

**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2006  
7:10 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

**MINUTES**

Present: First Selectman P. Beaulieu, Deputy First Selectman S. Stachura, R. Newton,  
A. Waters, M. Johnson, S. Salvatore, F. Monnes

Absent:

Also Present: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Captain R. Nelson, Public Works Director R.  
Jahn, Town Engineer J. Mazurek, Tax Collector S. Ramsay, Senior and  
Handicapped Tax Abatement Program Chairman R. Mildren, Senior  
Center Administrator T. Strong, Public and Press

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Beaulieu called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The following items were added to the agenda:

First Selectman P. Beaulieu: Under G. New Business, #1. a. Authorize First  
Selectman to set date of Public Hearing to consider ordinance codifying Senior Tax  
Abatement. #3. Recommendation to table accepting Robertson Road and Kelly Lane  
as Town Roads. #6. Authorize First Selectman Paul C. Beaulieu to sign agreement  
between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Cromwell for the Construction of  
Coles Road. Under H. Appointments, #2. Parks and Recreation, a. Ed Bartolotta  
should be tabled. Move K. Executive Session after G. New Business. Add item K.1.  
Topics for Future Agendas.

Selectman Salvatore:

F. Old Business, #1. Discussion 47 Coles Road issue from November Meeting.

Selectman Stachura:

F. Old Business, #2. Discussion Skate Board Park, #3. Update Evergreen project  
(update given during Staff Reports).

G. New Business, #7. Discussion Tax Abatement Procedure.

Selectman Monnes:

Discussion of appointing Town Pool Committee will be discussed during New  
Business, #5. Long Range Planning.

Selectman Johnson:

Discussion of parking in Pierson Park will be discussed during K1, Topics for Future  
Agenda's.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to  
approve the agenda as amended.

### **C. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

1. Rich Waters, South Street – Stated his opinion regarding several topics. Asked for a reply to his letter regarding his question of a possible conflict of interest regarding two members of the Planning and Zoning Commission.
2. Alfred Diaz, Thistle Down – Thanked the Town, the Town Engineer and the Water District for doing a good job completing several projects. Progress is being made. Mr. Diaz would like the Blight Committee to do something and improve the appearance of the entrance to Cromwell on Main Street. Mr. Diaz also spoke regarding several other issues of concern.
3. Representative Jim O'Rourke, Lancaster Road –Spoke regarding the Skate Board Park Funds.
4. Peter Keithan, Iron Gate Lane – spoke regarding the appearance of the entrance to Town and several other issues.
5. Anthony Varricchio, Kowal Drive –Spoke in favor of the Skate Board Park.
6. Dick Coughlin, Glenwood Terrace, Member of the Tax Abatement Committee, Spoke in favor of the Tax Abatement recommendations.
7. Ken Going, Shunpike Road, Member of the Tax Abatement Committee, Spoke in favor of the Tax Abatement recommendations.
8. Kim Spurlin, Coles Road –Spoke in favor of the Skate Board Park on behalf of her sons.
9. Patricia Whitney, Court Street –Would like an item to be revisited concerning the culvert at the end of her yard. At certain times, the water backs up and doesn't go under the culvert because the culvert is too high.

### **D. STAFF AND COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS**

Public Works Director Jahn's Projected Work Assignment report was submitted in writing. A lengthy discussion followed regarding present and future public works projects. Mr. Jahn advised that the Evergreen Project is on target and will go out to be re-bided in the spring. First Selectman Beaulieu presented additional information regarding Public Works activities.

### **E. FINANCIAL**

1. Budget Reports  
First Selectman Beaulieu presented the reports in Finance Director Sylvester's absence. The legal expense line continues to be closely monitored.
2. Tax Refunds
  - a. Sold
    1. Naeen Khan -\$45.84
    2. Brent H. Robbins -\$47.25
    3. Charles Cota -\$48.18
    4. Enrico or Gail Arcari -\$14.43
  - b. Wrong Assessment Year
    1. Pranav Patel -\$277.85
  - c. Exemption Not Applied

1. Michael or Kelly Groeper -\$91.34
  - d. Totaled/Disposed or Junked
    1. John R. Donovan -\$246.19
    2. Jong W. Cho -\$6.23
    3. Toyota Motor Credit Corp. -\$135.08
    4. Chase Man Auto Fin Corp. -\$141.52
  - e. BOAA Reduced
    1. Richard Grocki -\$146.75
- Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds a-e.

## F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Discussion 47 Coles Road.

Assessor S. O'Neil was present and available to answer the board's questions. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the report that Assessor O'Neil provided to the board.

