

Board of Selectmen  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Town Hall  
February 10, 2009 - 2:00 PM  
**MINUTES**

**1.0 Call to Order**

First Selectman Joyce Okonuk called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm. Selectmen John Bendoraitis and Russ Blakeslee were also present. Audience: 6

**2.0 Minutes**

- 2.1** Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee, to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2009 Regular Meeting.  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 2.2** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis, to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2009 Special Meeting.  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 2.3** Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2009 Special Meeting.  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 2.4** Minutes of the January 23, 2009 Special Meeting at 8:45 AM were incomplete.  
No Action.
- 2.5** Moved by Blakeslee, seconded by Bendoraitis to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2009 Special Meeting.  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.

**3.0 Correspondence**

- 3.1** Letter from Tim Wentworth regarding Town Ordinance  
To be addressed under old business, item 4.2

**4.0 Old Business**

- 4.1** At the January 6, 2009 Regular meeting, the Selectmen discussed the need for installing a new safety valve drain system in the Town Pool, as required by a new Federal law. Selectmen had received an initial estimate, but had requested Sandra Tremblay solicit additional quotes. Tremblay presented a detailed explanation of the work that is required, along with a quote of \$3,775.00 from SAVOL Pools, the company that currently services and maintains the pool. This quote covers the complete installation of the new drain cover, including a diver to install it. Tremblay further explained that other companies were approached for quotes, but could not provide one as the pool is currently covered and they are unable to examine the pool drain to provide the estimate. In the interest of time, the Selectmen agreed to go with the quote for SAVOL Pools.  
Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Okonuk to award SAVOL Pools the contract for the complete installation of the Safety Vacuum Release System and main drain cover, per the requirements of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act, in the amount of \$3,775.00, funds to come from TIP Account # 208-510-5154.  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.

- 4.2** Selectmen discussed the Capital Projects Ordinance that was introduced from the floor at the Annual Town Meeting in May, 2008. Although the Ordinance did pass by a vote of the residents, it was deemed to be illegal inasmuch as the warning for the meeting did not include this item. At the request of the originator of the Ordinance, Tim Wentworth, he has asked that his proposed Ordinance be warned on this year's Annual Town Meeting agenda. The specifics of the proposed Ordinance, which states that "Any capital project with a cost of \$1,000,000.00 or more must be approved by a majority vote of the electors at the Annual Town Meeting", were discussed at length. Bendoraitis felt that the stipulation of the *Annual* Town Meeting might be restrictive when time-sensitive grants are involved, and that potential funding opportunities could be lost; all agreed.  
Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to table the item as they wish to discuss further with the Board of Finance: Vote: Yes, unanimous.

**5.0 New Business**

- 5.1** Selectmen reviewed the need for funding requested for improvements to the Jonathan Trumbull Library. Library Board member Judy Vertefeuille explained the need for an external drop box at the Library. The current method deposits books and videos directly inside the building, posing a potential safety hazard if something such as a burning cigarette were to be put in the box. This has happened in other towns. She presented information on the cost of two separate boxes, one for books and one for videos. After some discussion, the Selectmen agreed that she should seek a combined unit that would be less costly. This will be addressed at a future meeting; no action.

