

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2007
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, Director of Finance M. Sylvester, Director of Public Works R. Jahn, Director of Recreation S. Schein, Tax Collector S. Ramsay, Board of Finance members, M. Gengler, J. Flanders, L. Caruso, E. Maley, J. Neto, J. Henehan and alternates D. DiMauro and J. Shingleton, Public and Press

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda additions: Under E. Financial, #8. Authorize First Selectman to sign Jensen's Fund Grant Award. F. Old Business, #2. Discussion Job Description Human Services Director, #3. Update Woodside Intermediate School fields. G. 1a. Resolution to recognize and establish the Cromwell Clean Energy Task Force. G2. Discussion of various issues. F. Old Business, # 2. Discussion Job-Description Human Services Director, #3. Update on Woodside Intermediate School fields. Executive Session will be moved up to after Citizens Comments.

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

C. CITIZEN COMMENT

1. Christine Trousdale, Timber Hill Road – Requested an update regarding the petition that was presented 17 months ago for a Municipal Pool. A lengthy discussion followed. Ms. Trousdale was directed to seek the assistance of the Town Clerk to learn the process of how to add the question to the ballot to let the voters decide if Cromwell should have a Municipal Pool.
2. Michael Gengler, Forest Road -Chairman Board of Finance, Member of Long-Range Planning Committee –Swimming Pool issue has come up before. Mr. Gengler suggested a line item be set up and if people have a sincere desire to get this project off the ground and they are willing to put their money where their desire is, fine than this would be a solid indication that there is interest.
3. Jeremy Shingleton, Member of the Clean Energy-Thanked the Board of Selectmen for helping make Cromwell a Clean Energy Town. The Earth Day Event was a success, 384 florescent bulbs were distributed free of charge, this amounts to an estimated savings of \$7,378 annually in electric bills. They also

- had 27 residents sign up for the Clean Energy Option with CL&P, making the net savings of \$5,100 in electrical costs to the community. Thanks to Steve Hennessey who continued to sign up residents after the Earth Day Program. They now have approximately 90 sign ups and are very close to getting a solar panel for the schools.
4. Todd Kolpits – Updated the board regarding his progress with 14 Alcap Ridge Road.
 5. Stephanie Pillar, Redwood Court-President and Founder of Cromwell Community Band –Asked for assistance to use a school for the band’s practices. They would also like to use the school’s percussion equipment.
 6. Bob Jahn, Woodside Road –Spoke about situation on Raymond Place, inquired what time the recycling and garbage trucks are suppose to begin their rounds in town, spoke about cutting of trees on Shadow Lane and the big tree trunks that have been left there, questioned that the Chairman of the Finance Board was making motions and voting at the Town Meeting, spoke about uncovered trucks traveling in town, spoke about items that he felt needed to have more detail in the March or April minutes.
 7. Steve Hennessey, Ranney Road –Member of the Cromwell Clean Energy Task Force. Encouraged members of the Board of Selectmen to sign up for the Clean Energy Program.
 8. Pete Keithan, Iron Gate Lane-Supported Todd Kolpits.
 9. Michael Gengler, Reiman Drive –Responded to Mr. Jahn’s concern, stating that it is normal procedure for the Chairman to participate in the procedure.

D. STAFF AND COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS

First Selectman Beaulieu updated the board regarding the following topics:

- Senior Tax Abatement –Has been well received, 120 plus eligible seniors have signed up for the program, the amount is approximately \$91,000.
- RFQ Library Expansion Program –They are in the process of reviewing the RFQs that were received, four firms responded.
- Evergreen Road Project- Notice of award to Black and Warner was sent out. The project will not start until school is out.
- Long Range Capital Planning Program-will be going forward with a bonding project that will comprise of roads, some school renovations at CMS and ECS that total approximately \$3,000,000 and finally a component of recreation.

