

**TOWN OF CROMWELL  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2008  
7:10 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 224/5**

**MINUTES**

Present: First Selectman J. Shingleton, Deputy First Selectman F. Monnes, R. Newton, A. Waters, D. Murphy, R. Waters, M. Johnson

Absent:

Also Present: Director of Finance M. Sylvester, Director of Human Resources T. Roohr, Director of Recreation S. Schein, Assessor S. O'Neil, Tax Collector S. Ramsay, Parks Improvement Committee Chairman J. Schmaltz, public and press.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Shingleton called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by M. Johnson and *unanimously carried* to approve the agenda as posted.

**C. FIRST SELECTMAN'S REPORT**

First Selectman Shingleton provided an update on the following:

- Focus this month has been primarily on Financial Management and Economic Development.
  - Meeting with property owners and businesses from area towns to fill vacancies both in the downtown area and 372.
  - Continuing involvement with Regional planning organizations such as Middlesex County Revitalization Commission and the CT River Valley Elected Officials to develop regional strategies for Economic Development.
  - Continued the push on marketing Cromwell – Town participated in the Middlesex Expo that was held at the Crowne Plaza at the end of last month.
  - A new non-political TV Show was started on Comcast, the purpose is to highlight progress in Cromwell and to promote the town as a great place to live and do business.
  - Working on a marketing plan for print and on-line advertising and working to revamp the web-site.
  - The New England Real-Estate Journal is doing a front-page feature story on the Town of Cromwell and all the projects that we have.
  - Working to promote new development in town with key developers to try and push forward projects that have been on the back burner; primarily office buildings that would bring jobs to town.

- Met with the State and Sysco to get things back on track. They have a verbal agreement to acquire land to widen the land to the transfer station and make it a town road.
- Met with the DECD to address issues with the 2006 Steap Grant. The project was separated to two phases, the West side of Route 3 and the East side of Route 3. The east side of Route 3 is where they found the problems with Farmland Preservation.
- Downtown Community Art Center will be discussed during tonight's meeting.
- Working on a 30 year plan with the Finance Director.
- In the late stages of Union Negotiations.

#### **D. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

1. Mertie Terry, Main Street –Opposed to the Downtown Community Center at this time due to the poor economy.
2. John Fleck, 12 River Park Drive – Inquired when the poor condition of Nooks Hill Road would be addressed.
3. Pete Keithan, Iron Gate Lane – Spoke about residents putting leaves in the street.
4. Helen Zelewski, Geer Street –Spoke regarding foul odors coming from the Mattabassett Plant.

#### **E. FINANCIAL**

1. Budget Report

Finance Director Sylvester presented the budget report.

2. Tax Refunds as attached to agenda.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to approve Tax Refunds 1-11.

3. Approve request for Building Permit fee waiver from Cromwell Fire District.

**Motion** made by D. Murphy seconded by M. Johnson and *unanimously carried* to approve Building Permit fee waiver for Cromwell Fire District Court Street Project. Discussion followed regarding the process for waiving building fees. The consensus of the board was to permit the First Selectman to waive building fees up to \$1,000 for town projects.

#### **F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action on a service contract for a pending retiree. –Tabled

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to remove from table.  
**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to drop this item.

2. Approve Congress Drive as a Town Road. –Tabled

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to remove from table.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to accept Congress Drive as a Town Road.

3. Discussion and possible approval of open space POCD amendment.-Tabled  
**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to remove from table.

Assessor S. O'Neil presented a spread sheet to the board explaining the different available options. Ms. O'Neil advised the board that if approved this would not become effective until the 10/1/09 Grand List and would be reflected on the 7/2010 tax bills.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve for discussion.

Lengthy discussion followed.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by J. Shingleton and *carried* to approve the POCD amendment and accept at the 4 acre interval.

Aye: A. Waters, R. Newton, J. Shingleton, F. Monnes, D. Murphy, R. Waters  
Abstained: M. Johnson

#### **G. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Update from Parks Improvement Committee.

Chairman J. Schmaltz presented the update to the board.

