

Board of Selectmen  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Town Hall  
June 2, 2009 – 6:00 P.M.  
**MINUTES**

**1.0** Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Selectman John Bendoraitis. Selectman Russ Blakeslee, and Administrative Assistant Patti Handy were also present; First Selectman Joyce Okonuk arrived at the meeting at approximately 6:20 pm. Audience: 7.

**2.0** **Public Forum**

None

**3.0** **Minutes**

**Discuss and act upon:**

- 3.1** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the May 5, meeting, amended as follows: Item 6.4, under “New Business”, should read: *Okonuk recommended appointing a long-range study committee but Selectman Bendoraitis felt that the Directors needed to develop their long-range plan of action prior to the appointment of a study committee.* Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.2** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2009 Special Meeting. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 3.3** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2009 Special Meeting. Vote: yes, unanimous.

**4.0** **Correspondence**

None

**5.0** **Old Business**

- 5.1** Selectmen discussed the purchase of a new server for Town Hall; Bendoraitis outlined cost for the hardware and the installation. He stated that the changeover should be accomplished without interruption to Town Hall business.

Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to suspend the order of the agenda and take up Items 6.2 and 7.1 with Alicia Wayland. Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.2** Alicia Wayland, Secretary, Board of Historical Preservation for the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum, presented the Operating Budget for the Museum for FY09-10 for approval by the Board of Selectmen. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the FY 2009-10 Operating Budget for the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House Museum. Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 7.1** Alicia Wayland presented a resignation from Glenn Pianka, member of the Board of Historical Preservation for the Jonathan Trumbull Jr. House. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to accept the resignation of Mr. Pianka, effective immediately, with regret and sincere thanks for many years of service. Vote: yes, unanimous.

Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to return to the order of the agenda. Vote: yes, unanimous.

Okonuk entered the meeting at 6:20 PM.

- 5.2** A letter was received from the Cemetery Commission urging Selectmen to continue to pursue negotiations for the McGullicuddy property on Waterman Road. Howard Wayland, Chairman of the Cemetery Commission, was present for the discussion. Concerns include the asking price versus the appraised price and accessibility off Waterman between two curves that may be problematic. Further discussion will take in Executive Session.

**6.0** **New Business**

- 6.1** Joyce Hofmann presented the Tax Collector's Suspense List to the Board for their approval. The list is only for motor vehicle and personal property taxes through 2005. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the Tax Collector's Suspense list. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.2** (See above)
- 6.3** Phil Chester, Town Planner, requested that the Board of Selectmen approve the use of available funds from the 2008 Ag Viability Grant to obtain an appraisal on property being considered for preservation. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the use of up to \$4,500.00 from the 2008 Ag Viability Grant to provide an appraisal of property owned by Marty Masters on Camp Mooween Road for the purpose of land preservation. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.4** Selectmen discussed a 3% wage increase for FY09-10 for elected officials. Okonuk said that all departments had budgeted for the increase, those budgets were discussed at Town Meeting and approved by Referendum, and consequently should be approved. Tax Collector Hofmann raised the question as to the appropriateness and/or necessity of the Board having to approve its own wage increases. In the past year, with a wage increase included in the budget presented and approved by the town, even the Board of Finance took no further action on approving the increase stating: "if in the budget, no further action is needed." Okonuk pointed out that she has not been submitting mileage reimbursement to reduce departmental expenses and feels strongly that the 3% wage increase should be enacted. Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Okonuk, to waive the mileage reimbursement for Selectmen in FY 2009-10. Vote: yes (1) Blakeslee, nay (2) Okonuk/Bendoraitis, motion fails. Moved by Okonuk that elected officials receive a 3% wage increase, as budgeted, for FY 2009-10, effective July 1, 2009. No second, motion failed.  
No action. Okonuk will confirm with any affected departments that the increase for elected officials is budgeted and that no vote is required to implement this increase.
- 6.5** Selectmen discussed the wage increases for FY2009-10 for part-time, non-union employees. No action can be taken until the Selectmen can review the wage schedule for all part-time, non-union Town Hall employees. Joyce to obtain from Finance and bring to next Selectmen's meeting.
- 6.6** Tom Conley, Public Works Foreman, explained to the Board the method and associated costs for planned road improvements. Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to go out to bid for the 2009 Highway Paving. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.7** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to go out to bid for the 2009 Grading and Paving of Bender Road. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.8** Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to go out to bid for the 2009 Chip Sealing of Town Roads. Vote: yes, unanimous.
- 6.9** Okonuk presented the revised job description for the Land Use Secretary which has been approved by the Town Hall Union representative. Okonuk explained that the new position description includes taking minutes for the IWC and the PZC meetings as well as attendance at training in wetlands and zoning. The hours worked for attending the meetings will be taken as compensation time rather than overtime. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to accept the new job description for the Land Use Secretary. Vote: yes, unanimous.

