

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, January 28, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Members present: Gerard Chapdelaine, Chair; Alison May; Ed Childs; Sarah Nunan; Pete Webster, Town Manager. Absent: Suzanne Lupien.

There were 7 people in the audience.

Also participating: Dennis Kaufman, Don McCabe, Sue Pitiger.

Chapdelaine opened the meeting at 6:31 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). By consensus, the Selectboard approved the Agenda.
2. Public Comments (Discussion). Kaufman reminded people that the HS-122 (Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Claim) needs to be filed annually and is due April 15<sup>th</sup>. You may file online at [www.vermont.gov](http://www.vermont.gov) where there is a link to click on at the bottom of the page. The form should be mailed to: Vermont Department of Taxes, 133 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05633-1401.
3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Webster mentioned the ongoing union contract negotiations, and the next day's session which was to be postponed because of the storm. Bandstand - Webster met with Charles Egbert and plans for the RFP have been finalized. He held a meeting of interested parties concerning these drawings and his plans to move forward on the removal of the existing structure when the bids were in (February 20<sup>th</sup>); emphasizing his intention to carefully preserve whatever components could be salvaged for a future project. There is a little over \$53,000 left in the Bandstand Fund. Webster met last Friday with eight other Vermont Town Managers. This has become almost a monthly tradition among the Vermont Town Managers, and there was much discussion of budgets. Webster indicated the Norwich budget compared favorably with other towns' efforts. He also met last Friday with the Finance Committee, and again reminded the public of his last Thursdays' informal public sessions at the Norwich Inn from 5 to 7 pm. Alison requested Pete to look into the feasibility of the Town crew clearing the sidewalks by blowing the snow into the street, rather than into the picket fences.
4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). May **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Nunan) to approve Check Warrant Report #09-16 for the period from 1/15/2009 to 1/28/2009 in the amount of \$156,196.94; which is all General Fund. **Motion passed.**
5. Request to Expend Designated Funds from Bandstand Fund (Discussion/Action Item). Nunan **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> May) to approve payment of \$3,786 to Charles D. Egbert from the Bandstand Designated Fund for architectural design plans for the previously approved B-2 design and prints. **Motion passed.**
6. Approve Town Meeting Warning (Discussion/Action Item). May stated that the school would be first on the warning this year. After a brief discussion concerning Articles 6, 11, 12 and 15, May **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Childs) to approve the warning for Town Meeting with the understanding that Article 6 will be corrected for the school district's budget (\$4,676,506). **Motion passed.**
7. Community Communications Outreach (Discussion/Action Item). Improving communications between the Selectboard and the public. It was decided no further discussion of this topic would be necessary. McCabe suggested the Norwich Town Meeting Moderator should read the 'Town Meeting Invocation' first employed by the Town of Danville, Vermont and that it would set a nice civil tone for our meeting. Webster had previously given this invocation to Thayer. Pitiger suggested we omit 'amen' and insert 'so be it'.
8. Correspondence (Please go to [www.norwich.vt.us](http://www.norwich.vt.us), click on Board and Committees tab in left panel, click on Selectboard and click on Recent Selectboard Correspondence to view resident correspondence):

By consensus the Board received all correspondence.

- a) Resident –
  - 1) Letter from Virginia Close Re: Bandstand on the Green. A letter from Virginia Close expressing support for the future preservation of the bandstand mentioned the 'good condition' of the base. This drew a response from Childs that the Lions Club had a two year old estimate of \$1,240 from Tom Porter for much needed temporary repairs to the base, and that the base was most definitely not in good shape. Webster to invite Anne Cousins of the Preservation Trust of Vermont to their next meeting.
- b) Nonresident –
  - 1) Memo from GUVSWD Re: Annual Information Exchange with Member Select Boards (Discussion/Action Item). It was decided to invite Fred Moody from GUVSWD to a meeting in April to answer certain questions from the Board.
  - 2) Minutes from 12/10/08 TRORC Meeting. Norwich needs an alternate, Webster to remind Kramer of this needed appointment.
  - 3) Memo from TRORC Re: Community Survey on Source Cost of Aggregate for Road Construction. A survey from the regional commission about the source and cost of aggregate for road construction needs attention from Andy Hodgdon.
  - 4) Letter from Twin Pines Housing Trust Re: Source Protection Area for Starlake Village Water System. Twin Pines Housing Trust has a source protection area for Starlake Village water supply. Webster to share with Phil Dechert.

9. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 1/14/09 and 1/21/09 Meetings (Action Item). May **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Nunan) to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2009 and January 21, 2009 Selectboard meetings. **Motion passed.**

May **moved** (2<sup>nd</sup> Nunan) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on February 11, 2009.

By Pete Webster  
Town Manager

Gerard Chapdelaine  
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – February 11, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Assessment Report from Committee on Police Services (2/11/09)
- 2) Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy/NORCAP Report/Strategic Planning (2/09)
- 3) Strategic Planning Committee Organization (3/09)
- 4) Municipal Enforcement of the VT Fire Prevention and Building Code (3/09)
- 5) Class 1 Road Designation (2010)