

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, April 13, 2005 at 6:00 PM

Members present: Alison May, Chair; Jack Candon; Ed Childs; Gerard Chapdelaine; Stephen Soares, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Administrative Assistant

Also participating: Virginia Close, Phil Dechert, Dennis Kaufman, Jeff Mathias, Stuart Richards, Roberta Robinson, Henry Scheier, Shiela Taraska, Irv Thomae. There were about 11 people in the audience.

May opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Litigation (Executive Session may be Required). Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(1), Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to move into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and to invite Steve Soares and Frank Olmstead to join the Session. **Motion passed.** Candon recused himself from this session.

At 6:45 pm the Selectboard moved into public session.

Childs **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to hire Frank Olmstead to represent the Town in the Simpson appeal of the March 4, 2005 Development Review Board's decision. **Motion passed.** Candon abstained.

Childs **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to hire Frank Olmstead to represent the Town in the tax appeal case of Maureen Sullivan. **Motion passed.** Candon abstained.

2. Approval of the agenda (Action Item). Candon **moved** to approve with two additional items (2nd May). **Motion passed.**

3. Public Comments (Discussion). None.

4. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Soares stated that the donation of land and deed for the Melendy property has been executed and the Teeter vs. Childs subdivision appeal has been closed. Soares also said that the soil test results for the Dresden Fields had been received by him from Jonathan Brush and that no hazardous waste had been found. Kathy Parsonnet has requested and Childs has agreed to represent the Town on the Dresden Athletic Fields Committee. The Tracy Hall repair estimates are in at approximately \$7,000. Soares is working with VLCT on this. The Route 132 project is scheduled to begin on May 2nd. Soares also mentioned that changes have been made to the Selectboard Annual Calendar which have been posted in Tracy Hall and on the Town website.

5. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Candon expressed his concern that donations were being made by the Conservation Commission to other Town entities. Childs **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to approve Check Warrant Reports # 05-36 and 05-37 in the amounts of \$102, 291.94 and \$32,971.50, respectively, for the period from 03/28/2005 to 04/13/2005. **Motion passed.**

Soares discussed various legal bills from Frank Olmstead.

6. Listers. Kaufman once again reminded people that the Declaration of Vermont Homestead needs to be filed with the Vermont Department of Taxes by April 15th and needs to be done every year. Kaufman also brought a birthday cake for “the favorite Selectman (Chapdelaine) of the Listers”.

7. Ordinance Regulating Solid Waste “Junkyard Ordinance” (Action Item). May described for the viewing audience the basic parts of the ordinance. She stated that 42 towns have similar ordinances including Hartford upon which this ordinance is heavily based. Soares reminded the Selectboard and public that the ordinance is still in draft form and that minor changes, mostly “housekeeping”, still need to be made. Each of the Selectboard members present discussed the ordinance. Language problems and whether or not the ordinance is needed were among the topics brought forward. Public discussion included comments from Shiela Taraska regarding what to do with a junk problem next door without the ordinance. The Selectboard recommended the Town Manager continue to work on the ordinance, with **advice** from VLCT, and bring back a revised version to the June 8th Selectboard meeting.

8. Tracy Hall Rental Policy (Revised) (Action Item). Soares stated the Policy is ready for implementation. The Selectboard agreed by consensus to implement the Policy.

9. Sewage Ordinance (Action Item). Dechert advised the Selectboard that this new ordinance would only be in effect until 2007, at which time the State will have jurisdiction. After some public discussion, Childs **moved** (2nd Candon) for the Selectboard to adopt the April 12, 2005 Sewage Ordinance. **Motion passed.**

10. Alcohol License Renewals (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) that the Selectboard convene as the Norwich Liquor Commission. **Motion passed.** Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve the license renewals before them. **Motion passed.** Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to close the Norwich Liquor Commission session and reconvene as the Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**

11. Town of Norwich, Vermont Capital Assets Accounting Policy (Action Item). After a brief discussion, during which Candon thanked Robinson for her work on the Policy, Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) to adopt the Policy. **Motion passed.**

12. Correspondence

- a) Karen Gemery – Letter Re: Dogs. Soares indicated that he believes Gemery is intent on moving forward to petition the Town to adopt an ordinance on “pooper scooper” use in Norwich. Soares also stated that he has asked the Recreation Director to initiate a use of disposal items at Huntley Field.
- b) Letter to Allen Rowell from Selectboard. A letter of appreciation for years of service to the Town was approved by the Board.

May **moved** (2nd Childs) to receive all correspondence. **Motion passed.**

13. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 3/23/05 meeting (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve. **Motion passed.**

Approval of the Minutes of the 4/6/05 meeting (Action Item). Childs **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to approve. **Motion passed.** Candon abstained.

- b) Agway Property Letter. Candon read aloud a proposed letter of interest from the Selectboard to Suburban Propane and the Garibaldi Group. The letter was approved by the Selectboard and signed by May to be faxed to the Affordable Housing Committee Chair on April 14th.

Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:24 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on April 27, 2005.

By Nancy Kramer
Administrative Assistant

Alison May
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – April 27, 2005 at 6:30 pm

Pending Items:

- 1) Selectboard/Town Manager Goal Setting (April 27)
- 2) Ordinance Regulating Solid Waste “Junkyard Ordinance” (June 8)

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