**Motion** made by S. Salvatore and seconded by R. Newton to direct the Assessor to go back and collect three years as permitted by State Statute.

Further discussion followed.

First Selectman Beaulieu requested that the Assessor come back next month with a recommendation of what the effects would be of implementing a three year look back both for back taxes and overpayment refunds. After further discussion the consensus of the board was that Assessor O'Neil would present a report at next month's meeting.

**Motion** made by R. Newton and seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried to table*.
2. Skate Board Park

A lengthy discussion followed.

**Motion** made by M. Johnson seconded by S. Salvatore that the First Selectman send a letter to the State for this project.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by S. Salvatore and *unanimously carried* to direct the First Selectman to send a letter to the State of Connecticut reaffirming our commitment to build a Skate Board Park.

## G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on recommendation of the Senior and Handicapped Tax Abatement Program Committee.

Chairman R. Mildren of the Senior and Handicapped Tax Abatement Program Committee presented the recommendations of the Committee to the Board of Selectmen.

A lengthy discussion followed.

First Selectman Beaulieu presented several recommendations of the Board of Finance.

The consensus of the board was to send the Final Draft to the Town Attorney for his review of the entire document and also obtain his opinion on the legality of the

requirement that the recipient needs to be a registered voter. The board agreed that they would like the Town Attorney to add language to the document as to who would be the arbitrator for appeal.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to send to the Town Attorney for his recommendation.

- a. Authorize First Selectman to call a Public Hearing to consider ordinance codifying Senior Tax Abatement.

The consensus of the board was to review the document after Town Attorney approval is obtained and then authorize the First Selectman to set the date of a Public Hearing.

2. Presentation by Connecticut Municipal Consortium and proposed action on Resolution.

Chairman Mike Guarco of the Granby Board of Finance made the presentation regarding the Connecticut Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility. Discussion followed.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to endorse resolution in Support of the Connecticut Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility.

3. Accept Robertson Road and Kelly Road as Town Roads.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried to table*.

4. Adopt resolution indicating Cromwell's level of support for the continuance of the Connecticut River Assembly.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to endorse and continue to support the Connecticut River Assembly.

The board agreed to look favorably on the Assembly's annual request for a \$500.00 donation for the 07/08 F/Y at budget time.

5. Designation of long range Planning Committee.

No action taken

6. Authorize First Selectman Paul C. Beaulieu to sign agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Cromwell for the Construction of Coles Road.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to authorize First Selectman Paul C. Beaulieu to sign agreement between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Cromwell for the Construction of Coles Road.

7. Discussion Tax Abatement procedures.

Selectman Stachura requested that future Tax Abatement Request packets include letters of recommendations from the Assessor and Finance Director regarding the numbers that are presented.

## **K. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Labor Negotiations
  - a. Ratification of Public Works Employee's contract.
  - b. Other Labor Issues

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to adjourn to Executive session at 10:30 p.m. for the purpose of ratifying the Public Works Employee's contract and other labor issues.

H/R Director T. Roohr and P/W Director R. Jahn were invited into Executive Session. The board came out of Executive Session at 11:05 p.m.

- a. Ratification of Public Works Employee's contract.

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to authorize the First Selectman to ratify the Public Works contract.

- b. Other Labor Issues

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *carried* to approve a 3.25% COLA for 07/08 for Elected Officials, Non-Union Exempt Full time and Part Time employees.

Aye: A. Waters, R. Newton, S. Stachura, M. Johnson, F. Monnes

Abstained: S. Salvatore

*Motion carried*

## **H. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Board of Assessment Appeals
  - a. Brien J. Robertson

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to accept Mr. Robertson's resignation with regret.

## **I. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Economic Development Commission
  - a. Al Spotts, Alternate, term expires March 2010
2. *Parks and Recreation Commission*
  - a. *Ed Bartolotta-tabled*

**Motion** made by S. Stachura seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to approve Mr. Spotts appointment.

## **J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Regular Meeting, November 8, 2006
2. Special Meeting, November 15, 2006

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of November 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> 2006.

## **K1. TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

1. Parking Pierson Park
2. Discussion of appointing Town Pool Committee
3. Designation of Long Range Planning Committee

**L. SELECTMEN COMMISSION REPORTS**

S. Salvatore –Advised that the Board of Education would be sending out letters to the Boards of Finance, Education and Selectmen requesting a joint meeting of the boards.

**M. GOOD AND WELFARE**

F. Monnes advised the board that Selectmen Stachura would be installed in the Middletown Sports Hall of Fame on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Congratulations to Stan!

**N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Re Matus  
Secretary

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Paul C. Beaulieu  
First Selectman