

TOWN OF CROMWELL
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY JULY 14, 2010
7:10 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5

MINUTES

Present: First Selectman J. Flanders, Deputy First Selectman R. Newton,
A. Varricchio, A. Halibozek, A. Waters, A. Spotts, P. Ahlquist

Absent:

Also Present: Acting Captain E. Kosinski, Director Public Works E. Hood, Senior
Services Director T. Strong, Deputy Assessor D. Otlowski, Economic
Development Chairman R. Nobile, Board of Education liaison M.
Camilleri, Public and Press

A. CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Flanders called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Varricchio to amend the agenda and
add under D. Financial, #1. e. Paige M. Boudreau -\$54.00 under E. New Business
#7. Discussion and possible action to award Iron Gates Estates Improvement
Project bid and move item F4 to D4.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by A. Spotts and *unanimously carried* to
add under E. New Business #8. Discussion Economic Development and approve the
agenda as amended.

C. CITIZENS COMMENTS

1. A. Dickerson, Chairman Library Commission -Spoke against the recent brownouts
in the Library.
2. B. Jahn, Woodside Road -requested an update regarding Patriots Corner, New
Land and Geer Street. Mr. Jahn recommended that the Blight Committee add
two properties to the Blight List. Mr. Jahn also made the board aware that the
recycling can at Watrous Park is overflowing and hornets are building nests
inside the can.
3. E. Faienza, Coles Road - Concerned with direction town is taking regarding
EDC. Mr. Faienza would like town departments have more oversight and feels
that the employees should be held responsible.
4. P. Keithan, Iron Gate Lane -Agreed with Mr. Faienza's statements. Mr. Keithan
also spoke about a rotten tree on Iron Gate Lane.
5. A. Kelly, Willowbrook Road - Agreed with the previous speakers regarding EDC.
6. M. Johnson, Pleasant Street - Spoke regarding Cider Hill and town staff.
7. D. Brightman, Cider Hill -Spoke regarding the conditions on Cider Hill.

8. R. Duffy, Oxford Lane -Spoke regarding Ethics Commissions.
9. R. Waters, South Street - Concerned with Cider Hill and Cobblestone projects.
10. R. Nobile, Hillside Road, Chairman EDC - Spoke regarding the importance of the Town having a professional Economic Development Coordinator.

D. FINANCIAL

1. Tax Refunds
 - a. First American R/E Tax Service -\$1,477.73
 - b. John Brester -\$212.84
 - c. David J. Taylor -\$212.46
 - d. John Denz -\$104.94
 - e. Paige M. Boudreau -\$54.00

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by A. Spotts and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds a -e.

2. Transfer \$57,000 from General Fund fund balance to the CNR Fund fund balance.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to transfer \$57,000 from General fund fund balance to the CNR Fund fund balance.

3. Appropriate within the CNR Fund \$57,000 for a Transportation Services Department Handicap Access Vehicle. The expenditure will be reimbursed at 80% through a State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Section 5310 grant.

Senior Services Director T. Strong presented the request to the board. Ms. Strong advised that the 80% reimbursement is up to a maximum of \$40,000. This vehicle will replace the 2004 Senior Bus that will have 100,000 miles on it at the time of replacement.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to appropriate within the CNR Fund \$57,000 for a Transportation Services Department Handicap Access Vehicle. The expenditure will be reimbursed at 80% through a State of Connecticut Department of Transportation Section 5310 grant.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Acceptance of Spur Road in Newbury Estates by the Town of Cromwell.-Tabled
Item left tabled.
2. Authorization to establish a special revenue fund dedicated for communication improvements for the police department to be funded by the revenue generated from the tower site. -Tabled
Item left tabled until Chief Salvatore and Finance Director Sylvester are present.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion and action to adopt an ordinance of the Town of Cromwell providing for a waiver of the penalty for not disclosing income and rental income to Town Assessor.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to adopt an ordinance of the Town of Cromwell providing for a waiver of the penalty for not disclosing income and rental income to Town Assessor as revised.

2. Appoint a Charter Revision Committee.

First Selectman Flanders advised the board that a maximum of two members can be public officials on the seven member board. Discussion followed.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to appoint Enzo Faienza and Edward Maley to the Charter Revision Commission to fill the public official spots.

A short discussion followed.

Motion made by A. Varricchio seconded by A. Waters and *carried to table* until the next meeting to give the opportunity to residents who are not on other boards and commissions to come forward for consideration.

Ms. Halibozek inquired regarding complying with the 30 day State timeline. Mr. Flanders stated that a Special Meeting would be held if necessary.

Aye: A. Varricchio, J. Flanders, R. Newton, A. Waters, A. Spotts, P. Ahlquist

Nay: A. Halibozek

Motion carried to table.

3. Discussion and action to approve Step 7 of the E-5 schedule for the new Captain's Salary.

A short discussion followed. Ms. Halibozek asked if the proper process was followed regarding hiring the position. Mr. Flanders advised that according to the Charter the Chief has the authority to promote, which is the case in this instance. The Police Commission is responsible for hiring.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Spotts and *carried* to approve Step 7 of the E-5 schedule for the new Captain's Salary.

Aye: A. Halibozek, A. Varricchio, J. Flanders, R. Newton, A. Waters, A. Spotts

Abstained: P. Ahlquist

Item moved to D4.

4. Discussion and action to approve expenditure of \$172,500 out of the Sewer CNR Fund, Line item #79260, for the CWPCA approved dump truck with plow.