- 5.2** Selectmen discussed the replacement of three tables in the lower level conference room, which are very old and unstable. Conley estimated the cost of new tables, based on ones recently purchased for the Fire Safety Complex, at \$75.00 - \$80.00 each. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee, to approve the purchase of three new tables for the Town Hall lower conference room, up to \$250.00, funds to come from TIP account #208-520-5201. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.3** Phil Chester presented a proposed Ordinance Authorizing Tax Exemptions for Farm Buildings. The proposed ordinance has been discussed with the Board of Finance. Chester presented a model that showed the fiscal impact on taxpayers depending on whether the exemption was for \$50k, \$75k or \$100k. As there was only a minor difference in the tax impact between all three levels, the Selectmen felt that the \$100k would provide a better benefit to farmers and have a negligible fiscal impact on taxpayers. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee, to bring the proposed Ordinance Authorizing Tax Exemptions for Farm Buildings to the next Town Meeting: Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.4** Chester presented a Resolution to accept the 2008 Agricultural Viability Grant to the selectmen, for the purpose of bringing it to the next Town Meeting. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to bring the acceptance of the 2008 Agricultural Viability Grant to the next Town Meeting for approval: Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.5** Chester also presented a proposed contract with MainStreetGIS for tax map updates. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to enter into a contract with MainStreetGIS of Florence, MA to update the Town's GIS database, integrate new GIS parcel data and create a new set of tax map exports, at an hourly rate of \$70.00, not to exceed \$3,900, contingent on the inclusion of specific rights to the electronic version. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.6** Chester presented maps of the Mindel Property at 124 Norwich Avenue, for which he is requesting the appropriation of funds for appraisal. The owners of the property wish to sell the development rights to the Town to preserve it as open space. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee waive the bidding requirements and allow the Planner to contract with Tom Henry to use open space funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 to conduct an appraisal of the Mindel property at 124 Norwich Avenue. Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.7** Resignations from Committees/Commissions
- Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to accept, with regret, the resignation of Joan Nichols from the Energy Task Force Advisory Committee  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.8** Appointments/Re-Appointments to Committees/Commissions
- Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the appointment of Ronald Cowles as a member of the Code of Ethics Drafting Committee  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
  - Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the appointment of Jan Grigas as a member of the 2010 Jonathan Trumbull Celebration Committee  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
  - Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the appointment of James Macauley as a member of the Energy Task Force Advisory Committee, to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Joan Nichols  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
  - Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Bendoraitis to re-appoint Jerome Walsh and Robert Zambarano to the Lebanon School Building Committee  
Vote: Yes, unanimous.
- 5.9** Selectmen discussed the appointment process for the newly-formed Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA). All felt that the importance of the task should be taken into consideration when appointing members to the WPCA. Okonuk presented the names and qualifications of the applicants, and it was agreed that the Selectmen should interview applicants and determine what expertise each could bring to the WPCA, prior to appointment. Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to set up interviews for applicants interested in the WPCA; Vote: Yes, unanimous.

- 5.10** Selectmen discussed the need for additional insulation in the attic of Town Hall to improve the energy efficiency of the building. Okonuk had one estimate from C&R Insulation for \$1,100.00. Bendoraitis added the cost was for R-19 insulation, which he feels may not be adequate. Selectmen agreed to contact other possible contractors for cost estimates and opinions on the “R” factor needed. No action.
- 5.11** Okonuk proposed carpentry and electrical changes in the lower level of Town Hall. The purpose for the change is to build a small alcove in the hallway near the ramp entrance to house the appliances used by the staff, thus eliminating duplicate appliances and reducing the electrical load on the building. Okonuk reported that the Town’s Building & Grounds Maintainer, John Dudek, had estimated the carpentry cost at less than \$500.00. Electrical costs would be additional, and Okonuk planned to contact Nichols Electric for an estimate. The Fire Marshal and Building inspector would also need to approve the change. Moved by Bendoraitis, seconded by Blakeslee to approve the installation of an appliance alcove in the lower level hallway, subject to approval by the Fire Marshall and the Building Inspector, and to authorize up to \$1,000.00 from TIP funds account #208-510-5117 for the project. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

**6.0 Tax Refunds for January 2009**

NAME	AMOUNT
VW Credit Leasing LTD	\$127.35
Coviello, Salvatore & Muriel	\$16.24
Cagenello, Bruce – Trustee	\$91.66
Mckinnon, Morgan L.	\$59.02
Strecker, Gerald & Laura	\$472.92
Strecker, Gerald & Laura	\$872.86
Stewart, James P. or Julie A.	\$12.19
Connell, John F., Jr. & Christine	\$453.42
Connell, John F., Jr. & Christine	\$446.76
Connell, John F., Jr. & Christine	\$421.76
Grabber, Brian H.	\$31.72
Larson, Sally Fillian	\$86.50

**7.0 Financial Report Update**

**7.1** Monthly expenditures were not discussed

**7.2** TIP Funds FY '09 were not discussed

**7.3** Revision to Capitol Non-recurring expense report was not discussed

**8.0 Public Forum**

None

**9.0 Executive Session**

None

**10.0** Moved by Okonuk, seconded by Blakeslee to adjourn at 4:35 pm. Vote: Yes, unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joyce R. Okonuk, First Selectman