



SELECTMEN'S MEETING March 1, 2011

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, March 1, 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; Michael Martin, Finance Director; Alison Shea – Norwich Bulletin; Jonathan Duvall – WINY Radio; Clare Hopkins – Villager Newspaper; Joseph Gaucher; Kevin Walsh; Sarah White; JoAnn Baker; Aaron McGarry; Paul Dery; Steve Benoit; Kevin Walsh; Norman Babbitt; 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 of February 15, 2011, and the Special Selectmen's Meetings of February 15, 2011, February 18, 2011, and February 22, 2011, as presented.

<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 the Chair of the Economic Development Commission advising the Board that George Elmes has resigned, and Kerstin Forrester has resigned as of February 11, 2011. The regular seats are filled, and the Commission requests that two alternates be appointed. Mr. Groh requested that any interested citizens contact the Selectman's Office for consideration.

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS

- Mr. Groh preferred to hold his comments until the preliminary budget presentation tonight.
- Mr. Beausoleil stated that a great deal of time and effort has been made by the Department heads in compiling this budget.
- Mr. Bell agreed with Mr. Beausoleil. He also expressed his appreciation for having the flag raised to honor veterans.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

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- Miss White asked for clarification on the relationship between Habitat for Humanity and the new Social Services Building. Mr. Groh stated that Donna Grant, Executive Director of TEEG, has been investigating this proposed partnership.
 - Mr. Gaucher asked if Thompson is involved in the Putnam Industrial Park. Mr. Groh stated that Thompson is not involved; there have been discussions of a potential regional business park in Putnam with shared revenues with other towns. There are no final decisions or commitments on this.
 - Mr. Gaucher also voiced his concerns regarding a Regional YMCA that is proposed for Putnam.
 - Mr. Babbitt offered his complements to the Dept. of Public Works for the excellent snow removal during this past season. He also asked, on behalf of the VFW and American Legion, if the Town would donate \$400.00 from the Contingency Fund to help replace flags on Main Street and Riverside Drive. He would like to see the flags displayed from the week before Memorial Day until after Veteran’s Day. Mr. Groh stated that the CL&P poles are private property and that, in the past, the Town Attorney has advised the Town not to place anything on the poles.
 - Mr. Babbitt requested that Dangerous Intersection signs be erected near the intersection of Spicer and East Thompson Roads. He stated that the street signs at the corner of Quaddick Town Farm Road and Buck Hill Road have been removed. Mr. Groh will have Mr. Adams, Director of Public Works, investigate the situation.
 - Mr. Babbitt expressed his appreciation for the smooth governance of the town.
 - Miss White also noted that the streetlight at the Spicer/East Thompson Road intersection is not working.
 - Mr. Walsh asked for clarification on the appointment of the First Selectman as a representative to the Northeast District Dept. of Health. This issue has not yet been presented to the Ordinance Committee.

REQUEST TO CLOSE MAIN STREET FOR LITTLE LEAGUE PARADE ON SATURDAY, APRIL 16, 2011

A letter was received form Michael Merrill, President of the Thompson Little League concerning the annual parade.

Motion made by Mr. Beausoleil, seconded by Mr. Bell, to approve the request of the Thompson Little League to close Main Street for the annual Little League Parade on Saturday, April 16, 2011 at 11:00 a.m., with proper notification of the State Police and Fire Department.

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

REQUEST FOR TRANSFER STATION USAGE – GIRL SCOUT TROOP 65421

A written request was received concerning the use of the Transfer Station.

Motion made by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to allow Girl Scout Troop 65421 to use the Transfer Station for fundraising purposes on the following Saturdays: March 12, 2011, March 19, 2011, March 26, 2011 and April 2, 2011, under the direction of the Highway Foreman and Transfer Station Staff.

Mr. Bell -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mr. Groh -Yes

APPOINTMENT TO ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – ALTERNATE MEMBER – A. DAVID BABBITT

A written request was received from the Republican Town Committee concerning a vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to appoint A. David Babbitt to the Zoning Board of Appeals as an Alternate Member, term to expire November 22, 2011.

Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mr. Bell -Yes

TAX REFUNDS

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

Sophie Desmarais	\$ 50.23
Shawn Brissette	\$ 41.70
Russell Sorlin	\$126.06
Robert Mancini	\$ 29.86
Elynne or Christopher Ey	\$136.86

Mr. Groh -Yes
Mr. Beausoleil -Yes
Mr. Bell -Yes

PRESENTATION OF PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FY 2012

The Board of Selectmen made a Preliminary Budget Presentation. Mr. Groh stated that every line item had been discussed. The General Budget was reviewed illustrated by a Power Point presentation by Finance Director, Michael Martin. There was discussion and feedback from the citizens. The Board will consider the citizens' input and finalize the budget on March 4, 2011. It will then be presented to the Board of Finance.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Mr. Beausoleil, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:40 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