

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, July 13, 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 19 people in the audience.

Also participating: Bill Aldrich, Phil Dechert, Bob Haynes, Dennis Kaufman, Karen Kayen, Cheryl Lindberg, Brian Livingston, Jeff Mathias, Lynn McGrew, Stuart Richards, Chief Doug Robinson, Henry Scheier, Dean Seibert, Paul Tierney

May opened the meeting at 6:33 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). Candon **moved** to approve with two additional items (2nd Chapdelaine). **Motion passed.**

2. Public Comments (Discussion). Scheier, wearing his Lions Club hat, thanked all who helped with the success of the Norwich Fair. Scheier stated that over \$200 was raised from the Dunk Tank participation of Selectboard members alone. Kaufman, on behalf of the Listers and Assessor, wished May a Happy Birthday and presented her with a special chair for the evening. Richards stated that he did not support the Selectboard's statement in the July 6th minutes encouraging the DRB to meet again with Simpson Development. May, speaking for herself, Childs and Chapdelaine (Candon recused himself), answered Richards that the board was "encouraging" the DRB and not telling them what to do.

3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Due to the fact that Soares has been on vacation, he waived giving a report.

4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve Check Warrant Reports #06-02 and #06-03 in the amounts of \$20,380.03 and \$21,871.00, respectively, for the period from 07/07/2005 to 07/13/2005. **Motion passed.**

5. Report on Police Department – Finance Committee (Discussion). Tierney, speaking for the subcommittee (Tierney, Kayen and Scheier) who worked on this report, said the report is a "work in progress". The attempt was to analyze the types and levels of "services provided and desired in Norwich". The process used was: (1) a survey to Norwich residents, (2) collect cost data from comparable towns and (3) an informational gathering forum. Conclusions reached were: (1) people wanted fewer services and/or lower costs, (2) people do not know what police services are and (3) there is moderate desire for same level of services as in "comparable towns". The study was unable to determine the benefit or cost of "deterrent effects". Kayen, Scheier and Tierney all support the idea of a more universal survey to better determine what the community wants. The Selectboard thanked both the subcommittee and the Finance Committee as a whole for their work on this report.

6. Public Hearing to Consider the Discontinuance of a Town Right-of-Way (ROW) Pursuant to Title 19 VSA § 708 (Discussion/Possible Action) following a request by Wesley and Yvonne Cook on June 8, 2005. May stated that survey notes indicate the ROW was established as a road on October 19, 1820. Since the Cooks were not present, the Selectboard decided to continue the Public Hearing at their next regular board meeting on August 24th. The Town Manager agreed to notify Wesley and Yvonne Cook.

7. Norwich Sewer Committee Report (Discussion). McGrew stated that the report “represents the thoughts and ideas of the entire Committee” and that “consensus has come with compromise. The ten charges from the Selectboard were divided up among three subcommittees. The Executive Summary of the Report on pages 2 and 3 provides summary findings by charge. May asked for more time for the Selectboard to digest the report. It was decided that further discussion of the report would be delayed until the August 24th meeting. Meanwhile, May asked that the Town Manager collect questions and forward them to the Committee. The Selectboard officially discharged the Sewer Committee and thanked them for their work.

8. Revised Selectboard Budget Financial Policy (Discussion/Possible Action). Scheier stated that the Finance Committee recommends delaying further discussion of this policy until the August 24th Selectboard meeting.

9. Correspondence

- a) TRORC Amended Bylaws. Candon applauded the June 22, 2005 Bylaw change in Article 8 Section 8.5 that “a quorum shall require official representation of not less than fifty percent of those member towns with duly appointed Commissioners”.
- b) Letter from Jeffrey Mathias Re: Arthur Owen Visit. Mathias spoke briefly about his and others hope that “neighbors” can still talk to each other without the necessity of newspaper articles being written.
- c) Revised Town of Hanover’s Emergency Ambulance Service Charges
- d) Email from John & Sandra Tomeny Re: Fund Raiser Dance for Refinishing Tracy Hall’s Gym Floor. Soares stated that he is getting quotes for this project and that they range from \$6,000 – 7,500.
- e) Corridor Steering Committee Meeting Notes for June 14, 2005. Richards asked if these minutes could be sent out on the town list and the Selectboard agreed.
- f) VTrans Public Meeting to Discuss Transportation Planning and Project Development Priorities, VA Medical Center, July 28, 2005 at 3:30 pm.
- g) Emails from Stuart Richards Re: Sewer Report. Richards indicated that he believes reports should be released to the public when completed. Candon suggested that the protocol has been for the Selectboard to receive them first.

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

10. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 6/22/05 meeting (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to approve. **Motion passed.**

- b) Designate Selectboard member to sign payroll warrants July 19th, August 2nd and August 16th (Action Item). Candon agreed to do this and asked for reminders.

Candon **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on August 24, 2005.

By Nancy Kramer
Administrative Assistant

Alison May
Selectboard Chair

Special Selectboard Meetings – July 27, 2005 and August 10, 2005 at 5:30 PM (To Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants)

Next Regular Meeting – August 24, 2005 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

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

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