



## **SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

### **February 15, 2011**

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room.

**PRESENT:** Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., First Selectman; John Bell, Selectman; Kenneth Beausoleil, Selectman; Alison Shea – Norwich Bulletin; Kevin Walsh; Bill Poirier; Al LaFleur; Steve Benoit; Al Landry; other concerned citizens

### ***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

*Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to accept the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of January 18, 2011 and the Special Selectmen's Meetings of February 3, 2011, February 4, 2011, February 10, 2011 and February 11, 2011, as presented.*

<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

### ***CORRESPONDENCE***

- Mr. Groh presented the monthly update on crime statistics from Troop D.
- Mr. Groh presented correspondence from a citizen who praised the work of Elmer Preston at the Transfer Station. He will give a copy of this to Leo Adams, Director of Public Works.
- Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Mr. Ted Smith regarding snow removal policy. Mr. Groh stated that the snow removal process begins with a recommendation from the State Police, then an overview by the Director of Public Works. The Director will call out the staff when appropriate; most routes are repeated in two or two and one half hour intervals.

### ***SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS***

Mr. Groh stated that the February 1, 2011 had been cancelled due to hazardous road conditions. Mr. Beausoleil spoke regarding the availability of salt and sand at the Highway Garage. This supply is maintained as time allows. He commended the Highway Department for their snow removal efforts, and expressed budgetary concerns with the current weather conditions. Mr. Bell stated that the Highway Department has been doing a great job. Mr. Groh stated that he had received a written request from Mr. Al LaFleur regarding an appointment to the Recreation Commission.

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*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to add Appointment to Recreation Commission – Al LaFleur to tonight’s agenda as Item 10 a.*

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

### ***CITIZENS’ COMMENTS***

Mr. Poirier requested information on the snow removal from the Public School roof. Mr. Groh stated that the school used funds already in the budget. The Highway Department worked with the contractor to help reduce costs. Any overtime for the Highway Department was paid by the school.

Mr. Landry presented an article in the Norwich Bulletin regarding the assessment of cell towers. Alison Shea further explained that the new assessment method would increase the Grand List value.

Mr. Walsh expressed concern over the snow on sidewalks, and the safety of schoolchildren walking to school.

### ***EAGLE SCOUT PROCLAMATION – JOSEPH R. HEEPS***

Mr. Groh had received correspondence from Troop 66. There will be a Court of Honor to recognize that Joseph R. Heeps has attained the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Bell read the Proclamation.

*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by John to accept the Proclamation as read, and dated February 15, 2011.*

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: All Eagle Scout projects are approved by the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Bell volunteered to present the Proclamation at the ceremony on March 20, 2011.

### ***REQUEST FOR TRANSFER STATION USAGE – GIRL SCOUT TROOP 64007***

Mr. Groh had received a written request to allow the Girl Scout Troop 64007 to use the Transfer Station for fund raising activities. They are requesting use for March 12, 2011, March 19, 2011, March 26, 2011 and April 2, 2011, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., with three to four Scouts and two adults in attendance. Funds will support Scout activities and community service.

*Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve the request as read, with all safety measures as approved by Mr. Preston.*

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

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Mr. Groh -Yes

***REQUEST TO CLOSE BATES AVENUE – ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT – THOMPSON RECREATION***

A request was received from Recreation Director Renee Waldron and the Recreation Commission to close Bates Avenue for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt on April 9, 2011 (April 16, 2011 as raindate).

*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to close Bates Avenue on April 9, 2011 for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt.*

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mr. Bell -Yes  
Mr. Groh -Yes

Discussion: Mr. Groh will ask Ms. Waldron to notify the Director of Public Works and the State Police of this decision.

***FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE DISCUSSION***

This Committee met on January 19, 2011. Mr. Bell gave an overview of the first meeting and charge of the committee. There is one open seat as community member at large. Each fire department has one representative and one alternate. The next meeting will take place on February 23, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Thompson Hill Fire Engine Co.

*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to add Appointment to Fire Advisory Committee - Bill Poirier as Agenda Item 10 b.*

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes  
Mr. Bell -Yes  
Mr. Groh -Yes

***RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – WILSONVILLE HYDROELECTRIC SITE – PROPOSAL FROM ROLLAND ZELENY***

Mr. Groh gave an overview of the proposal and distributed copies to the Board. He asked the Board to review and give their suggestions. There was a consensus to move forward with the negotiations.

***APPOINTMENT TO NORTHEAST DISTRICT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH***

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There was a discussion concerning having the First Selectman serve as Thompson's representative on the Northeast District Department of Health. There is also an alternate seat open, and Mr. Groh will contact an interested individual.

*Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint First Selectman Lawrence K. Groh, Jr. to the Northeast District Department of Health, term to expire January 26, 2014.*

<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: There was a discussion on making an ordinance designating that this position be filled by the First Selectman.

#### ***APPOINTMENT TO RECREATION COMMISSION – AL LALEUR***

*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to appoint Al LaFleur to fill the unexpired term of Craig Schuler, term to expire April 15, 2011.*

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

#### ***APPOINTMENT TO FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE – BILL POIRIER***

*Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to appoint Bill Poirier to serve as Community Member At Large for the Fire Advisory Committee.*

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

#### ***TAX REFUNDS***

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to refund the following overpayment as recommended by the Tax Collector, Rene Morin.*

Robert G. and Susan A. Wiik	\$3.61
Robert G. and Susan A. Wiik	\$65.72
CAB East LLC	\$36.90
Donald Preston	\$18.11

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

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***OTHER BUSINESS***

None.

***ADJOURN***

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:40 p.m.*

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Recorded and transcribed by:  
Lynn Landry

This meeting was not electronically recorded.