Director of Public Works Jahn submitted written monthly work reports and spoke regarding the following topics:

- Town of Cromwell hosted a demonstration of the Asphalt Zipper. It could greatly reduce the type and amount of work that is now being done by the old fashion method. The purchase of the Asphalt Zipper could possibly be shared with other municipalities.
- Working on the Library Expansion Program.
- Working on the cost of roads and drainage issues for the Long Range Planning Committee.
- Mr. Jahn spent about a week at a FEMA Debris Pre-Management Program.

- Spoke about the Christian Hill Road Bridge.
- Bids will be open for the Town Hall and the Cromwell Landing signs on June 4th.
Bids will be open for the Christian Hill Road Bridge project on June 18th.

Recreation Director S. Schein presented an update regarding the Skate Park. Several months ago, The Park & Recreation Commission had a presentation by one of the Skate Park companies. Money was included in Capital Expenditures for next year to purchase some equipment. The project is on hold until the Capital Expenditures funding is approved. The approximate cost of equipment is somewhere in the range of \$25,000 - \$30,000, which will make the total cost of the project somewhere around \$75,000.

E. FINANCIAL

1. Budget Reports

Finance Director Sylvester presented the budget reports.

2. Tax Refunds

- a. Assessed on 2003 G.L. MV
 1. Jeffrey C. Coleman -\$55.65
- b. Sold – Overpaid - Totaled - Donated
 1. Merchants Rent A Car Inc -\$161.16
 2. Alan Tuchmann -\$4,720.00
 3. Alan W. Peterson -\$49.66
 4. Cindy Shuler -\$21.44

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to approve Tax Refunds a&b.

3. Ratify April 25, 2007 Phone Poll Vote, which unanimously approved applying for and receiving an \$11,000 grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security for a Portable Video Surveillance System.

Chief Salvatore advised that no up-front money is necessary. The Department of Homeland Security will send the equipment to them.

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* To ratify the phone poll vote which unanimously approved applying for and receiving an \$11,000 grant from the United States Department of Homeland Security for a Portable Video Surveillance System.

4. Adopt Resolution and authorize First Selectman to execute and apply to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for \$945,000 in order to undertake Infrastructure Improvements to the Northern Tier.

First Selectman Beaulieu presented the request. S. Stachura requested further clarification and explanation of the following budget line items, planning, contract services and the design consulting engineering.

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to adopt resolution and authorize First Selectman to execute and apply to the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development for \$945,000 in order to undertake Infrastructure Improvements to the Northern Tier.

5. Discussion and action on an appropriation of \$36,176 in the CNR Fund for Bleachers at Pierson Park, as approved by the Board of Finance on 4/26/07. Recreation Director S. Schein presented the request. The bleachers are elevated bleachers that will accommodate about 219 people; this will include 6 handicap spots. They are working on this project now so hopefully they will be ready for this fall's sports season. If the company chosen is not on the State Bid list they may have to apply for a bid waiver.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to approve an appropriation of \$36,176 in the CNR Fund for Bleachers at Pierson Park, as approved by the Board of Finance on 4/26/07.

6. Authorize First Selectman to sign 2007 Public Health Per Capita Funding Application for \$6,624.80.

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to authorize the First Selectman to sign 2007 Public Health Per Capita Funding Application for \$6,624.80.

7. Approve Interdepartmental Transfers.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to approve Interdepartmental Transfers as attached to minutes.

8. Authorize First Selectman to sign Jensen's Fund Grant Award.

Recreation Director S. Schein presented the request. This is a very successful program. At least \$30,000 worth of playground equipment will be put in by a group of volunteers, with the assistance of the Town Crew, on May 18th and 19th.

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Jensen's Fund Grant Award.

F. OLD BUSINESS

1. Accept Robertson Road and Kelly Lane as Town Roads -Tabled
Left tabled.

2. Discussion Job-Description Human Services Director.

S. Salvatore questioned why the job description that was posted on the web site is different than the one that the Board of Selectmen approved at the previous meeting? It appeared to Ms. Salvatore that the qualification sections that she questioned and was assured by the Human Resources Director that the Labor Attorney approved were changed. First Selectman Beaulieu stated that he would look into the matter.

