

TOWN OF NORWICH
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Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, October 27, 2004 at 6:30 PM

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

Also Participating: Joe Cassidy, Adele Fulton, Andy Hodgdon, Nelson Kasfir, Mark Ollman, Elaine Warshell.

Blum opened the meeting at 6:30pm

- 1) Approval of Agenda – Candon **moved** to approve as amended (second Stofflet).
- 2) Public Comments - none
- 3) Finance – The payroll and accounts payable warrants were signed earlier in the week. One legal bill to Desmeules, Olmstead and Ostler was presented for payment of professional services rendered.
- 4) Listers -
 - a) Errors and Omissions - None
- 5) Waterman Hill Road – Cassidy request for extension of the Class 3 portion – Blum said the process is to warn a public hearing by giving a 30-day notice to abutters and the public. Candon **moved** to commence the procedure for the consideration of converting a class 4 road to a class 3 road as proposed by the land owner Cassidy and do so by having a site visit on Saturday, December 4th at 10:00am and convene a hearing to consider the statutory evidence at the Selectboard meeting of December 8, 2004 at 7:00pm (second May). Cassidy explained that all the abutters have signed off giving their approval of the project. **Motion passed.**
- 6) Appropriation request from the VNA – Warshell, VNA board member, said they are asking for a 5% increase this year. Their request is that they not have to get a petition for the additional \$500. Blum recused from the discussion, as she is an employee of the VNA. Stofflet **moved** to waive VNA's request to submit a petition (second Ptashnik). Tie vote (May, Candon-No) (Stofflet, Ptashnik–Yes). **Motion failed.** May **moved** that the VNA be required to present a petition signed by the appropriate amount of voters (second Candon). Candon said he is confused, as the VNA is already a part of the regular budget and not considered an outside agency. He said the request from the VNA is to have a waiver of the petition, not to increase the budgeted amount. May withdrew her motion. The determination was made that there is no petition needed as they are actually in the budget itself and not considered a separate article. The VNA will need to work with the Town Manager to determine if the increase is acceptable for the budget.
- 7) Ordinance to regulate the speed of Motor Vehicles on Willey Hill – Ptashnik **moved** to authorize the signing of the ordinance (second Stofflet). 4-1 (May-No). **Motion passed.** May said she voted no because the speed study did not support the change in speed. With permission of the chair, this discussion was reopened at the end of the meeting so that Fulton could speak. Fulton raised a number of issues with the legality of this ordinance. She said the speed limit signs have already been put up. She read through the statute and explained why she was concerned with the ordinance. The ordinance is not supported by the 85th percentile component of a speed study and the signs, in her opinion, are illegal. Soares said the process began with the residents of Willey Hill submitting a petitioned request. He said he asked for

the signs to be put up after the Selectboard voted to reduce the speed limit and in anticipation of frozen ground. He asked the police department not to enforce until the ordinance time requirement had been met (60-day). Soares said he would have no problem conducting a new speed survey in the spring if the board so desired as the road conditions have changed.

- 8) Discussion of the 2002 Septic Ordinance – Blum explained the background as to why this topic is on the agenda. Blum said she would feel more comfortable waiting until the Sewer Committee has given their final report. Candon said he would like to hear from Phil Dechert and Terry Scherer (State of Vermont). May asked that this be put on the agenda for a meeting in December and invite Dechert and Scherer to join. The Sewer Committee will be asked to provide their report by December 22nd.
- 9) Correspondence – May **moved** to receive all correspondence (a-g) (second Candon). **Motion passed.**
 - a) E-mail from Finance Dept related to pay dates
 - b) E-mail from Watt Alexander regarding the DRB
 - c) ISO letter regarding Public Protection Classification
 - d) Minutes from the September Two Rivers Ottaquechee Meeting
 - e) Acceptance from UVLT related to revision to Milt Frye Nature Trail
 - f) Manheimer claim
 - g) Bohtello – Soares explained he has asked Acting Chief Robinson for input on the letter and will respond appropriately.
- 10) Selectboard
 - a) Process for appointment of Green Up Day Coordinator – The Town Manager was asked to find a Green Up Day Coordinator for 2005.
 - b) Minutes of Selectboard Meeting
 - i) October 13, 2004 – meeting not taped. Candon **moved** to adopt with changes (second May). **Motion passed.**
- 11) Candon **moved** to adjourn at 8:15pm (second Ptashnik). **Motion passed.**

Next Regular Meeting – November 10, 2004 at 6:30 PM

Approved by the Selectboard on November 10, 2004.

By, Kristina Moses
Selectboard Secretary

Liz Blum
Selectboard Chair

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