

Minutes of the Selectboard Meeting of Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 6:30 pm

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

There were about 22 people in the audience.

Also participating: Stuart Richards, Jeff Goodrich, Marcia Calloway, Emily Dixon, Phil Dechert, Onita Connington, Tracey Hayes, Colin Calloway, Jim McNamara, Creigh Moffatt, Frank Manasek, Deborah Brien, Matt Swett, Bill Scavone, Susan Jorgensen, Jeff Lubell, Ann Shriver Sargent, and Michael Lyons.

Layton opened the meeting at 6:35 pm.

1. Approval of Agenda (Action Item). Selectboard agreed to proceed with the agenda as written.
2. Public Comments (Discussion Item). Jeff Goodrich expressed opposition to expanding the Planning Commission to 9 members; Marcia Calloway expressed concern about conflicts of interest in contract work for the Town; Emily Dixon, Onita Connington, Tracey Hayes, and Creigh Moffatt expressed concern about the impact of the Public Safety Building project on the Senior Housing residents; Jim McNamara expressed concern about the impact of the Public Safety Building project on his property; Colin Calloway, Stuart Richards, and Frank Manasek expressed concerns about the Town Plan.
3. Review of Open Positions and Applications (Discussion/Action Item). Deborah Brien, applicant for a position on the Norwich Historic Preservation Commission, appeared before the Selectboard and answered questions about her interest in serving.
Cook **moved** (2nd Flanders) to appoint Deborah Brien to the Norwich Historic Preservation Commission for a three-year term ending in April 2020. **Motion passed unanimously.**
4. Board to sign accounts payable/warrants (Discussion/Action Item). Cook and Langhus asked Durfee (Town Manager) to investigate ambulance charges billed to the Town. Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to approve Check Warrant Report #17-29 for General Fund in the amount of \$57,430.32; for the Records Restoration Fund in the amount of \$2,951.00; and for the Public Safety Facility Fund in the amount of \$304.75. **Motion passed unanimously.**
5. Public Safety Building Plans (Discussion/Action Item). Durfee reported that the Public Safety Building (PSB) plans have been edited by the architect to address concerns raised and the project has gone out to bid. Further concerns were expressed by residents concerning the possible loss of shade trees, water runoff, screening vegetation, and the size of the PSB parking lot.
6. Gile Mountain (Discussion/Action Item). Cook stated a review of issues raised about the Gile Mountain Trail. The Selectboard agreed to ask Durfee to review the ordinances and deed related to the trail. Trail neighbors stated concerns about use of the trail and traffic.
7. Town Plan Renewal (Discussion/Action Item). Jeff Lubell reported that the Planning Commission is working to renew the existing Town Plan with minimal changes and no Route 5

South development proposed. Residents expressed concerns about development relative to the new Town Plan.

8. Follow-up to Selectboard Vision and Goals (Discussion/Action Item). After some discussion, Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) that the Selectboard remove the July 26, 2017 and August 9, 2017 meetings from the regular Selectboard calendar. **Motion passed (yes-Langhus, Pepper, Flanders, Layton; no-Cook)**. Flanders **moved** (2nd Pepper) to adopt the schedule for Norwich Selectboard goals with changes incorporated, as discussed, provided that an updated version is circulated to the board to confirm the changes. **Motion passed unanimously.**

9. Selectboard Communication (Discussion/Action Item). Durfee stated the Selectboard needs to be cognizant about discussing matters via email so as not to run afoul of Open Meeting law.

10. Town Manager Report (Discussion Item). Durfee briefly summarized his written report, which is included in the meeting packet.

11. Correspondence (Discussion/Action Item). Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to receive correspondence from Stephanie Briggs & Michael Lyons regarding Public Safety Building; from Stuart Richards regarding the Planning Commission; from John Farrell regarding the Planning Commission; from Judy & Joseph Phillips regarding the Planning Commission; from Wilfred Smith regarding the Planning Commission; from Jim Gold regarding the Planning Commission; from Penny McConnel regarding the Planning Commission; from Rusty Sachs regarding the Planning Commission; from Colin Calloway regarding the Planning Commission; from Pamela Smith regarding the Planning Commission; from Cheryl Sittle regarding the Planning Commission; from Marcia Calloway regarding a records request; from Upper Valley Land Trust regarding the Milton Frye Nature Area; and from David and Ann Shriver Sargent regarding Campbell Flat Road. **Motion passed unanimously.**

12a. Approval of the minutes of the 4/26/2017 Selectboard meeting (Action Item). Langhus **moved** (2nd Flanders) to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2017 Selectboard meeting with amendments put forward. **Motion passed unanimously.**

12b. Review of Next Agendas (Discussion/Action Item). The following items were listed for the Selectboard's May 24, 2017 agenda:

- Property Assessment Contract
- GUVSWD appointment of Alternate
- Town Plan
- Selectboard Goals Review for 5/24/2017
 - a) Personnel Policies
 - b) Selectboard Policies – Codification/Update
 - c) Town Pool Review Status
- Vision Statement Adoption
- Casella Waste Contract
- Timelines

At this point, Flanders **moved** (2nd Langhus) to adjourn. **Motion passed unanimously.**

by Miranda Bergmeier, Assistant to the Town Manager

Approved by the Selectboard on May 24, 2017

Mary Layton, Selectboard Chair

Next Meeting –May 24, 2017 at 6:30 PM

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