3. Update on Woodside Intermediate School fields.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding the presentations given by the Chairman of the School Building Committee and a member of Inland Wetlands at previous month's meetings regarding the on-going drainage issues at the Woodside Intermediate School and who is responsible for the type of irrigation system that was installed. The consensus of the board was that the School Building Committee and

the Inland Wetlands Agency should discuss the issue. Some members were of the opinion that the town should not have to pay to have the drainage issues fixed. The First Selectman pointed out that recovery of these costs could require legal expense far in excess of costs recovered.

F1. EXECUTIVE SESSION (moved before D. Staff Reports)

1. Pending Litigation

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to adjourn to Executive Session for the purpose of Pending Litigation at 7:45 p.m. Tax Collector S. Ramsay, Finance Director M. Sylvester, Attorney J. Watts and all Board of Finance members present were invited into Executive Session.

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to come out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

No action taken

G. NEW BUSINESS

1. Authorize First Selectman to sign MOU with Connecticut Innovations Inc. as administrator of Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Task Force.

First Selectman Beaulieu stated that since the Town will be the holder of the grant funds he recommends that the Finance Director provide guidelines to the Clean Energy Fund Task Force member who is designated treasurer.

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to authorize the First Selectman to sign MOU with Connecticut Innovations Inc. as administrator of Connecticut Clean Energy Fund Task Force.

1a. Adopt Resolution as follows:

That the Town of Cromwell establish the Cromwell Clean Energy & Conservation Task Force composed of a group of citizen volunteers of unspecified number for the purpose of participating in the Community Innovations Grant Program as sanctioned by the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. The stated purpose of the Cromwell Clean Energy & Conservation Task Force is to support local public awareness and education projects that promote clean renewable energy in accordance with the guidelines of the Community Innovations Grant Program.

2. Various Issues (discussed during Good & Welfare)

H. RESIGNATIONS

None

I. APPOINTMENTS

None

J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting, April 11, 2007

Motion made by S. Stachura seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried*

to approve the minutes of April 11, 2007.

K. SELECTMEN COMMISSION REPORTS

F. Monnes – Park & Recreation

S. Salvatore –Board of Education

M. Johnson –Planning and Zoning

S. Stachura –Zoning Board of Appeals, Inland Wetlands

P. Beaulieu –Inland Wetlands

R. Newton - Spoke regarding CWPCA issues

A. Waters –Economic Development, Historical Society and P&Z

L. GOOD AND WELFARE

M. Johnson – Spoke about Exit 18 off of Route 9

S. Stachura –Spoke about putting up welcome to Cromwell Signs.

P. Beaulieu –

- Advised the board that a grant was awarded to Senior Transportation Program.
- Encouraged members of the board to vote in the May 15th Referendum. New voting machines will not be used for this referendum.
- New Voting Machines are in and will be available for demos shortly.
- Advised that he is sending out a letter that is signed by the Code Enforcement Officer, the Chairman of P&Z and the Chairman of I/W and himself asking developers and contractors working in Cromwell to be good neighbors while working in the Town of Cromwell.
- A group of volunteers will be planting flowers, spreading mulch and cleaning up the River Landing area on May 19th.

R. Newton – Will advise the CWPCA that they will need to represent themselves in collecting any money owed to them from 14 Alcap Ridge.

A. Waters

- Questioned why a certain member of staff did not attend the Inland Wetlands meeting.
- Advised that he heard that Pepsi-Cola might be looking at bringing a big bottling plant to Cromwell since the residents of Rocky Hill do not want it. The project has been placed on hold for the moment.
- Bothers Auto Body has been approved for a three-lot subdivision in Progress Park.

- A developer may be interested in putting an office condo building at 540 Main Street (former Sav-Mor Market).
- Cromwell High School students did a fabulous job stripping old paint and repainting the kitchen at the Historical Society.
- Approximately 25 High School Students and their families had their Prom pictures taken at the Historical Society.

M. ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by R. Newton seconded by S. Stachura and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Re Matus
Secretary

Paul C. Beaulieu
First Selectman