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to add item 6.11 to the agenda: Discuss and act upon a request to use the Lebanon Town Green; Vote: yes, unanimous.

- 6.10** Mr. and Mrs. Alden, seasonal residents, asked for permission to use the Town Green to hold a First Amendment Rally. They have held similar events at other locations in the past and said that 300-500 people usually attend. Selectmen discussed the issues of parking, traffic control and bathroom facilities, and what part of the Green would be used and how. The Alden's will contact the Office of First Selectmen with all details including specific date and time and the Selectmen will take action on their request after that information is received.

Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to add item 6.11 to the agenda: Discuss and act upon authorizing Okonuk to sign a contract with the Connecticut State Department of Public Safety (DPS) for a two-year contract for the Resident State Trooper. Vote: yes, unanimous.

**6.11** Okonuk presented the contract between the Department of Public Safety and the Town for Resident Trooper Services. After some discussion, it was decided that the contract would not be signed at this time, pending possible changes in State Legislation affecting reimbursement to the town. Okonuk will contact the State for more information and will bring it back to a later meeting.

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to add item 6.12 to the agenda: Discuss and act upon the resignation of Land Use Secretary, Jean Gilbert. Vote: yes, unanimous.

**6.12** Okonuk presented a letter from Jean Gilbert indicating she will retire as the Land Use Secretary, effective October 1, 2009. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to accept, with regret and appreciation for years of dedicated service to the Town, the resignation/retirement of Jean Gilbert. Vote: yes, unanimous.

## **7.0 Appointments/Resignations**

**7.1** (See above)

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to add item 7.2 to the agenda, "Discuss and act upon the appointment of William Lang to the 2010 Governor Trumbull Celebration Committee". Vote: yes, unanimous.

**7.2** Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to appoint William Lang to the 2010 Governor Trumbull Celebration Committee, term to end at completion of the project. Vote: yes, unanimous.

Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to add item 7.3 to the agenda: Discuss and act upon the status of the Flood and Erosion Control Board. Vote: yes, unanimous.

**7.3** It has come to the attention of the Board of Selectmen that four members of the Flood and Erosion Control Board have terms that expired on June 1, 2009. This does not appear to be correct so research will be done to confirm the accuracy of the terms. Since the committee only meets once per year, in October, the Selectmen agreed to re-appoint the members temporarily so that they may convene in the fall. Moved to re-appoint Wayne Handfield and Kirk Matson (alternates), Harold Liebman (regular - Chairman) and Larry Massey (regular) to the Flood and Erosion Control Board, with terms to expire on 11/01/09; Vote: yes, unanimous.

## **8.0 Financial Reports**

Selectmen reviewed the financial reports. No action.

## **9.0 Tax Refunds for May:**

Terlecki, Henryk	\$134.83
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Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the Tax Refund for May as presented; Vote: yes, unanimous.

## **10.0 Executive Session**

The Selectmen entered into Executive Session at 7:45 PM for the purpose of discussing cemetery negotiations. Cemetery Chair Howard Wayland was invited to join the Selectmen.

Selectmen returned to Regular Session at 8:05 PM. Discussion about cemetery land continued but with no action being taken.

## **11.0 Adjournment**

Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 PM. Vote: yes, unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman