

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, May 10, 2006 at 6:30 PM

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

There were about 45 people in the audience.

Also participating: Michelle Avila, Chris Berthold, Rocky Bowen, Michael Bukowski, Ken Davis, Jim Eastman, Jack Fraser, Neil Fulton, Fred Gundersen, Mary Ann Hankel, Andy Hodgdon, Dennis Kaufman, Mark Langlois, Bruce Limlaw, Bernard Manning, Creigh Moffatt, Arthur Owen, Ernest Parker, Phil Phillips, Chief Robinson, Fred Smith, Ken Smith, Irv Thomae, Gerry Tolman, Suzie Wallis

May opened the meeting at 6:31 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve with two additions. **Motion passed.**

2. Public Comments (Discussion). After a brief discussion of the Agway Property possibly becoming available for purchase, Childs **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to preapprove the release of the \$45,000 in the Affordable Housing designated fund if timing warrants. **Motion passed.**

3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Soares stated that the Norwich Recreation Playground Project is on schedule to be finished by June 10<sup>th</sup>. The May 6<sup>th</sup> Green-Up Day expanded over last year and was very successful.

4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Chapdelaine **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the General Fund Check Warrant Report #06-59 in the amount of \$83,277.33 for the period from 4/27/2006 to 5/10/2006. **Motion passed.** Chapdelaine **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the Solid Waste Equipment Fund Check Warrant Report #06-60 in the amount of \$38.81 for the period from 4/27/2006 to 5/20/2006. **Motion passed.** Chapdelaine **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the Route 132 Fund Check Warrant Report #06-61 in the amount of \$30,586.80 for the period from 4/27/2006 to 5/10/2006. **Motion passed.**

5. Truck Permits: "Policy and Procedure" (Discussion/Action). May thanked Candon and Childs for their work on crafting the draft Ordinance Regulating Enforcement of Truck Weight Limits. Soares, Hodgdon and Chief Robinson were also thanked for their collaborative efforts.

Candon discussed the contents of the draft Ordinance and included some background information on how specific weight limits are calculated and why. Highlights of the Ordinance include: the process for acquiring a Norwich Administrative Certificate and why, enforcement and a mud season provision for unloaded trucks to make two trips a day (from and to) the owner's home with permission from the Highway Administrator.

Issues raised during public discussion were: the need to clarify “reasonable access” laws, a listing of Class 4 roads and how weight limits apply to them, logging permits, whether forms are ok in an “unloaded” truck, the definition of “Truck” source, and “through trucks”. The Selectboard agreed that these issues need more study.

Candon clarified that this Ordinance was dealing with over weight issues only, not oversized trucks, and not with “through trucks”.

Townspople were asked to put in writing any changes they would suggest to the Ordinance and submit them to the Town Manager’s Office via email at [manager@norwich.vt.us](mailto:manager@norwich.vt.us) or U.S. mail at P.O. Box 376, Norwich, VT 05055. Townspople were also asked to please submit any oversize language likewise.

Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) that the Selectboard postpone any action on the Ordinance and that the moratorium on local overweight permits be continued until the June 14th Selectboard meeting, meanwhile enforcing only State permitting requirements. **Motion passed.**

6. Affordable Housing Committee Report – Creigh Moffatt. This item was covered under Public Comments.

7. Appointment with Lucy Gibson Re: Transportation Committee Report (Discussion). Postponed until the May 24<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.

8. High Speed Internet Access in Norwich (Discussion/Action). Soares stated that the Town of Strafford acquired a grant to pursue high speed internet access in their town and he has a copy of the grant.

After discussion regarding the Governor’s initiative to expand broadband to all Vermonters, Adelphia’s approval to sell its Vermont franchise and conditions and general availability; the Selectboard asked the Town Manager to seek volunteers for a committee that will focus on the issues and avenues of remedy. Irv Thomae and Gerry Tolman volunteered to be on the committee with Chris Berthold and Michelle Avila as Co-Chairs. A request for additional members will go out on the Town Email List.

9. Town Manager Request that Route 132 (Norwich Section) be Placed on State’s Capital Plan (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) that Vermont Route 132 from Route 5 to Union Village Road be added to the priority list maintained by the Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission’s Transportation Advisory Committee for Vermont transportation projects. **Motion passed.**

10. Norwich Recreation Playground Project Request to Expend Designated Funds (Action Item). Childs **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to approve the payment of \$3,492.60 to Springfield Fence Co., Inc. from the Town Recreation Fund designated for the playground. **Motion passed.** The new Playground Designated Fund balance will be \$13,160.61.

11. Correspondence

- a) Donation from Pamela Harrison for Norwich Corridor Tree Fund
- b) Ompompanoosuc Watershed Update by George Clark

- c) TRORC Project Solicitation/Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
- d) Letter from John Currier Re: Reappointment to Land Management Council. Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to reappoint John Currier to the Watershed Land Management Council for a three-year term expiring in March, 2009.

Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to receive all correspondence. **Motion passed.**

## 12. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 4/26/06 meeting. Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve. **Motion passed.**
- b) May 23<sup>rd</sup> Dresden School Board Meeting
- c) Police Union Contract (Action Item). Delayed until May 24<sup>th</sup> Selectboard meeting.
- d) Personnel (Executive Session may be Required). Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(3), Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and to invite Steve Soares and Chief Robinson to join the Session. **Motion passed.**

At 8:50 pm the Selectboard moved back into public session. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on May 24, 2006.

By Nancy Kramer  
Administrative Assistant

Alison May  
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – May 24, 2006 at 6:45 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Zoning Regulations Review
- 2) Personnel Policies
- 3) Kendall Station Road

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