

Minutes of the Special Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, November 3, 2010 at 6:30 PM

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

There were 4 people in the audience.

Also participating: Neil Fulton, Keith Moran.

Blake opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. Blake made a brief announcement about Bagnato. Best wishes were sent to the family and the Selectboard asked that a card be circulated for all to sign.

1. Follow Up and Pending Items (Discussion/Action Item). Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy/NORCAP Report/Strategic Planning – After a brief discussion it was agreed this would remain item number one. Municipal Enforcement of the VT Fire Prevention and Building Code – Fulton briefly explained. After discussion, the Board agreed to take this item off the list and defer until after budget discussions. Code of Conduct for Town Officials – Will be on November 10th agenda. Listening Posts – There was discussion about a yearly event to thank volunteers and promote participation in Town boards, committees, commissions, etc. The Selectboard also discussed Town Eating Day and promotion and/or participation in it. Town Boundaries – After some discussion, Lupien agreed to go to the next Thetford Selectboard meeting and discuss. Lister Roundtable – The Lister Roundtable will be November 17th at 6:30 pm. Ownership of Foley Park – It has been determined that Foley Park belongs to the State. Dechert is following up with the State regarding a maintenance agreement between the State and Town. Possibly this can be part of the transfer of roads from the State to Class 1 Town roads. Norwich Volunteer Network – Aging In Place has set up a network of volunteers. After some discussion, the Board agreed that one network was best.

After some discussion, Blake agreed to follow up with Anne Day on the joint meeting with the Norwich School Board. Junk Ordinance – Lupien gave an update on the property discussed previously. Lupien would like to see these items handled on a case-by-case basis. Both Childs and Lupien would like to scrap. Racusin pointed out that the Selectboard had agreed to form an ad hoc committee to discuss at their July 7th meeting. Childs asked that a definition of junk and the enforcement mechanism be provided before going forward with committee appointments. After further discussion, the Board agreed to put development of a charge for the committee on pending items. 250th Celebration – Blake will talk with the Town of Hartford about their planned events. The Norwich Historical Society will be discussing ongoing plans with interested parties the week of November 15th, a date has not been set yet. The Selectboard agreed that this should be an agenda item before the end of the year.

2. Long-Range/Strategic Planning (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Lupien read a statement regarding her thoughts on strategic planning and a charge for the committee. Lupien believes the Board should become familiar with the Town's finances and the Capital Budget Policy. Lupien suggests a work session with the Town Manager and Finance Officer, Roberta Robinson. Once the Selectboard has an outline of how Town finances work, Lupien would like a meeting with the Finance Committee to clarify roles and discuss economic trends. Lupien would also like to see an in depth study of the Town's infrastructure, what weaknesses there are and what maintenance needs to be done. Childs suggested a walk through of the current NORCAP report as a start. Also discussed were the need for community consensus and a working session with Department

Heads. A review of the current NORCAP report will be on the December 8th agenda.

Lupien **moved** (2nd Childs) to adjourn. **Motion passed**. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on November 23, 2010.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Roger Blake
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – November 10, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Special Selectboard Meeting – November 30, 2010 at 6:30 PM

Pending Items:

- 1) Vehicle Acquisition and Replacement Policy/NORCAP Report/Strategic Planning
- 2) Joint Meeting with Norwich School Board
- 3) Charge for Committee Reviewing Junk Policies
- 4) 250th Celebration Plans
- 5) Town Eating Day Participation
- 6) Town Boundaries

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