

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, September 22, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Members present: Roger Blake, Chair; Sharon Racusin; Suzanne Lupien; Pete Webster, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Assistant to the Town Manager. Absent: Ed Childs and Uwe Bagnato.

There were 10 people in the audience.

Also participating: Neil Fulton, Jim Gold, Andy Hodgdon, Alison May, Evan Pierce, Harry Roberts, Chief Robinson, Demo Sofronas.

Blake opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). By consensus, the Selectboard approved the Agenda.
2. Public Comments (Discussion). Roberts asked the Board to consider extending the rollback given to the Bragg Hill plaintiffs to all people in the neighborhood who got reappraised. Blake said there will be an Act 250 public hearing for the King Arthur Flour proposed expansions on October 12th at Tracy Hall starting with a site visit at 9:30 am.
3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Extensive paving in the Town starts next week. The Parsonage vote sent a strong message, nevertheless capital planning still needs to continue. The NORCAP Committee is meeting Monday at 9:00 am to continue updates. Webster is proposing using money in the Long Term Facility Study Designated Fund for planning on the current Police and Fire facilities. The work at Huntley Field is wrapping up and much money has been saved by using the work crew from the Southeast State Correctional Facility and doing most of the rest of the work in house. Webster has sent out a memo to Department Heads on the FY12 budget noting that insurance costs may go up 17.56%. Webster also said there is only so much of the budget he can cut without cutting personnel due to approximately one-third of the Town budget being salaries. The Welcome to Norwich sign has been recovered and will be back up again soon. Measures will be taken for greater security of the sign. The Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste Management District is looking at serious budget cuts, including replacing Fred Moody with a part-time person and possibly selling the house used as offices, now that the landfill development has been put on indefinite hold. May questioned why the Firehouse roof is being repaired now if planning is still to be done. Webster said the monies were put in the FY11 budget due to serious leaks in the roof and lack of insulation. Steve Leinoff will attend the Selectboard's October 13th meeting and further explain.
4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). Lupien **moved** (2nd Racusin) to approve Check Warrant Report #11-07 for the period from 9/9/2010 to 9/22/2010 in the amount of \$85,559.56; of which \$77,723.38 is General Fund, \$6,500 is Recreation Facilities Fund and \$1,336.18 is Fire Apparatus Fund. **Motion passed**. Roberts questioned the number of Tax Overpayment Credits on the warrant and was told these were late HS-122 filers.
5. **7:00 pm** – Interview/Appointment of Evan Pierce to the Finance Committee (Discussion/Action Item). Pierce was asked why he and his wife had chosen to move to Norwich. Mitchell was once again thanked for his service to the Town.

Lupien **moved** (2nd Racusin) to appoint Evan Pierce to the Finance Committee for an unexpired term ending in March 2012. **Motion passed**.

6. Appointment with Jake Blum Re: Money Spent on Tree Replacement (Discussion/Action Item). Blum could not attend. Item was postponed until October 13th where Blum will report on his work.

7. Review of Route 132 and Union Village Intersection (Discussion). Blake discussed Hodgdon's email that states he has not received any complaints about the project, there have been no accidents in the past year and it has not been a problem for his department. Lupien remains unconvinced it is the right solution. There was some discussion of the "temporary light" which has remained in place. Gold said the Board should put the project to bed and thanked Hodgdon, Webster and the Selectboard for what they have done.

8. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 9/7/10 Meeting. Racusin **moved** (2nd Lupien) to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2010 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**

At this point, there was a discussion of pending and follow up items. Blake suggested it was more appropriate to discuss these items when the whole Board was present. Racusin will put together a comprehensive list and this will be an agenda item under follow up for the October 13th meeting.

Racusin **moved** (2nd Blake) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on October 13, 2010.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Roger Blake
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – October 13, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy/NORCAP Report/Strategic Planning
- 2) Municipal Enforcement of the VT Fire Prevention and Building Code
- 3) Code of Conduct for Town Officials
- 4) Listening Posts
- 5) Town Boundaries
- 6) Lister Roundtable
- 7) Ownership of Foley Park
- 8) Norwich Volunteer Network

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