



**SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**August 28, 2007**

The Board of Selectmen held a Selectmen's Meeting on Tuesday, August 28, 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; Erica Ellison-Groh; Elizabeth Vriga; Ada Temple; James Sali; Lynn Landry; Mercedes Robbins; Carolyn Werge; Larry Wagner – L. Wagner & Associates; Martin Crabb – International Energy Management; Mason Wood – Thompson Villager; other concerned citizens

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the minutes of the August 14, 2007 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>

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Recreation Director in regard to new hires for Recreation.

*Motion made by Mr. Babbitt, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to add the agenda item under Other Business.*

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

- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to the ADA Compliance Grant.

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to add this agenda item as #4a.*

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

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- Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the State Bonding Commission in regard to the release of funds from the State for bonded projects.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from DECD in regard to affordable housing requirement exemptions.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Department of Emergency Management in regard to the Town's emergency management plan.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from Fuss & O'Neil in regard to an energy seminar on September 11, 2007.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence in regard to L.U.C.A. and the census bureau.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Northeast District Department of Health in regard to rescheduling their meeting.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Library Board of Trustees in regard to wages for the Library staff.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from Homeland Security in regard to regional funding proposals.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from CCM in regard to input for the 2008 Legislative Action Program.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the CT Siting Council in regard to the proposed facilities on Lowell David Road and Rich Road.
  - Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the Office of Policy & Management in regard to estimates of the state formulas and aids to municipalities.

#### **SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS**

- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Secretary of State is saying that any voting done after September 11<sup>th</sup> needs to be done on the new election machines.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that he attended the 100<sup>th</sup> edition anniversary for the Villager Newspapers.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the attendance to the summer concerts was good.
- Mr. Babbitt commented that the Emmanuel Lutheran Church celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary last Sunday.

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- Mr. Babbitt commented that he and the Director of Planning & Development attended a meeting in Willington in regard to the visitor's center proposed on exit 100 off of I395.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Board of Finance met on Thursday and that the Town received approval to go to Town Meeting and referendum on the Resident State Trooper program.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that he attended the forum with Director of Planning & Development on grants at the Norwich Free Academy that was sponsored by Congressman Courtney.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that he was able to see a preliminary proposal on the ADA compliance project.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that he participated in a bus tour of the town for the new teachers at the School.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that there will be more meetings in regard to development on a couple of projects.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that there is a Union negotiation meeting on Thursday.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Woodstock Fair is this weekend.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that the Town Meeting is scheduled for September 6<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that Community Day is scheduled for September 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that there is a department head meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Mr. Babbitt commented that the next Selectmen's meeting will be on Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>.
  - Ms. Hiatt commented that the Discovery group has asked that she and Dr. Jolin chair the Early Childhood Council which is the coordinating body of all of the childhood efforts in Town. Ms. Hiatt stated that they are preparing for the Graustein Foundation visit.
  - Ms. Hiatt asked that everyone celebrate the end of summer safely and to not drink and drive.
  - Mr. Groh commented that he received a call from the Registrars in regard to the additional cost for shipping for the voting machines. Mr. Babbitt stated that the Board of Finance approved the entire cost for the voting machines.

## **CITIZENS COMMENTS**

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None

**RESOLUTION OF MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODY – ADA COMPLIANCE GRANT**

Mr. Wagner stated that the new resolution contains language that is now required by the Attorney General. Mr. Wagner recommended because of the timeframe of the project, to request a grant for up to \$500,000.00 instead of the current proposed amount of \$350,000.00. Mr. Wagner stated that this escalation factor should cover the increase in building costs when the project would begin.

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to approve the new resolution with the language as presented with one exception and that the Board authorize the resolution to include an estimate for up to \$500,000.00.*

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

**INTERNATIONAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT**

Mr. Crabb presented information to the Board in regard to a proposal for an energy conservation study for the Town Hall, Library and Highway Garage. Mr. Crabb demonstrated some of the technology that would be implemented as a result of this project. A brief discussion followed.

Mr. Crabb explained that the fee proposed is for the study only and that additional funding would be required to implement the technology proposed.

The Board will review the material for the next Selectmen's meeting.

**APPOINTMENT OF VETERANS OFFICER – ROBERT LEBEAU**

*Motion made by Mr. Groh, seconded by Ms. Hiatt, to appoint Robert LeBeau as the Veterans Officer.*

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

**V.F.W. REQUEST FOR MONUMENT AT OSCAR SWANSON MEMORIAL PARK**

Mr. Babbitt presented a request from the V.F.W. in regard to installing a monument at Oscar Swanson Memorial Park.

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to allow the members of the V.F.W. to put a monument in the park with the only curtailment on it being that it is of like monument that is already there.*

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

**U.S. CENSUS BUREAU – L.U.C.A. PROGRAM**

Mr. Babbitt presented correspondence from the U.S. Department of Commerce in regard to the 2010 census. Mr. Babbitt commented that it is estimated that it would take approximately 13 days to complete the census. A brief discussion followed. The Board will review the request and discuss at the next Selectmen’s meeting. The Board discussed having someone from the Assessor’s Office attend the meeting and report back to the Board by either attending the next meeting or writing a memo.

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to fund someone from the Assessor Office travel to go to the workshop.*

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

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING DATE & AGENDA – RESIDENT STATE TROOPER PROGRAM**

Mr. Babbitt presented the Notice of Town Meeting for September 6, 2007.

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to accept and sign the Notice of Town Meeting as presented.*

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

Ms. Hiatt requested that Troop D provide someone to attend the meeting to answer questions in regard to the Resident State Trooper Program.

**THOMPSON PROBATE COURT FACILITIES**

Mr. Babbitt informed the Board that he has requested a waiver from Probate Administration in regard to modifying the Judge of Probate’s Office. Mr. Babbitt also stated that he has a carpenter provide an estimate on dividing the office space to accommodate a court staff. Mr. Groh questioned if a divider would be adequate.

**TAX REFUNDS (2)**

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

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-Craig S Smith                    \$28.97  
-Katherine G Lange            \$112.37

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### Recreation Commission New Hires

Mr. Babbitt explained that Kim Beauregard and Diane Tretheway have been hired by Recreation for the After School Program. Ms. Hiatt questioned as to whether or not they went through the background check process. This item will be added to the September 12<sup>th</sup> agenda.

- A concerned citizen asked if there is a tax break from the Town for hybrid vehicles. Ms. Landry stated that there is not a tax break from the Town. A brief discussion followed.

## **ADJOURN**

*Motion made by Ms. Hiatt, seconded by Mr. Groh, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:53 p.m.*

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

Recorded and transcribed by:

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Tonya Levesque