

TOWN OF CROMWELL  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
REGULAR MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2009  
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: Chief of Police A. Salvatore, Finance Director M. Sylvester, H/R Director  
T. Roohr, Assessor S. O'Neil, Tax Collector S. Ramsay, Senior Center/Human Services  
Director T. Strong, Director of Developmental Services J. Mazurek, Board of  
Assessment Appeals Chairman T. Connelly, Town Attorney J. Bradley, Public and Press

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectman Shingleton called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion** made by F. Monnes seconded by D. Murphy to approve the agenda.

**Motion** made to amend the agenda by R. Newton seconded by A. Waters to add  
under F. New Business #4. Consideration of the contract with Siegel &  
O'Connor.

**Motion** made by A. Waters to add Personnel issues pertaining to Town Charter as  
far as a full-time First Selectman. First Selectman Shingleton stated that this item  
could be discussed under Good & Welfare.

**Motion** made by A. Waters to add Economic Development Coordinator/Chairman  
Report to New Business. First Selectman Shingleton stated that this will be  
discussed under Staff & Commission Reports that is already on the agenda. The  
EDC Chairman will be able to speak at that time.

Main Motion *carried as amended*.

**C. CITIZENS COMMENTS**

1. J. Polke, Harrison Drive -Spoke regarding Willowbrook Road.
2. J. Whitney, Nooks Hill Road -Spoke regarding 2b.
3. K. Acker, West Street-Spoke regarding the Main Street Project.
4. H. Zalewski, Geer Street-Spoke regarding several topics.
5. J. Flanders, Washington Road-Spoke about the Washington Street Sidewalk  
Project.
6. B. Cota, Washington Road - Spoke about the Washington Street Sidewalk  
Project.
7. J. Hartnett, Washington Road - Spoke about the Washington Street Sidewalk  
Project.

## D. Staff & Commission Reports

### 1. Developmental Services

Director of Developmental Services J. Mazurek presented a lengthy report. Planning and Zoning Member A. Halibozek provided information regarding the wall in back of the new Liberty Bank location in Cobblestone Plaza. Economic Development Chairman R. Nobile spoke regarding Economic Development issues. A spirited discussion followed.

### 2. Tax Assessor/Collection

Assessor S. O'Neil and BAA Chairman T. Connell were available to answer the boards' questions.

#### a. Policy Discussion

**Motion** made by J. Shingleton seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* that it shall be the policy of the Board of Selectmen to preserve tax exemption status of full time active duty military personnel.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by D. Murphy to approve the policy that decisions of the Board of Assessment Appeals shall not be overturned until next revaluation unless exemption is granted by Board of Selectmen unless new building permit is obtained for an addition to the property.

After discussion the *motion was withdrawn*.

Discussion continued.

**Motion** made by J. Shingleton seconded by R. Waters and *carried* to approve policy that decisions made by the Board of Assessment Appeals shall not be overturned until the next revaluation unless there is a clerical error or an addition or deletion to the property without obtaining approval by the Board of Selectmen.

After a lengthy discussion F. Monnes called the question.

Aye: A. Waters, J. Shingleton, R. Waters, M. Johnson

Nay: R. Newton, F. Monnes, D. Murphy

*Motion carried.*

Tax Collector Ramsay declined to discuss Tax Office policies at this meeting. A spirited exchange followed.

b. Authorize First Selectman to set date for Public Hearing on Farm Land Ordinance.

Motion made by F. Monnes seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* authorize the First Selectman to set date for Public Hearing on Farm Land Ordinance.

3. Code of Ethics Sub-Committee

a. Presentation from sub-committee.

Chairman R. Coughlin, members D. Meerbach and M. Ruske presented the Code of Ethics Draft to the board.

A short discussion followed.

b. Authorize First Selectman to set date for Public Hearing.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to authorize First Selectman to set date for Public Hearing on Code of Ethics.

E. FINANCIAL

1. Tax Refunds

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to approve tax refunds 1-3.

2. Appropriate \$38,280 within the Sidewalk Fund for continuation of sidewalks along Washington Road. (Previous appropriation lapsed July 1, 2008.)

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to approve appropriating \$38,280 within the Sidewalk Fund for continuation of sidewalks along Washington Road contingent upon completion of survey to identify property lines.

3. Appropriate the remaining balance of \$34,030 within the Sidewalk Fund for miscellaneous sidewalk repairs. (Previous appropriation lapsed July 1, 2008.)

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by F. Monnes and *carried* to appropriate the remaining balance of \$34,030 within the Sidewalk Fund for miscellaneous sidewalk repairs.

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

Nay: R. Waters

Motion carries.

4. Approve awarding the Sidewalk project to T & S Caminito with the low bid of \$38,280.

Motion made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to approve awarding the Sidewalk project to T & S Caminito with the low bid of \$38,280.

5. Appropriate \$7,500 within the CNR fund for the purpose of pre-funding 25% of the CT Local Justice Assistance Grant.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by R. Newton and *unanimously carried* to appropriate \$7,500 within the CNR fund for the purpose of pre-funding 25% of the CT Local Justice Assistance Grant.

#### **F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and action on Local Tax Abatement Program appeals.

**Motion** made by A. Waters seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to approve as recommended by Senior Center/Human Services Director T. Strong.

2. Discussion of loss of staff in the Town Clerk's Office at the request of the Town Clerk.

Town Clerk D. DiProto and Assessor S. O'Neil presented the request.

A lengthy discussion followed.

**Motion** made by R. Newton seconded by R. Waters and *carried* to authorize Shawna O'Neil to hire a full-time position for Assessor's Office and restore Joan Ahlquist full-time back in Town Clerk's Office and approve supplemental appropriation of \$40,000.

Aye: A. Waters, R. Newton, D. Murphy, R. Waters, M. Johnson

Nay: J. Shingleton

Abstained: F. Monnes

3. Acceptance of Spur Road in Newbury Estates by the Town of Cromwell.

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

4. Consideration of the contract with Siegel & O'Connor.

First Selectman Shingleton stated for the record that Attorney Plumb no longer works for the town.

#### **G. MINUTES**

1. Regular Meeting June 10, 2009

2. Special Meeting June 30, 2009

**Motion** made by F. Monnes seconded by A. Waters and *unanimously carried* to approve the minutes of June 10<sup>th</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>.

#### **H. GOOD & WELFARE**

The topic of a full-time First Selectman was discussed in length. First Selectman Shingleton stated that his until his term expires in November; he will continue to be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by phone and email.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by J. Shingleton seconded by F. Monnes and *unanimously carried* to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

***Re Matus***

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Re Matus  
Secretary

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Jeremy Shingleton  
First Selectman

**Tax Refund List**

1. Barbara Cota -\$727.42
2. SAAB Leasing -\$139.75
3. DCFS Trust -\$159.02