

TOWN OF NORWICH
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Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Tuesday, January 6, 2004 at 6:30pm

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

Also Participating: Brooke Adler, Terry Boone, Adele and Neil Fulton, Andy Hodgdon, Dennis Kaufman, Jeff Mathias, Alison May, Chief Soares, Irv Thomae

- 1) Approval of Agenda – Cook **moved** to approve (second Stofflet). Candon voiced his concern about the appropriateness of the agenda items. Cook **moved** to table (second Candon). 2-3. **Motion failed.** Cook, Candon-No. Hoggson **moved** to postpone items #3&4 until Tuesday, January 13th. Stofflet said she is opposed to this, as she would like to address the agenda items as listed. **Original motion passed.** 3-2. Candon and Cook-No.

The meeting commenced with item #5 – Public hearing on the town budget. The board went through part of the budget and the decision was made to return back to items #3 & 4. At that point Member Cook left the meeting as she felt it was not warned properly.

2) Finance

a) Legal Bills - none

b) Orders on the General Fund – Hoggson **moved** to approve the revised warrant for the period of 11/26/03 – 12/10/03, Accounts Payable warrant #04-19 in the amount of \$543,279.05, Accounts Payable Warrant #04-20 in the amount of \$36,100, and the payroll warrant for the period ending 1/7/04 in the amount of \$23,643.33 with corresponding payroll taxes in the amount of \$8,388.62. 3-1. **Motion passed.** Candon-No.

- 3) Vote related to changing Regional Planning Commissions – Stofflet **moved** that if Hartford is granted permission to leave Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission to join Two Rivers Regional Planning Commission, that it be Norwich's preference to leave Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission and join Two Rivers also (second Hoggson). Stofflet and Hoggson explained in detail why they recommended changing RPC's. Candon expressed his reasons why he is against this vote. Many questions, concerns and thoughts, both pro and con, came forth board members and residents. **Motion passed** (3-1). Stofflet, Hoggson and Blum- yes. Candon-no. Cook – absent. This was a lengthy discussing taking approximately 1 ½ hours.

- 4) Public hearing on the town budget (7:00pm) – Pavlicek said he met with the auditors and Finance Committee regarding this budget and they are in agreement. He started with the Highway budget and reviewed it in detail with questions presented to Highway Administrator Hodgdon. Cook asked if there was any likelihood of us getting any grants for paving. Hodgdon responded that we haven't received any in a year or so, but that there was a chance. Thomae said the Finance Committee has been looking at the tax rate and they expect the school rate to drop for this year only. He said they are encouraging the Town Manager to make some increases this year, as this may be the best time to. Soares and Pavlicek reviewed the Police budget in detail with the board and residents. Fulton reviewed the increases in the Fire/Fast department. Kaufman reviewed the Lister budget. Stofflet **moved** to close the budget discussion for the evening and asked that it be continued at the meeting on the 13th of

January so as to return to the Regional Planning Commission discussion (second Hoggson).
3-2. Blum, Stofflet and Hoggson- Yes. Cook, Candon-No.

5) Candon **moved** to adjourn at 11:30pm (second Stofflet). **Motion passed**

Next Regular Meeting – January 13, 2004 at 6:30 PM

Approved by the Selectboard on February 10, 2004

By, Kristina Moses
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum
Selectboard Chair

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