

Minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, December 7, 2005 at 6:30 PM

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

There were about 13 people in the audience.

Also participating: Phil Dechert, Ralph Hybels, Jaye Pershing Johnson, Dennis Kaufman, Cheryl Lindberg, Jeffrey Mathias, Stuart Richards, Roberta Robinson, Henry Scheier

May opened the meeting at 6:29 pm. May announced the celebration of Hannah Kearney's World Mogul Championship going on at the Hanover Inn this evening and that the Town wishes her well at the 2006 Olympics.

1. Public Hearing Continued – Proposed Amendment to the Norwich Zoning Regulations
a) Selectboard Discussion (Action)

Pursuant to Title 24 VSA Chapter 117 § 4442, Candon **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to reopen the public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Norwich Zoning Regulations. **Motion passed.**

As requested by the Selectboard at the November 28th Public Hearing, Dechert provided the Selectboard a completed document on the proposed amendment to the Zoning Regulations with the changes to the current regulations being indicated in bold and underlined. Also, as requested, Dechert included a sheet on density analysis for the Village Residential II. Jaye Johnson and Hybels both stated that they felt the changes made by Dechert and the Selectboard were consistent with the Planning Commission's motion which was passed by a unanimous vote. Richards said that he felt left out of the current process due to the fact that he had just been presented with the final completed document. Mathias indicated that he did not agree with the density analysis provided by Dechert on Village Residential II.

In response to a question from the public, the Chair noted that the density analysis provided by Dechert was for Selectboard information only, and was not a part of the amendment to the Norwich Zoning Regulations.

Dechert explained that, once the Selectboard adopts the amendment, it will become effective in 21 days.

Candon **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to close the public hearing. **Motion passed.**

Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to amend the Norwich Zoning Regulations to create a new zoning district called Village Residential II that will include approximately 42 acres bounded and defined by Church Street to the North, the existing Village Residential District to the West and I-91 to the South and East. A Planned Residential Development with a density bonus of up to 195% of the permitted overall density may be permitted in the proposed Village Residential II District in instances in which not less than 70% of the total number of dwelling units created are Affordable Housing units as defined in Section 5.1A, which housing shall remain affordable in perpetuity. The specific changes to the wording to the Norwich Zoning Regulations to implement this change are included in the attached document titled "December 7, 2005 Revision to Norwich Zoning Regulations" as amended at this meeting. **Motion passed.**

The Selectboard thanked Dechert and the Planning Commission for all their work.

2. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Chapdelaine **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve Check Warrant Report #06-37 in the amount of \$43,047.58 for the period from 11/24/2005 to 12/7/2005. **Motion passed.**

3. First FY07 Budget Work Session (Discussion). Soares read his memo to the Selectboard of December 1st regarding the Fiscal Year 07 Budget. Soares then gave an overview of the draft FY07 Budget. The Selectboard, starting with the Town Administration budget and ending with the Tracy Hall budget, raised questions which will be addressed in future budget revisions/discussions. May suggested that the 3% COLA being used in the budget may need to be revisited. May also asked Soares to take a look at the total figure being budgeted for office supplies. A request was made to have Roberta Robinson include a column showing actual year-to-date FY06 numbers. Childs indicated that he wanted to have some analysis done of the Designated Funds and that he had concerns regarding the numbers budgeted for FY08. Robinson said she had calculated health insurance with actual numbers for the 1st half of FY07 and using a 10% projected increase for the 2nd half. Kaufman made a request to the Selectboard that the Lister stipend be increased to \$17.50 an hour from \$12.94. Also discussed was the possible necessity of an executive session to review salary increases; and the so-called “baby” articles regarding repairs to Tracy Hall and the Bandstand and a new Transfer Station Compactor.

Ptashnik **moved** (2nd Chapdelaine) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on December 21, 2005.

By Nancy Kramer
Administrative Assistant

Alison May
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – December 14, 2005 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Zoning Regulations Review
- 2) Personnel Policies
- 3) Private Driveway Policy

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.