

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at 6:00 PM

Members present: Gerard Chapdelaine, Chair; Alison May; Ed Childs; Pete Webster, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Assistant to the Town Manager. Absent: Suzanne Lupien and Sarah Nunan.

There were 24 people in the audience.

Also participating: Betty Barba, David Cahill, Phil Dechert, Linda Gray, Kelly Griggs, Nancy Hoggson, Dennis Kaufman, Linda Kelley, Lynne McGrew, Chief Robinson, Demo Sofronas.

Chapdelaine opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. 6:00 pm - Litigation (Executive Session May be Required). Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(1), May **moved** (2nd Childs) to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and labor relations and to invite Pete Webster, Steve Wheelock and the Listers to join the Session. **Motion passed**. The Selectboard moved into Executive Session at 6:08 pm.

At 6:32 pm the Selectboard moved into public session. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). By consensus, the Selectboard approved the Agenda.

3. Public Comments (Discussion). Kaufman again reminded people that the HS-122 (Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Adjustment Claim) needs to be filed annually and is due April 15th. You may file online at 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.

Linda Gray, speaking for the Norwich Energy Committee, talked about a project they are working on and a grant application requiring a 10% Town match that will be taken up at the February 25th Selectboard meeting.

Childs said he has been asked to pursue a Town employee team for the April 3rd spelling bee.

4. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Webster has been attending a number of meetings regarding the former Corridor Project which has been combined with State paving projects. The proposed lane closure experiment is still being looked at and a simulation will be done. Union contract negotiations are ongoing.

5. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). After discussion of one item, Childs **moved** (2nd May) to approve Check Warrant Report #09-17 for the period from 1/29/2009 to 2/11/2009 in the amount of \$1,050,753.45; of which \$1,044,991.06 is General Fund, \$1,976.39 is Police Station Fund and \$3,786.00 is Bandstand Fund. **Motion passed**.

6. Assessment Report from Committee on Police Services (Discussion/Action Item). Cahill said the purpose of this report was to gauge progress on reaching the goals in the Committee's report to the Board. The Committee feels the Norwich Police Department has met those goals. The Committee thanked Chief Robinson for his efforts and feels their work is done. After a brief discussion, May **moved** (2nd Childs) to disband the Committee on Police Services and to thank them for all their efforts. **Motion passed.**

7. Bandstand Issues Including Memorandum of Understanding Between Town of Norwich and School District Re: Bandstand (Discussion/Action Item). The Town's Attorney drafted the Memorandum of Understanding and the School District has approved. After some discussion, May **moved** (2nd Childs) to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Norwich and the Norwich, Vermont School District and to authorize the Selectboard Chair to sign the document. **Motion passed.**

Also discussed was relocation of the current bandstand, a possible relocation grant and that five other towns have looked at the bandstand and do not want it.

8. Additional Main Street School Crosswalk (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Kelley spoke in favor of the crosswalk. It will not be a supervised crosswalk. Using six graders as guards was discussed. Chief Robinson supports the crosswalk. By consensus, the Board gave their support to the crosswalk.

9. Correspondence (Please go to www.norwich.vt.us, click on Town Offices bullet in left panel, scroll down to Norwich Selectboard section and click on Recent Selectboard Correspondence to view resident correspondence):

a) Resident –

- 1) Letter of Resignation from Affordable Housing Committee from Mary Ann Hankel. May **moved** (2nd Childs) to receive a letter of resignation from Affordable Housing Committee from Mary Ann Hankel. **Motion passed.** The Chair was asked to send a letter thanking Mary Ann for her service.
- 2) Letter from Members of the Former Bandstand Committee Re: Bandstand Decision and Disposition of Old Bandstand. May **moved** (2nd Childs) not to receive a letter from members of the former Bandstand Committee re: bandstand decision and disposition of old bandstand. **Motion passed.** Revised, signed letter will be on the agenda for the February 25th Selectboard meeting.

b) Nonresident –

- 1) Minutes from GUVSWD 11/6/08 Board of Supervisors Meeting and Minutes from LEPC #12 12/18/08 Meeting. May **moved** (2nd Childs) to receive minutes from GUVSWD 11/6/08 Board of Supervisors meeting and minutes from LEPC #12 12/18/08 meeting. **Motion passed.**

10. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 1/28/09 Meeting (Action Item). Childs **moved** (2nd May) to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2009 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**

b) Nancy LaRowe's Resignation and Selection of Candidate to Recommend to the State to Fill Town Fire Warden Position (Discussion/Action Item). May **moved** (2nd Childs) to accept her resignation. **Motion passed.** After some discussion, May **moved** (2nd Childs) to recommend the appointment of Linda Cook as the Town Forest Fire Warden for the Town of Norwich to fill Nancy LaRowe's unfinished term ending June 30, 2013 and to appoint Chief Leinoff, Deputy Chief Neil Fulton, Captain Phil Brunelle, Captain Nox Connelly, Lieutenant Matt Swett and Lieutenant Pete Schwab as Deputy Fire Wardens. **Motion passed.** The Chair was asked to send a letter thanking Nancy for her service.

May **moved** (2nd Childs) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on February 25, 2009.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Gerard Chapdelaine
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – February 25, 2009 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

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

PLEASE NOTE THAT CATV RECORDS ALL REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE NORWICH SELECTBOARD. FOR A MORE DETAILED TRANSCRIPTION PLEASE REFER TO THE DVD. DVDs ARE AVAILABLE ONE WEEK AFTER AIRING AT THE NORWICH PUBLIC LIBRARY.