2. Presentation from Ethics Commission

Item will be presented at the December meeting.

3. Ratify Phone Poll Vote to reduce the scope of work pertaining to site improvements, the CMS portable walkway and the playscape as funds allow.  
a. Authorize First Selectman to sign contract for video surveillance and office renovations at the three schools. (Aye: A. Waters, R. Newton, D. Murphy, F. Monnes; did not respond R. Waters, M. Johnson).

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by D. Murphy and *unanimously carried* to ratify the phone poll vote to reduce the scope of work pertaining to site improvements, the CMS portable walkway and playscape as funds allow and to authorize the First Selectman to sign contract for video surveillance and office renovations at the three schools.

4. Set time and dates for 2009 Board of Selectmen Meetings.

**Motion** made by M. Johnson seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to set the Board of Selectmen Meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 7:10 p.m and a second meeting the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 if necessary.

5. Approve Memorandum of Understanding that the Farmland Preservation Committee will be comprised of the members of the Conservation Commission.

**Motion** made by F. Monnes seconded by M. Johnson and *unanimously carried* to approve Memorandum of Understanding that the Farmland Preservation Committee will be comprised of the members of the Conservation Commission.

6. Discussion and possible action regarding Downtown Community Center.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve for the purpose of discussion.

First Selectman Shingleton presented the possibility of the town leasing the former McNeil's Pharmacy space to be used as a Community Center.

After a very lengthy discussion Motion made by F. Monnes seconded by R. Newton and *carried to table*.

Aye: R. Newton, J. Shingleton, F. Monnes, M. Johnson

Nay: A. Waters, D. Murphy, R. Waters

*Tabled*

7. Authorize First Selectman to set time and date of Public Hearing for proposed Health Code Changes.

**Motion** made by J. Shingleton seconded by R. Newton to authorize the First Selectman to set time and date of Public Hearing for proposed Health Code Changes.

First Selectman Shingleton requested that the agenda be amended to authorize the First Selectman to set date of Special Town Meeting for the purpose of selling a small parcel of town owned land on North Road, purchasing a strip of land from Sysco and a parcel of land on Main Street as recommended by the Downtown Committee.

The consensus of the board was to deny amending the agenda and schedule a Special Meeting on Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup> so further information can be given to them.

## **H. RESIGNATIONS**

1. Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee
  - a. Thomas Madden

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to accept Mr. Madden's resignation with regret.

## **I. APPOINTMENTS**

1. Municipal Hearing Officer
  - a. Frank Golden
2. Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Committee
  - a. Joseph Garafalo (P&Z Alternate)

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve appointments 1 & 2.

## **J. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Regular Meeting, October 8, 2008

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Water and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of October 8, 2008.

## **K. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. Personnel Matter –Worker's Compensation Matter
  - a. Action if necessary

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. for items K1 and K2.

Finance Director Sylvester and the CIRMA Attorney were invited into Executive Session for item K1. Human Resource Director Roohr was invited into Executive Session for items K1 and K2.

Came out of Executive Session by general consent at 10:23 p.m.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to approve settlement for \$284,974.80.

2. Discussion concerning the 180 day evaluation of a public employee, per 1-200, Section 6a, of the Connecticut General Statutes

No action taken.

#### **L. SELECTMEN COMMISSION REPORTS**

Suspended until the December Meeting.

#### **M. GOOD AND WELFARE**

Suspended until the December Meeting.

#### **N. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** made by D. Murphy seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Re Matus  
Secretary

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Jeremy Shingleton  
First Selectman

### **Tax Refund List**

1. Deborah Thomas -\$19.14
2. VW Credit Leasing -\$142.72
3. Mark Grocki -\$339.58
4. CAB East LLC -\$787.53
5. Peter or Lori Valente -\$78.66
6. Toyota Motor Credit -\$144.39
7. Toyota Motor Credit Corp. -\$102.56
8. Philip Lenox -\$554.70
9. Anita Addair -\$5.79
10. Matthew or Tracie Randazzo - \$56.86
11. Nissan Infiniti LT -\$154.64