



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 5, 2011

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, July 5, 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; Robin Casella – Norwich Bulletin; Kerensa Konesni – WINY Radio; Joseph Gaucher; Steve Benoit; Linda Sasur; Dan Sasur; James Rawson; Judd White; Judy White; Sally White; Tom Poplowski; Al Landry; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to accept the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of June 21, 2011 Special Selectmen's Meeting of June 29, 2011, as presented.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Groh presented information of Eighth Annual Community Day to be held on September 25, 2011, from Noon to 4 p.m. in Riverside Park.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh hoped that everyone enjoyed a safe and happy July 4th weekend. Mr. Groh commented that he had received an e-mail concerning a fire under the bike rack at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center. The police have been notified and are investigating the incident.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Judy White, owner of 5 Wrightson Drive, read a statement into the record. She is opposed to the proposed additional tax district for Quaddick Lake. She encouraged the Board to oppose this proposal.

Mr. Groh thanked her for her opinion and stated that a petition has not been received.

Sally White, 308 East Thompson Road, commented on the reckless and excessive speeds on our roadways. She recently reported a vehicle and plate number to Troop D.

Miss White also addressed the proposed Quaddick Lake Association's petition. She noted that the legislation to approve the grant meant an increase in state tax. She questioned where the funds raised by a "view tax" are used.

Mr. Groh stated that Thompson does not have a "view tax". Assessments may reflect an increase or decrease in value due to location. Mr. Beausoleil agreed with this statement.

Miss White stated that Quaddick Lake sits on a large aquifer and questioned the possible effect on the watershed. She noted that other lakes have treated weed problems with a variety of natural methods.

Mr. Groh stated that, if a petition is received, this process would be for a Town Meeting to be convened, and that only persons affected by the tax district would be allowed to vote. No petition has been received at this date. He encouraged everyone to participate and vote.

Al Landry, 33 Randall Road, stated that weed control can sometimes be managed with a change in pH, and that even well maintained septic systems could affect weed growth. He questioned if a potential tax district would open the Association to other service fees.

There was a brief discussion of the enabling legislation and Mr. Groh stated he would send a copy of this legislation to Miss White.

James Rawson, Logee Road, stated that the weed treatment is controlling the weeds, but is not a long-term remedy. He stated that septic systems should be checked and brought up to code. He also stated that Lower Quaddick is now weed free, because chemicals are going downstream, not just sinking down. He is not in favor of another tax district. He questioned the notification process of a Town Meeting.

Mr. Groh stated that Town Meetings require a legal notice. He will be seeking the advice from Town Attorney when appropriate.

Mrs. Judy White stated that this is a unique situation in that Quaddick is not a totally private lake, with the State Park being open to everyone.

Dan Sasur, 60 Hagstrom Road, asked if the potholes on Ravenelle Road and Fabyan Road could be addressed. Mr. Groh will inform the Director of Public Works.

Tom Poplowski, Wilsonville Road, asked if the amount of taxes always is in relation to the amount of services received.

There was a discussion of the history of studies on Quaddick Lake and past practices for weed control.

Mr. Gaucher noted that many of the Quaddick Lake parcels do not have enough land to support an engineered septic system.

APPOINTMENTS TO AGRICULTURE COMMISSION

There are two members of the Agriculture Commission whose terms are expiring. They have each requested to be reappointed.

Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve the appointment of Valerie Clark as alternate, term to expire August 1, 2016, and Randolph Blackmer, regular member, term to expire August 1, 2016, to the Agriculture Commission.

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

RESOLUTION FOR 2011 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Groh read the Resolution into the record. There was a brief discussion of the possible use of the funding. Steve Benoit, Director of Emergency Management, stated that narrow band radios need to be installed or upgraded by 2013. Some radios may need to be replaced. There is also a need to connect the School, Town Hall and Region 4 in Colchester.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell to accept the resolution as read.

<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.

James M. or Judy M. Hunt \$32.56

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

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:26 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