

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, May 24, 2006 at 6:45 PM

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

There were about 11 people in the audience.

Also participating: Brooke Adler, Margaret Cheney, Rob Edson, Wayne Gersen, Lucy Gibson, Mary Ann Hankel, Jamie Hess, Dennis Kaufman, Sharon Racusin, Chief Robinson, Mary Sachsse, Irv Thomae, Geoffrey Vitt, Stan Williams

May opened the meeting at 6:45 pm.

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

2. Public Comments (Discussion). Thomae, speaking as a member of the newly formed Norwich Broadband Committee, spoke briefly about the Regional Fiber Consortium Meeting scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup> and his concerns regarding PacketFront.

3. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Childs **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Ptashnik) to approve the General Fund Check Warrant Report #06-62 in the amount of \$714,931.59 for the period from 5/11/2006 to 5/24/2006, with the mandate that such an event as the Delta Dental payment not occur in the future. **Motion passed 3 to 2** (yes – May, Ptashnik, Childs; no – Candon, Chapdelaine).

Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the General Administrative Fund Check Warrant Report #06-63 in the amount of \$8,799.00 for the period from 5/11/2006 to 5/24/2006. **Motion passed.**

Ptashnik **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to approve the Recreation Facility Improvement Fund Check Warrant Report #06-64 in the amount of \$3,492.60 for the period from 5/11/2006 to 5/24/2006. **Motion passed.**

Ptashnik **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the Fire Training Fund Warrant Report #06-65 in the amount of \$5,550.00 for the period from 5/11/2006 to 5/24/2006. **Motion passed.**

6. Appointment to Affordable Housing Committee (Elizabeth Kohl) (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to appoint Elizabeth Kohl to the Affordable Housing Committee. **Motion passed.**

Ptashnik **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the Selectboard Chair or Vice-Chair to sign a check for \$45,000 from the Affordable Housing designated fund if timing warrants. **Motion passed.**

7. Green Mountain Power Corporation (GMP) Petition to Locate Anchors/Sidewalk Guy within the Highway Limits on Main Street (Action). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve GMP's petition to locate Anchors/Sidewalk Guy within the highway limits on Main Street. **Motion passed.**

4. 7:00 pm Appointment with the Norwich School Board (Discussion). Demographics were the main topic of discussion. Gersen distributed copies of the Marion Cross School (MCS) and Norwich 7-12 enrollments, both historic and projected. MCS enrollments are predicted to go from 306 in 2005 to 246 in 2011. Edson stated that current enrollment at MCS is 317 students. Related items discussed were: what part private schools play, whether a brochure at local realtors would help and making the Town family friendly. Items also discussed were: ownership of the Green, maintenance contracts, possible office space for the Town at MCS and the development of a five-year plan between MCS and the Town for capital expenditures.

5. Appointment with Lucy Gibson Re: Transportation Committee Report (Discussion). After discussion about whether the Charge for the Committee was still relevant and the Committee structure, May **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) that the Transportation Committee will henceforth be an advisory committee to the Town Manager, continuing with the current charge. **Motion passed.**

Gibson went over the highlights of the Transportation Committee report to the Selectboard. Topics discussed were: park and ride lots, a bus lane into Hanover, public transit and sidewalks/bike paths. Candon requested that the Committee identify potential park and ride locations and then rate them. Hess invited guidance on how to proceed on expenditure of the Town appropriated \$25,000 for development and construction of sidewalks and bicycle paths. The Selectboard asked that an update on proposed projects and funding needs be forwarded from the Committee to the Town Manager by August.

8. Norwich Recreation Huntley Meadow Improvements Project Request to Expend Designated Funds (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to approve the payment of \$400.00 to Bergerons Lawn Service & Landscaping from the Norwich Recreation Huntley Meadow Improvements Project Fund. **Motion passed.** The new Huntley Meadow Improvements Designated Fund balance will be \$29,970.25.

- a) Norwich Recreation Playground Project Request to Expend Designated Funds (Action Item). Ptashnik **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Candon) to approve the payment of \$139.67 to Oakes Bros. from the Town Recreation Fund designated for the playground. **Motion passed.** The new Playground Designated Fund balance will be \$15,463.94.

9. Correspondence

- a) Letter from Phil Phillips Re: Trucking Ordinance
- b) Letter from Reed Detar Re: Kendall Station Road

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

10. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 5/10/06 meeting. Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve. **Motion passed.**
- b) Revision of the 3/22/05 Meeting Minutes (Action Item). Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the revisions. **Motion passed.** (Ptashnik abstained)

- c) Advertise Development Review Board Vacancies (Action Item). May asked the Board to actively solicit for these positions (two regular seats and one alternate seat, for three year terms beginning July 1). Notice will be placed in the Legal section of the Valley News, posted in Town and put out on the Town email list.
- d) Police Union Contract (Action Item). Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(1), Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Ptashnik) to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing labor relations and to invite Chief Robinson to join the Session. **Motion passed.**

At 9:20 pm the Selectboard moved back into public session. Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Chapdelaine) to approve the Agreement Between the Town of Norwich and A.F.S.C.M.E. Council 93, Local 3797, AFL-CIO Chapter 6 for the period of July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009 as proposed by the Town Manager and Chief contingent upon acceptance by the union and that the contract be kept confidential until approved by the Union. **Motion passed.**

Candon **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on June 14, 2006.

By Nancy Kramer  
Administrative Assistant

Alison May  
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – June 14, 2006 at 6:45 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Zoning Regulations Review
- 2) Personnel Policies
- 3) Kendall Station Road
- 4) Truck Weight Limits Ordinance

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