



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

September 12, 2007

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room.

PRESENT: A. David Babbitt, First Selectman; Kathleen A. Hiatt, Selectman; Lawrence K. Groh, Jr., Selectman; Charles Seney; Lynn Landry; Al Landry; Norma O'Leary; Sally White; Ryan O'Connor – WINY; other concerned citizens

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2007 Special Selectmen's meeting with corrections.

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

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2007 Selectmen's meeting.

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from Town Counsel in regard to the Nipmuc petition 69a and b.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to a Planning and Zoning Commission Public Hearing for an application for River Junction on New Road.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from CCM in regard to a meeting at Norwich City Hall on the September 19th.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Connecticut Siting Council in regard to the proposed cell tower on Rich Rd. Mr. Babbitt announced that there will be a public

hearing on Thursday, October 11, 2007 starting at 3:00 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room.

- Mr. Babbitt presented the monthly calls for service from the Connecticut State Police for the month of August.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the East Thompson Volunteer Fire Department in regard to requesting their annual grant.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from The Access Agency in regard to energy assistance.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Department of Social Services in regard to training sessions for Municipal Agents for the Elderly.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Thompson Recreation Commission thanking the Town for the help provided for the summer camp.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from Attorney Eddy in regard to a lawsuit involving a fall on stairs that has been dismissed.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Town of Killingly in regard to their 300th anniversary celebration.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from St. Joseph's School in regard to their motorcycle run on September 23, 2007.
- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Town Clerk in regard to a lottery for the November municipal election at 4:00 p.m. in the Merrill Seney Community Room on September 13th.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

- Mr. Babbitt thanked the Board for allowing him to reschedule the Selectmen's meeting from September 11th to September 12th.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that there have been meetings with developers on projects including Riverside Commons.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that Union negotiations will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Quinebaug Volunteer Fire Department had a kick-off for their building project.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that he met with representatives from CL&P in regard to a study for a power line upgrade for a line that goes through a small section of Thompson.

-
- Mr. Babbitt commented thanked the other Board members for attending the Town Meeting that was held on Thursday, September 6, 2007 in regard to the Resident State Trooper program.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that he and his wife attended the AARP Convention in Boston.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that Thompson Community Day was held on Sunday and that there were 61 entries in the road race. Mr. Babbitt recognized Scott Delongchamps, Thompson Recreation and the Department of Public Works for their efforts in the event. Mr. Babbitt commented that Thompson Together was also a real driver in that event.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Department Heads met on Monday.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Thompson Public Library set another month of circulation records.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that there are a number of requests for subdivisions in the town.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Tax Collector reported that over a million dollars were collected before September 1st.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Treasurer stated that things are in good shape and that the Town is continuing to watch the bonding situation at the State Capitol.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Referendum is being held on Tuesday, September 18, 2007.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that there will be a meeting with Applied Geographics in regard to the GIS system that will be implemented in the Assessor's Office and the Planning & Zoning department.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Town is hosting the Windham County Assessor's Association on Wednesday at the Thompson Public Library.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Board of Finance will be meeting on Thursday.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Thompson Fire Department and the West Thompson Fire Department are holding fundraisers. Mr. Babbitt stated that West Thompson Fire Department is holding a golf tournament at Roseland Golf Course on Saturday and Thompson Fire Department is having their chicken barbeque that night.
 - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Thompson Democratic Town Committee is having a chicken barbecue on September 22, 2007 at the Knights of Columbus. Mr. Groh added that there is also a Country and Western Band as well.

-
- Ms. Hiatt commented that Community Day was fun and that she and Mr. Groh lassoed two dogs that were playing in the river.
 - Ms. Hiatt commented that it was a good idea to have Lieutenant Darcy present at the Town Meeting and that there was a good dialogue on benefits. Mr. Groh agreed.
 - Ms. Hiatt announced that there is a Library book sale on Saturday from 9:00 to 12:00.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

- Ms. White questioned what Thompson's participation is in the Killingly celebration. Ms. White commented that it would be appropriate to send them a token considering that Thompson was part of Killingly for 80 years.
- Ms. White questioned when the appropriate time would be to comment on a topic that is on the agenda. Mr. Groh stated that the appropriate time would be when the Board is discussing that topic.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL

Mr. Babbitt commented that Mr. Martin Crabb presented information on the proposal in regard to the engineering study on energy conservation at the Library, Town Hall and Highway Garage. There was a brief discussion on the references provided by Mr. Crabb. Mr. Babbitt stated that it would be worth investing the funds to see if they could save money. Ms. Hiatt agreed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the Board forward this to the Board of Finance requesting that the Town expend the \$1,047.00 to have EASI complete their energy audit and study on the Town.

