

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, March 26, 2014 at 6:30 PM

Members present: Steve Flanders, Vice-Chair; Linda Cook; Dan Goulet; Keith Moran; Neil Fulton, Town Manager; Nancy Kramer, Assistant to the Town Manager. Absent: Christopher Ashley.

There were 3 people in the audience.

Also participating: Deborah Hall, Jill Kearney, Frank Olmstead, Doug Robinson.

Flanders opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). After agreeing to take items out of order until the 7:15 pm appointments, the Selectboard, by consensus, approved the Agenda.
2. Public Comments. None.
3. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). Fulton said that the forecasters are predicting mixed precipitation for Friday. Public Works will wait until after mud season to replenish the sand supply. Fulton is having conversations every other week with the General Counsel for the Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources regarding the Pool permit. Slow progress is being made. Fulton is working on another extension if needed from the now September, 2015 deadline. There was some discussion regarding why the permit is taking so long.
4. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). After some comments and questions, Moran **moved** (2nd Cook) to approve Check Warrant Report #14-22 for General Fund in the amount of \$59,846.73 and for Communications Construction Fund in the amount of \$13,443.21 for the period from 3/13/14 to 3/26/14. **Motion passed.**
5. Liquor Licenses (Renewals) (Action Item). Cook **moved** (2nd Goulet) that the Selectboard convene as the Norwich Liquor Commission. **Motion passed.** After a brief discussion of who was applying, Cook **moved** (2nd Moran) to approve the liquor license applications for Norwich Inn (2), Dan & Whit's General Store, Carpenter and Main Restaurant and Norwich Wines & Spirits. **Motion passed.** Cook **moved** (2nd Goulet) to close the Norwich Liquor Commission session and reconvene as the Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**
7. Selectboard Goals (Discussion). Flanders said that the Norwich Selectboard goals and objectives for last year were included in the packet as a place to start. Moran suggested adding the Norwich Energy Committee (NEC) energy goal saying they had a good meeting with the NEC and discussed ways to address the goal at the local level. Flanders then suggested, as a follow up on how to spend or save money in the budget, that it might be useful to develop a poll to circulate to Norwich taxpayers. Cook said people do not really understand the tax impact until the tax rate is set in July. Moran believes most people do not feel the impact until they get their tax bill and he does not know how much good a poll would do. Moran also stated that the expected level of services can be a really "fuzzy thing". Goulet feels most people want value for what they are paying and want things done more efficiently. Flanders summed up with the suggestion that how to get feedback be part of the discussion. Flanders also suggested revisiting the Town Manager review process as another goal. Fulton briefly reviewed the status of last year's goals that are in progress. Flanders asked that any additional goals to be added be submitted to Kramer in time for the next meeting's packet.

8. Selectboard

- a) Approval of the Minutes of the 3/5/14 Meeting. Cook **moved** (2nd Moran) to approve the minutes of the March 5, 2014 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**
- b) Review of Next Agendas (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Items discussed for the next agenda were a RFP for banking services including the Investment Policy, appointments to Capital Facilities Committee, Selectboard goals, appointments to Finance Committee Nominating Committee, review of Event Center site, Appropriation Policy, NEC strategic planning, Town services survey and an Executive Session for a litigation update. Questions were asked about the process for setting agenda items and it was agreed this would be on the next agenda. After some discussion, Cook **moved** (2nd Moran) to table the appointments to the Capital Facilities Committee and advertise the openings first. **Motion passed.** After some further discussion, it was agreed that interested Selectboard members would let the Chair know and further appointments to the Capital Facilities Committee would be discussed at the next Selectboard meeting.

6. Town of Norwich Open Positions Interviews/Appointments (Action Item). Candidates present and interviewed were Frank Olmstead and Deb Hall. Kearney spoke in favor of Logan's appointment, said Bill Miles will not be continuing and that she had been unable to contact Laura Duncan. Kearney also spoke in favor of Peter Brink's reappointment. After one questions regarding the Solid Waste District swap, Cook **moved** (2nd Moran) to appoint Frank Olmstead as the Agent to Prosecute for a one-year term ending in March, 2015, reappoint Stephen Gaughan and Peter Silberfarb to the Conservation Commission for four-year terms ending in March, 2018, swap the appointments of Brion McMullan and Neil Fulton to the Board of Supervisors of the Greater Upper Valley Solid Waste District to Alternate and Representative, respectively, reappoint Peter Brink and Nancy Hoggson to the Historic Preservation Commission for three-year terms ending in March, 2017, reappoint Everett Logan to the Recreation Council for a three-year term ending in March, 2017, appoint Deborah Hall as a Trustee of Public Funds for a one-year term ending in March, 2015 and to reappoint Jeff Goodrich and Tom Gray to Two Rivers-Ottawaquechee Regional Commission for one-year terms ending in April, 2015 as Representative and Alternate, respectively. **Motion passed.**

Moran **moved** (2nd Goulet) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on April 23, 2014.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Christopher Ashley
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – April 9, 2014 at 6:30 PM

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