

TOWN OF CROMWELL  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SPECIAL MEETING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2010  
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5

MINUTES

Present: First Selectman John Flanders, Anthony Varricchio Sr., Allan D. Spotts, Al Waters, and Ann Halibozek.

A. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to Order at 7:06 p.m.

B. CITIZENS COMMENTS:

**Steve Bailey- 22 Chestnut Court** – has concerns with the two items and feels that these need to be broken down- suggested separating into four questions (1) road improvements, (2) police communication, (3) library, and (4) senior center

**Marie Roberto- 28 Watch Hill** – is requesting clarification for the second resolution when the bonding will be issued immediately or deferred. The other question she has is the receiving of state grants how this would be appropriated 8.5 million how much would be separated into each item.

C. NEW BUSINESS:

First Selectman John Flanders gave some background with a slide show presentation. Bonding should be at about 8-10% of the budget. The currently incurred bonded debt will equalize we are looking at just under 13 million. 1 million will go to all police facilities, communications, and software equipment. The Library has a 1 million dollar grant from the State and the Senior Center will receive a small grant of \$650,000.00 to take off of their total cost.

Al Water's has concerns with road improvements and what projects that it will include. He also has concerns with the questions being broken down instead of all items in one question. Anthony Varricchio Sr. has concerns with breaking out Question #2 and would like to see that each item be voted on separately.

First Selectman John Flanders mentioned that as debt service decreased we would go back to referendum in the year 2013. The second question is a policy question that is most likely to get support and would most likely get approved.

Ann Halibozek has concerns with re-entering question if the second question gets rejected when it goes out to referendum. She feels that the four questions should be broken down to four items.

Marianne Sylvester – Finance Director mentioned that if we are saving in one area than it may reduce bonding. They may save with the cost of construction if both the Senior Center and Library are done together.

**1. To consider and take action with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructures, including road and storm drainage improvements and police communications system infrastructure improvements.**

**Item #1 – Road, Drainage and Police Communications System Infrastructure Improvements Project.**

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$4,270,000, and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to improvements to various Town infrastructure, contemplated to include, but not limited to: (1) road and storm drainage improvements in the Iron Gate Estates area and on New Lane, consistent with the Town's 2004 Pavement Management Study, (2) police communications system infrastructure improvements, including but not limited to acquisition and installation of fixed equipment, wireless broadband, software, field units and console and dispatch center5 equipment, and (3) to the extent of a available appropriation after completion of the road and storm drainage improvements and police communications system infrastructure Improvements described in (1) and (2) preceding, design and/or construction and installation of such other road and drainage improvements as the Director of Public Works and the Town Engineer jointly may select following consultation with the Board of Selectmen, consistent with the Town's 2004 Pavement Management Study. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, materials, land and easement acquisition, site improvements, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Director of Public Works and the Town Engineer jointly shall be authorized, following consultation with the Board of Selectmen to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the road and storm drainage improvements described in (1) and (3) preceding, to delete in their entirety components of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project. The Board of Selectmen, following consultation with the Cromwell Chief of Police, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the police communications systems infrastructure improvements described in (2) preceding , to delete in their entirety components of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project. The entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby refers the above recommendations to the Board of Finance for its consideration.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, contingent on the approval by the Board of Finance of the above recommendations. The Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the First Selectman to call a special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Cromwell, Connecticut, to be held in the Cromwell Middle School Auditorium on Mann Memorial Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut, on Monday, March 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon said resolution with respect to the above recommendations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectman hereby designates said resolution for

submission to the voters at referendum to be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m., in the manner provided by Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The resolution submitted to the voters under the following heading:

“ SHALL THE TOWN OF CROMWELL APPROPRIATE \$ 4,270,000 FOR VARIOUS ROAD, DRAINAGE AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

Voters approving the resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing said resolution shall vote “No”. Electors and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors shall vote in the Cromwell High School gymnasium on Donald Harris Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut, Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

**OPTIONAL: FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to prepare and to cause to be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-369b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, an explanatory text with respect to the aforesaid question to be submitted to the voters pursuant to Section 7-7 of said General Statutes; and the First Selectman, in his discretion, is authorized to prepare and distribute such additional explanatory materials with respect to such question as are permitted in accordance with said Section 9-369b.**

**Motion** was made by A. Halibozek, **seconded** by A. Spotts and it was **unanimously carried to approve** above resolution for item 1, send it to the Board of Finance for their recommendation and authorize First Selectman to set time and date of Special Town Meeting and Referendum.

- 2. To consider and take action with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to new construction, expansion, renovations and improvements of Town facilities, including renovations, improvements and construction of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library and construction of a new senior center; to call a special town meeting to consider and act upon a resolution with respect to such proposal; to designate such resolution for submission to the voters of the Town Referendum; and related matters.**

**Motion** was made by A. Halibozek, **seconded** by A. Spotts and it was **unanimously carried to approve** to split into two separate questions.