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

Discussion on Motion – Ms. White questioned if the Town interviewed other companies to perform this type of service. A lengthy discussion followed.

APPROVAL OF RECREATION NEW HIRES

Mr. Babbitt commented that background checks had been completed by the Recreation Department and the Resident State Trooper.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the recommendation of Kim Beauregard and Darlene Tretheway as requested by the Recreation Department given the results of the background check.

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| <i>Ms. Hiatt</i> | <i>-Yes</i> |
|------------------|-------------|

Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Babbitt -Yes

Ms. White questioned the process that is followed for hiring recreation employees. It was explained that the Recreation Director performs the interviews and initiates background checks and that the Board approves the candidates based on the recommendation of the Recreation Director.

TOWN-WIDE SURVEY RESULTS

Mr. Babbitt presented the town-wide survey results that were compiled by the Director of Planning & Development. Mr. Babbitt stated that he distributed the survey to all Department Heads and Boards and Commissions that have mailboxes at the Town Hall. Mr. Babbitt commented that the survey was included in the Selectmen's Update distributed in July via the Thompson Villager.

Ms. Hiatt commented that the actual surveys have been retained by the Director of Planning & Development if anyone should want to review them. Ms. Hiatt summarized some of the survey results for the citizens in attendance.

A brief discussion followed.

The Board will discuss this agenda item at its next Selectmen's meeting.

PETITION TO CORRECT SPELLING OF JEZISKI ROAD

Mr. Babbitt presented a petition to the Board to change the name from Jerzeskia Road to Jezierski Road. A brief discussion followed.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the Board approve at the Board of Selectmen level this name change and authorize the First Selectman to initiate the process which included contacting the Town's attorney, Planning & Zoning to make this name change and that if it goes through all of those processes to be included no later than the May Annual Town Meeting 2008.

Amended motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, that the Board approve at the Board of Selectmen level this name change and authorize the First Selectman to initiate the process which included contacting the Town's attorney, Planning & Zoning to make this name change and that if it goes through all of those processes to be included no later than the May Annual Town Meeting 2008 and that the First Selectman report back to the Board the proper process to be followed to change the name of a road.

Ms. Hiatt -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Babbitt -Yes

Discussion on Motion – Mr. Groh requested that Mr. Babbitt inform the Board of the proper process to be followed to change the name of a road.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT & HOMELAND SECURITY FFY 2008 GRANT RESOLUTION

Mr. Babbitt presented a grant resolution for the Emergency Management and Homeland Security FFY 2008 grant program.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to authorize the First Selectman to sign the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security grant program that was presented in this resolution.

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

TAX REFUNDS (3)

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

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| -Daniel O Zorola | -\$87.34 |
| -Chris Fafard | -\$12.62 |
| -Rexford E Santerre | -\$14.52 |

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh to add job descriptions to the agenda.

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

Ms. Hiatt presented final versions of all of the non-union job descriptions that the Board has been working on with the exception of the Executive Assistant to the Board of Selectmen for review. Ms. Hiatt also included the final draft of the Building Officials job description and the job guidelines for the elected officials working in the Town Hall. Ms. Levesque commented that she has forwarded a job description to Town's employment attorney for review of boiler plate language.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to add and Executive Session - Union Negotiation Update to the agenda.

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

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to go into Executive Session at approximately 8:52 p.m. for the purposed of discussing current Union negotiations.

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

Present for the Executive Session was the Personnel Director, Tonya Levesque.

Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to come out of Executive Session at approximately 9:12 p.m.

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

No action taken.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Babbitt, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:13 p.m.

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

Recorded and transcribed by:
Tonya Levesque