

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, April 26, 2017 at 6:30 pm

Members present: Mary Layton, Chair; John Pepper, Vice Chair; Linda Cook; John Langhus; Stephen Flanders; Dave Ormiston, Interim Town Manager; Miranda Bergmeier, Assistant to the Town Manager.

There were about 24 people in the audience.

Also participating: Stuart Richards, Paula Howes, Michael Lyons, Jay White, Ann Marie Smith, Tracey Hayes, Steve Leinoff, Robert Gere, Peter Brink, Maggie Pepper, Jen Goulet, Emily Dixon, Paula Howes, Mary Fowler, Herb Durfee, and Carolyn Frye.

Layton opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). Selectboard agreed to proceed with the agenda as written.
2. Public Comments (Discussion Item). Stuart Richards expressed concern about the completion of the Town Plan. Paula Howes, Michael Lyons, Ann Marie Smith, Tracey Hayes expressed concerns about the public safety building project. Steve Leinoff and Steve Flanders thanked Dave Ormiston for his work as Interim Town Manager.
3. Board to sign accounts payable/warrants (Discussion/Action Item). Flanders **moved** (2nd Pepper) to approve Check Warrant Report #17-28 for General Fund in the amount of \$245,687.13 and for the Public Safety Facility Fund in the amount of \$12,295.51. Cook requested that the motion be divided so that she could avoid a conflict of interest. **Motion** to approve General Fund in the amount of \$245,687.13 **passed (yes-Langhus, Pepper, Layton, Flanders; abstained-Cook)**. **Motion** to approve Public Safety Facility Fund in the amount of \$12,295.51 **passed unanimously**.
4. Review of Open Positions and Applications (Discussion/Action Item). Applicants for open positions appeared before the Selectboard and answered questions about their interest in serving. After some questions from Selectboard members and discussion among board members, the following actions were taken:
 - Flanders **moved** (2nd Cook) to appoint Robert Gere to the EC Fiber Board as an alternate for a one-year term ending in April 2018. **Motion passed unanimously**.
 - Flanders **moved** (2nd Cook) to adopt the Resolution to the Governing Board of the East Central Vermont Telecommunications District appointing Irv Thomae to the Governing Board and Robert Gere as an alternate. **Motion passed unanimously**.
 - Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to appoint Peter Brink to the Historic Preservation Commission for a three-year term ending in March 2020. **Motion passed unanimously**.
5. Selectboard Priorities and Goals – Working Session (Discussion/Action Item). John Pepper reported that he has received input from Selectboard members, and has arranged for an independent third party to meet with each Selectboard member individually and then facilitate a group discussion with the full board. After some discussion, Pepper **moved** (2nd Cook) to have a special Selectboard meeting on May 3, 2017 at 6:30 pm to conduct a facilitated meeting to discuss Selectboard goals and vision. **Motion passed unanimously**. After further discussion, Flanders **moved** (2nd Pepper) to include in future Selectboard agendas: Negotiated Agreement, Town Ordinances, Town Pool, Sidewalks, and Property Assessment. **Motion passed (yes-**

Langhus, Pepper, Flanders; no-Cook, Layton).

6. Ormiston reported to the Selectboard what changes to the bid documents had been made, based on input from various sources, and said that the project is ready to go out to bid.

Selectboard members and town citizens discussed concerns and questions about the project plans. After this discussion, Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to authorize the Town Manager to proceed with the Public Safety Building project and to put the project out to bid with adjustments that address abutters' concerns. **Motion passed unanimously.**

7. Casella Contract (Discussion/Action Item). After some discussion about the terms of the proposed contract, Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a new Service Agreement with Casella Waste Management, Inc. with the words "less than" changed to "more than" [regarding the Rate Escalator]. **Motion passed unanimously.**

8. Modernize Selectboard Meeting (Discussion/Action Item). Langhus explained that the Selectboard is exploring ways to make it easier for Selectboard members and members of the public to attend Selectboard meetings. Langhus has identified GoToMeeting as a platform to try.

9. Interim Town Manager Report (Discussion Item). Ormiston briefly discussed FEMA Alternative Projects, William Drake property tax appeal, the intersection of McKenna and Route 10A, the railroad crossing on Kendall Station Road, and unpaid Hanover Ambulance invoices.

10. Correspondence (Discussion/Action Item). Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to receive correspondence from Stephanie Briggs regarding Public Safety Building – Neighborhood concerns; from Ann Marie Smith (one dated 4/11/17 and the second dated 4/20/17) regarding the Proposed Public Safety Building, from Jeff Lubell regarding appointments to the Planning Commission, from Claudette Brochu regarding the March 22, 2017 minutes; and from Ed Childs regarding a Gile Mountain Deed. **Motion passed unanimously.**

11a. Approval of the minutes of the 3/22/2017 and 4/12/2017 Selectboard meeting (Action Item). Langhus **moved** (2nd Flanders) to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2017 Selectboard meeting with changes put forward regarding paragraph 5. **Motion passed unanimously.** Langhus **moved** (2nd Flanders) to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2017 Selectboard meeting. **Motion passed unanimously.**

11b. Review of Next Agendas (Discussion/Action Item). The following items were listed for the Selectboard's May 10, 2017 agenda:

- Selectboard Communication
- Town Plan Renewal
- Gile Mountain
- Public Safety Building Plans
- Follow-up to Selectboard Vision and Goals

12. Internal Selectboard Communication & Personnel – executive session may be needed (Discussion/Action Item). The Selectboard at this time declined to go into executive session and did not address agenda item 12.

At this point, Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to adjourn. **Motion passed (yes-Langhus, Pepper, Layton, Flanders; no-Cook).** Meeting adjourned at 10:35 pm.

by Miranda Bergmeier, Assistant to the Town Manager

Approved by the Selectboard on May 10, 2017

Mary Layton, Selectboard Chair

Next Meeting –May 3, 2017 at 6:30 PM

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