



SELECTMEN'S MEETING June 21, 2011

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, June 21, 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; Karensa Konesni – WINY Radio; Joseph Gaucher; Steve Benoit; Gary Bessette; 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 June 7, 2011, with the following corrections: the insurance company on page 2 is VFIS, and the Memorial Day Ceremony cited by Mr. Bell should read "East Thompson Cemetery".

<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 from New England Relay for Life thanking Thompson for supporting their recent event on June 11 and 12, 2011.

Mr. Groh presented an e-mail from Ruth Oleksiak, which Mr. Bell read into the record. This correspondence praised Animal Control Officer Merry Bennett for her work during the week of June 6 through 13, 2011 with a stray dog. Ms. Bennett fed and eventually leashed the dog, bringing it to the Dog Pound, where it was later adopted. Mr. Groh commented that Ms. Bennett is a very dedicated employee, who goes above and beyond expectations.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

Mr. Groh stated that the Board of Finance has created an audit sub-committee to address situations outlined by the auditors. Some of these suggestions have already been instituted. The Board of Selectmen needs to develop, implement, and regularly test a Disaster Recovery Plan. This will address loss of data, loss of software, loss of hardware, and the physical location of software and hardware. The Board of Education will explore this as well. Mr. Groh gave copies of the Auditors' packet to the Board members.

Mr. Groh announced that the Tourtellotte Memorial High School Graduation will be held on June 23, 2011. The TMHS Alumni Banquet was held on June 18, 2011, as well as a well-attended induction to the Sports Hall of Fame.

Mr. Beausoleil asked if the High School has been finalized as a Red Cross shelter. Mr. Benoit stated that there was an inspection last October and that information was requested from the School Facilities Manager. This has not yet been received; Mr. Benoit will follow up on this. He will also inquire on the HAM Radio installation.

Mr. Bell stated that he was happy that the budget passed. He noted that the Alumni Association produces a newsletter with interesting articles regarding former students. His father-in-law, Mr. Louis Molinaro, was featured in the last edition.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Mr. Bessette commented on the loitering at Brandy Hill Road Bridge. Mr. Groh will ask the State Police and the Conservation Officer to monitor this situation.

Mr. Gaucher commented that diapers are still being dropped near the railroad tracks at Market Lane. There is also a traffic problem at the intersection of Market Lane and Riverside Drive.

REQUEST TO USE TOWN HALL PARKING LOT – PROJECT GRADUATION

A written request from Project Graduation 2012 was received to use the Town Hall Parking Lot on the first Saturday of each month. They will hold a can/bottle drive and bake sale.

Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to allow Project Graduation to use the Town Hall Parking Lot on July 9, 2011, August 6, 2011, September 10, 2011, October 1, 2011, November 5, 2011, December 3, 2011, January 7, 2012, February 4, 2012, March 3, 2012, April 7, 2012, May 5, 2012, and June 2, 1012.

<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

REARDON ROAD PROPERTY – POSSIBLE LAND DONATION

Mr. Groh gave a brief history of this property. This property is owned by numerous descendants of the original owner, and taxes are in arrears. Wetlands Officer Marla Butts has submitted a letter reviewing this property and its potential as an MS4 storm water drainage location for future planning. It was the consensus to accept this parcel as a donation. Mr. Groh stated the process of moving forward: vote to move forward, appear before the Planning and Zoning Commission for their input, and then to go to Town Meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to ask Planning and Zoning Commission for their input regarding the parcel 63-94-7C, Estate of Wilfred Blain, for donation of said property to the Town of Thompson.

<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

UPDATE ON WILSONVILLE HYDRO SITE

Mr. Groh distributed a map of the Wilsonville Road site and outlined a possible land transfer with the adjacent landowner. It was the consensus of the Board to obtain a written proposal from the adjacent landowner and then to discuss this matter at a later meeting.

UPDATE ON BUCKLEY HILL ROAD PROJECT

Mr. Groh stated that on June 24, 2011 the State of Connecticut and the Director of Public Works will sign the necessary documents to start this project, which was begun in 2003. The work will commence on June 27, 2011.

TAX WARRANT / RATE BILL

The Tax Rate was set by the Board of Finance, after the results of the June 16, 2011 Referendum.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to sign the Rate Bill/Tax Warrant for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 with a 21.01 mill rate (0% mill increase).

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

EXECUTIVE SESSION – POSSIBLE LAND TRANSFER

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to enter into Executive Session to discuss possible land transfers at 8:30 p.m.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

The Board returned from Executive Session at approximately 8:55 p.m.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to enter into negotiations regarding 1395 Riverside Drive.

<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Discussion on Motion: An offer has been received. There is no specific information at this time.

TAX REFUNDS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:56 p.m.

<i>Mr. Groh</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Beausoleil</i>	<i>-Yes</i>
<i>Mr. Bell</i>	<i>-Yes</i>

Recorded and transcribed by:
Lynn Landry