

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, September 23, 2015 at 6:00 PM

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

There was one person in the audience.

Also participating: Cheryl Lindberg, Demo Sofronas.

Cook opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Town Manager Contract (Executive Session May be Required). After discussion, Layton **moved** (2nd Goulet) to find that premature general public knowledge of the Town's contract with the Town Manager would clearly place the municipality at a substantial disadvantage, because the Selectboard risks disclosing its negotiation strategy if it discusses the proposed contract terms in public. **Motion passed 3 to 2** (yes – Cook, Goulet and Layton; no – Ashley and Flanders).

Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(1)(A), Layton **moved** (2nd Goulet) to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the contract having found that premature general public knowledge would clearly place the Selectboard at a substantial disadvantage. **Motion passed 3 to 2** (yes – Cook, Goulet and Layton; no – Ashley and Flanders).

The Selectboard moved into Executive Session at 6:14 pm. At 6:50 pm, Layton **moved** (2nd Goulet) to move into public session. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

2. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). The Selectboard, by consensus, approved the Agenda as is.

3. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

4. Town Manager's Report (Discussion). No actions taken.

5. Finance – Board to Sign Accounts Payable/Warrants (Action Item). After several questions, Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) to approve Check Warrant Report #16-8 for General Fund in the amount of \$3,081,964.88 and for Highway Equipment Fund in the amount of \$19,042.39 for the period from 09/10/15 to 09/23/15. **Motion passed.**

6. Certificate – No Appeal or Suit Pending (Discussion/Action Item). Lindberg reviewed stating that no litigation is pending for either of those years. Afterwards, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) to approve the Certificate – No Appeal or Suit Pending for the April 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014 Grand Lists and have the Selectboard sign the certificates. **Motion passed.**

7. Errors and Omissions (Discussion/Action Item). Lindberg reviewed the memo briefly and said that current use is the culprit. After some discussion, Flanders **moved** (2nd Goulet) to revise values as detailed in the memo from the Norwich Board of Listers to the Norwich Selectboard dated September 14, 2015. **Motion passed.**

8. Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Lindberg reviewed the report stating that all is in order. Flanders **moved** (2nd Layton) to receive the Treasurer's Quarterly Investment Report. **Motion passed.**

9. Nomination of Norwich Representative to The White River Council on Aging (Bugbee Senior Center) (Discussion/Possible Action Item). Sofronas reviewed what the position requires. After some discussion, the Selectboard asked that the position be advertised.
10. Draft Letter to ANR Secretary Re: Permit for Replacing the Town Pool Dam (Discussion/Possible Action Item). After some discussion, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) to approve the letter with editorial changes submitted by Flanders to be prepared by the Town Manager's Office for the Selectboard to sign. **Motion passed.**
11. Correspondence (Please go to www.norwich.vt.us, click on Boards & Committees from the blue banner, click on Selectboard and click on Recent Selectboard Correspondence in the middle section to view resident correspondence):
- a) Resident –
 - 1) #11 a). Email from Norwich Energy Committee Re: Invitation for 10/4. Flanders **moved** (2nd Layton) to receive an email from the Norwich Energy Committee Re: Invitation for 10/4. **Motion passed.** The public is invited to this free cookout on Sunday, October 4th from 4–7 pm. Selectboard members wishing to attend should let Kramer know.
12. Selectboard
- a) Re-approval of the Minutes of the 8/26/15 Selectboard Meeting (Discussion/Possible Action Item). After discussion that the August 25th date change was not given to the Board in writing, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) to reapprove the minutes of the August 26, 2015 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed.**
 - b) Approval of the Minutes of the 9/9/15 Selectboard Meeting (Action Item). Postponed until next meeting.
 - c) Appoint Voting Delegate to the VLCT Annual Business Meeting (Action Item). After some discussion, Ashley **moved** (2nd Layton) to designate Steve Flanders as the voting delegate for the Town of Norwich at the VLCT 2015 Annual Business Meeting. **Motion passed.**
 - d) Review of Next Agendas (Discussion/Possible Action Item). The Favreau/Greene request, Water Access from River Road to the Connecticut River, request for an alcohol waiver by The Family Place, applications for Town Communications Committee (if received) and possible Executive Sessions for Town Manager Contract and Town Manager Evaluation will be items on the agenda for October 14th. The Norwich Trails Committee Draft Strategic Plan for Trails and an email from Watt Alexander Re: 9/23 Agenda will be received as correspondence at that meeting. After some discussion, Ashley **moved** (2nd Layton) that sidewalks be on the next agenda and that the Prudential Committee be invited. **Motion passed 4 to 1** (yes - Ashley, Flanders, Goulet and Layton; no - Cook). Afterwards, Flanders **moved** (2nd Ashley) to add introduce the strategic planning process for a 10 minute discussion to the agenda. **Motion passed 4 to 1** (yes - Ashley, Flanders, Goulet and Layton; no - Cook). After discussion, SB Goal #2 relating to a capital facility plan will be on the agenda for October 28th.
 - e) Town Manager Evaluation Process (Executive Session may be Required). Pursuant to Title 1 VSA § 313(a)(3), Layton **moved** (2nd Goulet) to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Town Manager evaluation process. **Motion passed 3 to 2** (yes – Cook, Goulet and Layton; no – Ashley and Flanders). The Selectboard moved into Executive Session at 8:08 pm.

At 8:42 pm, Ashley **moved** (2nd Flanders) to move into public session. No action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Layton **moved** (2nd Flanders) to adjourn. **Motion passed.** Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Approved by the Selectboard on October 14, 2015.

By Nancy Kramer
Assistant to the Town Manager

Linda Cook
Selectboard Chair

Next Regular Meeting – October 14, 2015 at 6:30 PM

PLEASE NOTE THAT CATV RECORDS ALL REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE NORWICH
SELECTBOARD.