

TOWN OF NORWICH
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Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, September 22, 2004 at 6:30 PM

Members Present: Liz Blum, Chair; Jack Candon; Alison May; Suzanne Stofflet; Stephen Soares, Acting Town Manager; Tina Moses, Administrative Assistant.

Also Participating: Linda Addante, Steve Bensen, Susan Blum, Chris Carroll, Hope Charkins, George Clark, Linda Cook, Madeline Dalton, Phil Dechert, Carolyn Dewey, Neil Fulton, Ellen Gnaedinger, Jeff Goodrich, John Gorman, Kelly Griggs, Ann Harvey, Dan Johnson, Tom Jones, Dennis Kaufman, Jill Kearney, Brian Livingston, Doug Lufkin, Jeff Marshall, Jeff Mathias, Susan McCoy, Lynn McGrew, Buff McLaughry, Sharon Morgan, Sara Reeves, Warren Thayer, Nick Vincent, Bob White, Ed Worth,

Blum opened the meeting at 6:30pm

- 1) Approval of Agenda – Candon **moved** to approve (second May). **Motion passed.**
- 2) Public Comments – Kaufman explained that he has met with the Listers from two other towns regarding the town boundary line issue. He said they are all working on this issue together and he hopes to get more information to the board soon. There is no need at this point to schedule the joint Selectboard meetings as originally planned.

Blum announced she will be attending VLCT's Town Fair this year and plans to vote in favor of the VLCT resolution related to the single payer health care issue. May asked if she was voting on behalf of the entire Selectboard and Blum answered, "no, as an individual".

Dewey explained that her neighbor on McKenna Road is using his land as a landfill site and an earth storage site. Candon recused from the discussion due to client confidentiality. Dewey said she is concerned about it being a major safety hazard and noise problem. She would like the town to stop what is happening until it can be checked into further. Worth asked why the town has failed to enforce the zoning rules that are in effect that would have prevented this from happening to start with. He said he believes that at least 16 rules that have been violated with regard to zoning. He said this project has also encroached upon state and federal regulations. He said he believes the town should get its attorney to prepare an injunction to get the work stopped until all issues are resolved. Addante said she too is very concerned. The road is too dangerous for the children of the area to ride bikes on or even play near and she has concern about the content of the dust that is everywhere. Dechert said he has been aware of the situation since it started. He said at no time has he been brought a specific zoning regulation that has been broken. He said the state, VTrans and the agency of natural resources are also all aware of the situation.

3) Finance

- a) Electronic Warrants – Blum explained that the Finance Office has asked the board to designate a Selectperson to sign the warrants when they are prepared on weeks other than meeting weeks. Since signed warrants via e-mail are not suggested, this would make the process much more efficient. Candon said he would prefer not to authorize a signer, as the problem will rarely happen once the board returns to a two meeting per month schedule.

- b) Legal Bills - None
- c) Orders on the General Fund – Candon **moved** to approve warrant #05-12 in the amount of \$4,000,000.00 to the Norwich School District (second May). **Motion passed.**
- 4) Public Safety Facility Study Committee Presentation – Fulton named the members of the committee and gave a brief review of the work of the committee to date. He then introduced Bob White who said the plan is to study what needs the fire and police departments will need in the future and how it could be structured into one building. He said the proposed space would also include space for an EOC – Emergency Operations Center. The message is that the downtown site will continue to lend itself unless they hear a cry to move the sites out of town. They plan to have separate public meetings with residents of the area to get their input.
- 5) Milt Frye Nature Area trail revision – Clark and Thayer reviewed the map as presented and reviewed the proposed revision to the trail. May **moved** an amendment to the management plan of the Peisch land as presented by the Milt Frye Nature Area (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
- 6) Huntley Meadow, public discussion on the proposed fields project – Blum asked for comments from the board. She said they have received a number of letters related to this issue. Kearney gave a brief overview of how this project got started and where it is too date. She said no more trees will be cut nor will brush and she explained that this is a two-year project. McLaughry said they have had a lot of good input on this and have made some slight changes based on comments from residents. Thayer said the Conservation Commission discussed this topic at their last meeting and they felt that if the plan were to go forward that a parking plan should be set forth and they would like to see some buffers. There was much discussion with residents expressing their feelings for and against the plan. Soares said he does not plan to make a decision tonight but he will make a decision by noon tomorrow.
- 7) Listers
 - a) Errors and Omissions – Kaufman presented his errors & omissions on a memo dated 9/22/04. May **moved** to approve the errors & omissions requested by the Listers in the case of parcel 11-187, 10-082, 10-097 (second Candon). **Motion passed.** May **moved** to approve the error & omission to parcel #10-072.000 (second Candon). **Motion passed.** May **moved** to approve the error & omission to parcel #03-040.000 (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
- 8) Planning
 - a) Municipal Planning Grant – Johnson, Chair of the Planning Commission said they are asking for approval for a planning grant to get money to prepare an update to the town plan. He said the grant is for \$15,000. He explained that the commission is still working on minor amendments to the application and asked that the Selectboard chair be authorized to sign once the changes are complete. Candon **moved** in light of form 6 to authorize the Chair to sign the application as amended by the Planning Commission (second May). **Motion passed.**
- 9) Sewer Committee Update – McGrew gave an update on the Sewer Committee’s progress to date. He said they are slightly behind and won’t be able to give their report this month. They hope to have it ready next month.

Member Candon left the meeting at approximately 8:30pm.

10) Correspondence

- a) Two Rivers Ottaquechee Regional Planning Commission - Review of Town Plan – May **moved** to receive all the correspondence (a,b,c,d) as presented (Second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
- b) VLCT Candidate Bulletin on Health Care – see above motion (a)
- c) Health Officer update on Winslow Property – May said the health officer and zoning administrator are on top of this and are watching it closely.
- d) Huntley Meadows proposed fields project letters – see above motion (a)

11) Selectboard

- a) Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
 - i) August 25, 2004 - May **moved** to approve the minutes of the special meetings of 8/25 (am), 8/26, 27, 31, 9/1, 9/7 & 9/15 (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**
 - ii) August 26, 2004
 - iii) August 27, 2004
 - iv) August 31, 2004
 - v) September 1, 2004
 - vi) September 7, 2004
 - vii) September 15, 2004

May **moved** to adjourn at 9:07pm (second Stofflet). **Motion passed.**

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

Approved by the Selectboard on October 13, 2004

By, Kristina Moses
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum
Selectboard Chair

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