecting each line item in each budget. Stofflet and Hoggson said they do not share Candon's concern about the payables. **Motion passed.** (4-1) Candon-No.
- 6) Transportation Committee Update –Gibson gave an update to the board of current activities of the Transportation committee. She listed the members of the committee. She gave an outline of what the charge of the committee is. She spoke at length about the possibilities of small pocket park and rides as well as larger park and rides at the interstate exits. Discussion

ensued about the idea of an HOV lane on 10A near the exit ramp of I-91. She would like to know if the town would be willing to help with the cost of a survey to send out to residents. She will speak with Pavlicek about this later to see if there is money available.

- 7) Sewer Committee Update – May gave an update of the sewer committee activities to date. The committee has broken down into three subcommittees, which have divided the charge into three pieces. Committee does not feel a ground water study is necessary as the cost would be \$14-15,000. The experts they have spoken with do not feel it is needed at this time. The next full committee meeting is December 12th at 7:30am in the Library.
- 8) Correspondence
 - a) Paperwork from UVLSRPC re: revisions to the draft Regional Plan
 - b) VLCT Dues Assessment for '04
 - c) Resignation from Rob Titus – Hoggson **moved** to receive all correspondence as presented and to accept Titus' letter of resignation (second Cook). **Motion passed.**
 - d) Stofflet **moved** to receive the Degasta and Jansen letters (second Hoggson). **Motion passed.**
- 9) Selectboard
 - a) Appointments
 - i) Conservation Commission – Stofflet **moved** to appoint Craig Layne to the Conservation Commission with a term of 2004 (second Hoggson). Candon said he doesn't know Layne and feels it is important to appoint a diverse group to any committee. He will vote against this motion simply because he doesn't know Layne. **Motion passed.** (4-1) Candon-No. Candon reiterated his no vote is not a negative statement toward Layne.
 - ii) Planning Commission opening – Hoggson **moved** to advertise for the Planning Commission with a deadline end of December (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
 - b) Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
 - i) November 11, 2003 – Stofflet **moved** to approve with changes (second Hoggson). **Motion passed.**
 - c) Meeting on the 23rd of December? Blum asked for a motion to determine the need for a meeting on the 23rd of December. Pavlicek said he put this on the agenda as the agenda looks to be light for that meeting and he questioned the need to meet. Candon said we need to revisit the need for meetings rather than canceling due to holidays. Postponed to the next meeting.

Hoggson **moved** to adjourn at 8:39pm (second Cook). **Motion passed.**

Next Regular Meeting – December 9, 2003 at 6:30 PM

Approved by the Selectboard on December 9, 2003

By, Kristina Moses
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum
Selectboard Chair