

**TOWN OF NORWICH**  
**P.O. Box 376**  
**NORWICH, VERMONT 05055-0376**  
**TEL. (802) 649-0127**

**Final Minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting of Tuesday, January 20, 2004 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: Brooke Adler, Susan Blum, Neil Fulton, Ted Herz, Nelson Kasfir, Cheryl Lindberg, Alison May, Lyn Mcgrew, Ben Ptashnik, Henry Scheier.

- 1) Second Public meeting on the Town Budget (6:30pm) – Fulton presented and then explained his handout to the board. He expressed his concern that a 26% increase for the town tax rate including articles as originally proposed was too much for Norwich taxpayers. Blum asked the Finance Committee members why they were recommending such a large increase. Thomae said they were not urging the board and that in fact they did not have a unanimous vote. He said because of the law changes there should be some relief to the school taxes and therefore this could be the year to make some long needed improvements. He said he supports this but with a heavy heart. Bender said he shares the concern that the degree of increase is problematic for the town. He voted against the current budget at the Finance Committee meeting this morning. The board went through the budget department by department suggesting changes as they went. Hoggson **moved** to accept article #4 to approve the gross spending budget of \$2,947,206. **Motion died** for lack of second. Additional discussion ensued and then Cook moved to accept article #4 with the gross spending budget of \$2,947,206 (second Stofflet). Stofflet said she would like to see an additional \$50,000 taken out of the budget but will vote in favor as she agrees it may be cherry picking otherwise. **Motion passed.** (4-1). Candon-No.
- 2) Review and approval of Warning Articles to Town Meeting - Hoggson **moved** to remove article #20 (\$75,000 for paving) from the Warning (second Cook). **Motion passed.** Cook moved to remove Article 21 (Aerial mapping) (second Hoggson). **Motion passed.** Hoggson **moved** to approve the town portion of the warning as amended tonight. **Motion passed.**
- 3) Cook **moved** to adjourn (second Candon) at 12:20pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on February 10, 2004

By, Kristina Moses  
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum  
Selectboard Chair

**PLEASE NOTE THAT CATV VIDEO TAPES ALL REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE NORWICH SELECTBOARD. FOR A MORE DETAILED TRANSCRIPTION PLEASE REFER TO THE TAPE. TAPES ARE AVAILABLE ONE WEEK AFTER THE MEETING AT THE NORWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY.**