- (a.) To consider and take action with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to new construction, expansion, renovations and improvements of Town facilities, including renovations, improvements and construction of additions to the New Senior And/ Or Community Center Construction Project**

**Item #1 – New Senior And/ Or Community Center Construction Project**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$4,650,000 and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to construction of an estimated 14,841 square foot new senior and / or community center to be located in Watrous Park and contemplated to be completed substantially as set out in preliminary plans entitled "A Feasibility Study for a New Senior Center for the Town of Cromwell" prepared by Quisenberry Arcara Architects, LLC and dated September 14, 2009. The Town anticipates applying for a Small Cities Block Grant to defray in part of the appropriation. The amount of bonds or notes authorized for the project shall be reduced by the amount of grants received for the project and applied to defray the project appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, furniture, materials, site improvements, relocation costs, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen, or any building committee created by the Board of Selectmen from time-to-time with respect to the project, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project; and the entire appropriation may be sent on the project as so reduced or modified.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby refers the above recommendations to the Board of Finance for its consideration.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That, contingent on the approval by the Board of Finance of the above recommendations, the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the First Selectman to call a special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Cromwell, Connecticut, to be held in the Cromwell Middle School auditorium on Mann Memorial Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut, on Monday, March 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon said resolution with respect to the above recommendations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby designates said resolution for submission to the voters at referendum to be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m., in the manner provided by Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The resolution submitted to the voters under the following heading:

"SHALL THE TOWN OF CROMWELL APPROPRIATE \$4,650,000 FOR THE SENIOR AND/OR COMMUNITY CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?"

Voters approving the resolution will vote "Yes" and those opposing said resolution shall vote "No". Electors and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors shall vote in the Cromwell High School gymnasium on Donald Harris Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk's office.

**OPTIONAL: FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to prepare and to cause to be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-369b of General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, an explanatory text with respect to**

the aforesaid question to be submitted to the voters pursuant to Section 7-7 of said General Statutes; and the First Selectman, in his discretion, is authorized to prepare and distribute such additional explanatory materials with respect to such question as are permitted in accordance with said Section 9-369b.

**Motion** was made by A. Halibozek, **seconded** by A. Spotts and it was **unanimously carried to approve** above resolution for item 2(a.), send it to the Board of Finance for their recommendation and authorize First Selectman to set time and date of Special Town Meeting and Referendum.

**(b.) To consider and take action with respect to an appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to new construction, expansion, renovations and improvements of Town facilities, including renovations, improvements and construction of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library and Construction Project**

**Item #2 – Library Expansion Project.**

RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of Cromwell appropriate \$3,850,000 and authorize the issue bonds or notes and temporary notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation, for costs related to renovations, improvements and construction of an estimated 7,529 square feet of additions to the Cromwell Belden Public Library contemplated to be completed substantially as set out in preliminary plans entitled “Cromwell Belden Library Renovation, Cromwell, CT” prepared by Schoenhardt Architecture + Interior Design and dated October 22, 2008. The Town anticipates receiving State grants in the approximate amount of \$1,000.00 to defray in part of the appropriation. The amount of bonds or notes authorized for the project shall be reduced by the amount of grants received for the project appropriation. The appropriation may be spent for design, construction and installation costs, equipment, furnishings, furniture, materials, site improvements, relocation costs, consultants, engineering fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the project. The Board of Selectmen, or any building committee created by the Board of Selectmen from time-to-time with respect to the project, shall be authorized to determine from time-to-time the scope and particulars of the project, and to reduce or modify the scope of the project; and the entire appropriation may be spent on the project as so reduced or modified.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby refers the above recommendations to the Board of Finance for its consideration.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That contingent on the approval by the Board of Finance of the above recommendations, the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the First Selectman to call a special town meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in town meetings of the Town of Cromwell, Connecticut, to be held in the Cromwell Middle School auditorium on Mann Memorial Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut, on Monday, March 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to consider and act upon said resolution with respect to the above recommendations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Selectmen hereby designates said resolution for submission to the voters at referendum to be held on Wednesday, March 31, 2010 between the hours

of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m., in the manner provided by Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The resolution submitted to the voters under the following heading:

“SHALL THE TOWN OF CROMWELL APPROPRIATE \$3,850,000 FOR THE LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZE THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE THE APPROPRIATION?”

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Voters approving the resolution will vote “Yes” and those opposing said resolution shall vote “No”. Electors and persons qualified to vote in town meetings who are not electors shall vote in the Cromwell High School gymnasium on Donald Harris Drive, in Cromwell, Connecticut. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk’s office.

**OPTIONAL: FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Town Clerk is authorized and directed to prepare and to cause to be printed and distributed in accordance with the provisions of Section 9-369b of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, an explanatory text with respect to the aforesaid question to be submitted to the voters pursuant to Section 7-7 of said General Statutes; and the First Selectman, in his discretion, is authorized to prepare and distribute such additional explanatory materials with respect to such question as are permitted in accordance with said Section 9-369b.**

**Motion** was made by A. Halibozek, **seconded** by A. Spotts and it was **unanimously carried to approve** above resolution for item 2(b.), send it to the Board of Finance for their recommendation and authorize First Selectman to set time and date of Special Town Meeting and Referendum.

D. ADJOURNMENT:

A **motion** was made by Al Waters, **seconded** by Ann Halibozek and it was **unanimously approved** to adjourn at 7:45 p.m. *Motion passed.*

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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Michelle Milardo  
Recording Secretary  
February 25, 2010

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John M. Flanders Esq.  
First Selectman