



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 1, 2011

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, November 1, 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 Cassella – Norwich Bulletin; Kerensa Konesni – WINY Radio; Joseph Gaucher; Kevin Walsh; Steven Bodreau; William Ritter; 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 October 18, 2011.

<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 correspondence concerning the cancellation of the public hearing on November 3, 2011 for the CL&P Interstate Reliability Project.

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Recreation Director Renee Waldron concerning a possible Neighborhood Watch Program to be presented by the CT State Troopers. There was a discussion of information on Disaster Preparedness material from the American Legion.

Mr. Groh reminded citizens that the VFW will hold a Veteran's Day Ceremony on 11-11-11 at the Oscar Swanson Park at 11 a.m. This will be followed with a free meal for all citizens at the VFW Hall on Route 131. Also, on November 10, 2011, there will be a Veterans Program at the Thompson Middle School Auditorium from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.

Mr. Groh presented correspondence concerning the recent certification of the Mechanicsville Hydropower site for their low impact modifications concerning water quality and protecting animal and plant life in the river.

Mr. Groh reminded citizens that TEEG will hold their Election Day Food Drive on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at all polling places.

Mr. Groh presented correspondence from Elmer Preston, VFW Post 10,088 to help fund adding names to the Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom monuments in Oscar Swanson Park.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh gave a brief overview of the effects of the recent storm. He thanked Steve Benoit, Emergency Management Coordinator for his efforts. Mr. Benoit explained the criteria for the

special needs list. Quinebaug Fire Chief Steve Bodreau opened the Emergency Shelter at 5 p.m. Sunday and it will close at 10 p.m. tonight. 8% of homes in Thompson remain without power. As of 3 p.m. today, four crews were in town. There are still approximately eleven roads with trees down. Citizens are urged to use caution.

Mr. Bell thanked Mr. Beausoleil, Mr. Benoit, Mr. Bodreau and the Quinebaug Fire Dept. for their response to this storm.

Mr. Beausoleil stated that the Dept. of Public Works did a great job. He noted that all of the Fire Departments were busy with serving the medical needs, attending to structure fires and assisting people during this time. It was great to see the community helping the community.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Benoit thanked Mr. Groh for his availability during this recent emergency and also Chief Bodreau for opening the shelter.

Larry Antos, representing Club 2087 and the Knights of Columbus, stated that they had raised \$1,245 to be used for the surveillance cameras at the Thompson Public Library/Community Center. He thanked his brother Knights, the Mary R. Fisher PTO and everyone who attended the breakfast last Sunday.

Mr. Groh thanked the Knights for helping the community and the Town. It was a great breakfast. He greatly appreciates their assistance.

Mr. Beausoleil thanked the Knights for their hard work.

Mr. Landry asked for clarification on lighting at the ball field. Scheduling is done through the Recreation Department.

Mr. Gaucher expressed concern about the ripped flags on display. Mr. Bell will contact Mr. Preston on this issue.

Mr. Groh reminded citizens that the Hazardous Household Waste Collection Day will be held on November 12, 2011 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Highway Garage. This information is also provided on the town website.

Mr. Groh was pleased to announce that the Tax Collector's Office will begin an online payment program through Official Payment Corporation within sixty days. This service has been requested by many citizens.

Mr. Bodreau expressed his concerns regarding street lighting at the Riverside Drive crosswalk and at the entry to the Quinebaug Fire Station.

APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE – PATRICIA LACASSE – INLAND WETLANDS RECORDING SECRETARY

Mr. Groh reviewed the history of two rounds of advertising and then interviewing seven candidates for this position.

Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to approve the hire of Patricia Lacasse for Recording Secretary for Inland Wetlands Recording Secretary.

Mr. Bell -Yes

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mr. Groh -Yes

REGIONAL INITIATIVES THROUGH NECCOG

Mr. Groh presented a list of possible regional initiatives from the last NECCOG meeting. We have participated in some, but not all, regional initiatives in the past. There was a discussion of what would best serve the needs of our community. This would not be binding, but would provide guidance for the twelve town area in applying for grants. There was a discussion of the various ideas and the need to focus on providing basic necessities to benefit the citizens of Thompson.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to bring the following suggestions to NECCOG: 1. Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site, 2. Paramedic Training Program, and 3. Tree trimming on local roads.

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mr. Bell -Yes

Mr. Groh -Yes

Discussion on Motion: These suggestions will be used only for applying for grant funds.

TAX REFUNDS

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

Kenneth Blais	\$52.52
Carl Edgerton	\$27.10
Raymond Jablonski	\$24.27
Thomas C. Ryzewski	\$12.22

Mr. Groh -Yes

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mr. Bell -Yes

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Mr. Groh reminded citizens to vote on November 8, 2011.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:51 p.m.

Mr. Groh -Yes

Mr. Beausoleil -Yes

Mr. Bell -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by:
Lynn Landry

