

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, June 8, 2005 at 6:30 PM

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

There were about 50 people in the audience.

Also participating: Ann Berry, Rhia Blass, Putnam Blodgett, Yvonne Cook, Phil Dechert, Courtney Dell, Sandra Dell, Albert Dennis, Leann Dennis, Raymond Dennis, Marjorie Downing, Carolyn Frye, Melinda Goodwin, Charlie Hodgdon, Nancy Hoggson, Antoinette Jacobson, Dennis Kaufman, Frank Manasek, Jeff Mathias, Creigh Moffatt, Arthur Owen, Kathleen Peterson, Chief Doug Robinson, Liz Russell, Henry Scheier, Minny Slater, Fred Smith, Jr., Sonia Swierczynski, Shiela Taraska, Irv Thomae, Jay Van Arman, Chuck Wise.

May opened the meeting at 6:29 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). Childs **moved** to approve with one additional item (2nd Chapdelaine). **Motion passed.**

2. Public Comments (Discussion). Kaufman stated that the grand list was completed and out on a timely basis. Kaufman also stated that about ¼ of the people who filed a Homestead Declaration last year did not file one this year. Scheier complimented the 60% of the Selectboard who have volunteered for the dunk tank for the Lions Club Fair scheduled for July 8th and 9th on the green.

3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Soares stated that VLCT has given their blessing for Ian Harvey's Eagle Scout Project to go forward. The Finance Committee is proceeding with their review of costs and services of the Police Department. Soares reminded residents that surveys are available at Tracy Hall and on line at www.norwich.vt.us. The Finance Committee is seeking as much input as possible from these surveys and they are due by June 13th. Performance reviews are being conducted by the Town Manager as well as Department Heads. Soares thanked the Listers for all their hard work on producing the grand list.

4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve Check Warrant Reports # 05-44 and 05-45 in the amounts of \$75,784.24 and \$34,035.17, respectively, for the period from 05/26/2005 to 06/08/2005. **Motion passed.**

5. 6:45 pm Appointment with Chuck Wise Re: Corridor Project Update (Appointment). Wise stated that the Corridor Committee continues to make good progress. The main topic of discussion at the Public Forum was landscaping. Wise reported that the committee is meeting with the landscape architect at their next meeting on June 14th. Wise also provided the Selectboard with a sample maintenance agreement that the committee is working on. Wise asked that the Selectboard consider moving forward on changing a section of the project to a Class 1 road status. The Selectboard will consider this action at their next regularly scheduled meeting on June 22nd.

6. Ordinance Regulating Solid Waste “Junkyard Ordinance” (Action Item). For the purpose of discussion, Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) to address the Ordinance Regulating Outdoor Storage of Junk and Junk Vehicles. Soares spoke about the genesis of the ordinance. May read aloud two letters from residents, one in support of the ordinance and one opposed to it. Approximately twenty-five townspeople spoke about their concerns with the ordinance. Major topics were: “respect our neighbors”, “live and let live”, “helping hands”, “respect property rights” and that the ordinance was overstating what needs to be done. Comments were made about the need to remove doors of discarded refrigerators. Board members when polled were all opposed to the ordinance. **Motion failed 0 to 4.** May stated that the Selectboard would not be going forward with the ordinance and thanked people for coming indicating that she felt a “real sense of community” this evening.

7. ROW Discontinuance: Request from Wesley and Yvonne Cook (Action Item). Dechert stated that the piece of property under discussion may have been an old driveway to the Stowell property. Yvonne Cook spoke about how in the process of deeding a plot of land to their grandson, they had come across a survey that showed a “Town Right of Way”. Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) that the Selectboard initiate the discontinuance of a Town Right-of-Way (ROW), within the boundaries of land owned by Wesley and Yvonne Cook (Tax Map #05-034), pursuant to Title 19 VSA Sections 708-711; and to set a site visit at 9:30 am Wednesday, July 6, 2005 and a public hearing at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, July 13, 2005. **Motion passed.**

8. 2007 Fiscal (Budget Development) Schedule (Discussion). The Selectboard agreed to accept Soares’ schedule as presented. Copies of the proposed schedule are available for any interested parties at the Town Manager’s Office.

9. Ordinance to Regulate Street Vendors (2nd Hearing) (Action Item). After a brief discussion, the Selectboard decided to defer action on this ordinance pending wording changes on such things as a child’s lemonade stand.

10. Correspondence

- a) TRORC Bylaw Amendment
- b) VLCT Alert Re: Local Option Taxes
- c) Notice to Interested Parties (Town of Norwich) Appeal of Nowicki
- d) DRB Request to be Reappointed, Mr. Shepard Butler
- e) Adelphia – Request Input
- f) TRORC Re: House Bill 334 (Roads)
- g) Letter from Jane Sargent Re: Campbell Flat Road Property

Candon **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to receive all correspondence. **Motion passed.**

11. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 5/25/05 meeting (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve. **Motion passed.**

- b) Update by Ed Childs on Public Forum Re: Dresden Athletic Fields. Childs stated that about 40-50 people attended the forum. Four different options were laid out by the Dresden Athletic Fields Committee. Childs also stated that the meeting was well run and very positive.

Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Candon) to request CATV to tape all future regularly scheduled Selectboard meetings. **Motion passed.**

Childs **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on June 22, 2005.

By Nancy Kramer
Administrative Assistant

Alison May
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – June 22, 2005 at 6:30 pm

Pending Items:

- 1) Develop List (Cycle) for all Departments Operations Review

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.