



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 10, 2007

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, July 10, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room.

**PRESENT:** A. David Babbitt, First Selectman; Kathleen A. Hiatt, Selectman; Leo Adams, Director of Public Works; Charles Seney; Joseph Gaucher; Lynn Landry; Al Landry; Carolyn Werge; Robert Werge; John Rice; Norma O'Leary; Tiffany Ventura – WINY; James Esslinger – Worcester T&G; Bruce Coulter – Thompson Villager; other concerned citizens

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Babbitt, to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2007 Selectmen's meeting and the June 28, 2007 Special Selectmen's meeting as presented.*

<i>Ms. Hiatt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Babbitt</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

### CORRESPONDENCE

- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to the EPA's Energy Star Challenge. Mr. Babbitt stated that he is meeting with Mr. Crabbe tomorrow in order to review electric bills.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Assessor's Office in regard to issues they are working on with the Planning & Zoning Office.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to the legislative breakfast for realtors on September 6<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Norwich.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence to the Office of Policy in Management in regard to requesting an extension on sending reports to the State until we get a budget.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from CL&P in regard to their intention to file a rate schedule.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to the new Office of Ombudsman of Property Rights.

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- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Siting Council has a telecommunications from Thompson on its schedule for July 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to Connecticut Water and the fire departments.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Governor's Office announcing a new service in regard to affordable housing.

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

- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Town is in negotiation with the Union and that the next session is on July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that there have been issues with bills for a firefighter who was injured some time ago, but that the issue has been resolved.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that he met on the alternatives for the sewer issue and that DEP does not have enough funding to take care of the issues. Mr. Babbitt stated that the Town is working on looking into financing options for the DEP.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that he spoke with a person who mentioned using Japanese carp to address the weed issue at Quaddick Lake.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Economic Development Commission met at 5:00 today in a special meeting and had two presentations, one on hydropower and one on the Reardon Road project.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that there have been referendums, finance meetings and Town meetings in regard to the budget.
- Mr. Babbitt commented about the anniversary of the Thompson Fire Engine Company.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that he received information from the Judge of Probate in regard to the Probate Court facilities.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Town had requested that inmates come in to town to help with roadside clean-up. Mrs. O'Leary stated that the inmates did come down and cleaned-up a few locations in town.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the hours in the Assessor's Office have been extended.
- Ms. Hiatt commented that the grounds outside the Town Hall look great and she thanked Al and Lynn Landry for doing the work.

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- Ms. Hiatt thanked Mrs. O'Leary for planting flowers around the American Legion and the Thompson Public Library.
  - Ms. Hiatt welcomed Tonya Levesque back from maternity leave.
  - Ms. Hiatt commended Elizabeth Vriga for filling in during Ms. Levesque's maternity leave.
  - Ms. Hiatt commented that the Selectmen's Update is being worked on and will be distributed on July 20, 2007.

#### **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

- Mr. Seney thanked Mr. Babbitt for addressing the issue with the garbage on Main Street.
- Mr. Gaucher commented that the Attorney General should be contacted to have the DPUC investigated in regard to the increases in electric and water rates.
- Mr. Werge asked what would happen if the budget is not approved. Mr. Babbitt commented that it was his understanding that it is the Board of Finance's intention to set a mill rate after the next referendum.
- Ms. Werge asked how much money the Town is losing because it isn't able to mail out the tax bills.
- Mr. Werge asked if there is a point when the State would step in if the budget isn't approved.

#### **FORMAL APPROVAL OF TRUCK BID - DPW**

Ms. Hiatt explained that bids were opened at the last Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Hiatt stated that the bid was approved at a Special Selectmen's meeting. Ms. Hiatt read the minutes of that meeting to the citizens in attendance. The bid was awarded to Columbia Ford for \$25,840.00 which was the second lowest bid. Ms. Hiatt made the motion to award the bid and Mr. Groh seconded that motion at that Special Selectmen's meeting.

#### **PRESERVE AMERICA**

Mr. Babbitt presented a resolution in regard to Preserve America which is a White House initiative in cooperation with the Advisory Council of Historic Preservation. Mr. Babbitt stated that there is \$5,000,000.00 in grants available to towns with this designation. The Board will act on this item at the next Selectmen's meeting.

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## **TAX REFUND (1)**

*Motion made by Mr. Babbitt, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to refund the following overpayments as recommended by the Tax Collector, Rene Morin.*

-Blair C Vinton    \$99.65

*Mr. Babbitt*                      -Yes

*Ms. Hiatt*                        -Yes

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

None

## **ADJOURN**

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:05p.m.*

*Ms. Hiatt*                        -Yes

*Mr. Babbitt*                    -Yes

Recorded and transcribed by:  
Tonya Levesque