Director of Public Works E. Hood presented the request. A short discussion followed.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Spotts and *unanimously carried* to approve expenditure of \$172,500 out of the Sewer CNR Fund, Line item #79260, for the CWPCA approved dump truck with plow.

5. Authorize First Selectman to waive bid requirements for surveyor for Cider Hill reconstruction: Hallisey Pearson & Cassidy.

A lengthy discussion followed.

a. Waive bid requirement for Inspection for Cider Hill reconstruction:
Weston & Sampson.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to approve items 5 and 5a.

6. Approve resolution for Preservation Grant.

Motion made by P. Ahlquist seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to approve resolution for Preservation Grant.

7. Discussion and possible action to award Iron Gate Estates Improvement Project bid.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by A. Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to award the Iron Gate Estates Improvement Project to Quality Associates - \$742,500.00.

8. Discussion Economic Development.

A. Waters requested an update on GKN and the First Selectman's Office. First Selectman Flanders advised that he assigned Anthony Price to contact them. He also directed Anthony Price to contact ATT and Comcast regarding bringing the high speed internet to GKN. It appears he did not contact them.

A. Waters asked who is responsible for applying for grants. Mr. Waters suggested hiring Larry Wagner as he has written grants for the town in the past. First Selectman Flanders reported that he and Joe Mazurek are presently preparing paper work to apply for a STEAP grant. Mr. Mazurek has prepared two successful STEAP Grants in the past.

A. Spotts suggested that since we are without an Economic Development Coordinator someone should be hired temporarily on a per-diem basis.

A. Varricchio suggested that all recommendations for interested parties should be sent to the First Selectman's Office. Mr. Varricchio stated that this is an important position and should be filled by a qualified person.

A. Waters recommended Craig Stevenson.

A. Halibozek stated that Anthony Price tried hard to do a good job for the town. Ms. Halibozek suggested that the RFP should be listed on the CCM website.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Special Meeting June 23, 2010.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by A. Varricchio and *carried* to approve the minutes of June 23, 2010.

Aye: A. Halibozek, A. Varricchio, J. Flanders, A. Waters, A. Spotts, P. Ahlquist

Abstained: R. Newton

H. FIRST SELECTMAN'S COMMENTS

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by A. Varricchio and *unanimously carried* to approve resolution congratulating Captain Nelson and thanking him for his years of service to the Town.

First Selectman Flanders advised the board that Anthony Price resigned on July 6th. His resignation was accepted. First Selectman Flanders stated that there have been a lot of comments made about Economic Development and Mr. Price did not leave without offering his opinion about him. Mr. Flanders advised that he printed out all e-mail correspondence he had with Mr. Price and suggested that anyone interested in reviewing it should do so before making any judgment on this. First Selectman Flanders stated that he has had just less than seven months battling the worse economy since the great depression; he trusts that they will cut him a little slack.

A preconstruction meeting was held the past week for the Geer Street and Iron Gate Lane projects.

I. GOOD & WELFARE

A. Waters spoke about his statement last month about possibly inferior products being brought to town. An informational meeting was held with the concerned parties. People were put on notice regarding what the town expects. Mr. Waters asked if the First Selectman contacted the Town Attorney regarding going after General Paving for their work on town property.

First Selectman Flanders advised the pre-construction for Geer Street will be held next week. The Cider Hill Road construction project is going forward. Eager Lane is a vexing situation. There is a problem with catch basins for drainage on a resident's property. Town staff required changes from the builder, which he did not perform so the bonds will be called and the drainage issues will be remedied with the bonds. Hopefully the road will be ready for acceptance in September.

P. Ahlquist inquired if the Town Charter is being followed as far as excavation and permitting as we repave and improve the roads.

P. Ahlquist inquired regarding the Building Maintainer's position being advertised at this time due to the incentives given to the employee that retired.

A. Spotts spoke about the recent brownout situation and the affect it had on the Library.

A. Spotts asked for an update on Stocking Triangle and Melilli's.

A. Halibozek suggested that the Library should keep flashlights handy and put up signs reminding people using the computers to back up their work often in case of a brown out situation.

A. Halibozek reminded that Cromwell was cited by the DEP because of the storm water runoff during the process of the Cider Hill development. Ms. Halibozek stated that P&Z was concerned about the site line and she isn't sure that was done to specs either since you have to inch forward to see past the new telephone pole that was put in. A complete engineering review should be done.

A. Halibozek inquired if drainage improvements are included in the Road Study Report.

The need for drainage improvement in several areas was discussed; Reiman Road, Park Road /Oakwood Manor and Court Street First Selectman Flanders advised that Court Street is a separate project. Ms. Halibozek stated that there are some residents in the vicinity of 57-59 Court Street that have been complaining about drainage issues for years. The brook travels south to north and they actually have to shovel the brook in the winter when it freezes. They have been asking for this to be corrected for years and nothing has been done. Now that one home-owner requested to fill in the wetlands on her property and to do this she needs the water to go somewhere else the problem is being addressed. At the I/W meeting Mr. Mazurek said that we are going to do the catch basin now, which then allows I/W to approve the permit for filling in the wetlands. The homeowners in the area asked why this is being done now, when they have been asking for years. Ms. Halibozek asked the same question on behalf of members of the board. A. Varricchio spoke about the catch basins on the corner near the Veterinary Hospital.

J. COMMISSION REPORTS

Board of Education M. Camilleri gave a brief report.

K. RESIGNATIONS

None

L. APPOINTMENTS

None

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by P. Ahlquist and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary

John M. Flanders
First Selectman