

**Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday January 9, 2008  
7:00 PM  
Court Room  
Revised**

**1. Call to order**

Meeting brought to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 7:00 PM. Present were Selectmen Edward Meadows and Kevin Generous. Also present: Eric and Rebecca Reyer, Joseph Osowski, Patricia Olson, Christian Mueller Carmella Turner, Bob Tardif, Stan Walczyk, Randy Wilkinson, Noreen Foley, Mike Smith, Reggie Patchell, Linda Puetz, Tom Williams and Gerry Meadows.

**2. Review and act on minutes of December 12, 2007**

- Motion made by K. Generous, second by E. Meadows to accept the minutes of 12/12/07. Unanimously voted.

**3. Act on Resolution: Authorizing First Selectman to enter into agreement and sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Sprague a certain contract with the State of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection for Recreational Trails.**

- Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to adopt the Resolution authorizing first Selectman to enter into agreement and sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Sprague a certain contract with the Stat of Connecticut, Department of Environmental Protection. Unanimously voted.

**4. Act on appointment as alternate for the Planning and Zoning Commission – Mick Collins**

- Motion made by C. Osten, seconded by K. Generous to appoint Mike Collins as alternated to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mick has served two years and has done a great job. Unanimously voted.

**5. Discuss and possibly act on policy for using the Town's Bank Account Tax I.D. Number**

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to discuss.

Town requires three signatures on General Fund and Capital Non-recurring account  
Additional accounts with two signatures are: 2 account Library, 2 accounts Senior Smilers, 1 account Parks and Recreation, 1 account Softball League, 1 account Garden Club. Currently there is no policy in place for previous accounts using two signatures.

- Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by C. Osten to send draft policy for comment and suggestions to the Board of Finance. Unanimously voted.

**Draft Policy for using Bank Account Tax I.D. Number**

The Town of Sprague requires three signatures on all checks written on the General Fund and Capital Non-recurring accounts. The following will apply for all other accounts.

The Town of Sprague requires two signatures on all bank accounts using the tax I.D. number for withdrawals and checks written. The Town of Sprague understands bank policies may differ. If the case is that the bank's policy is stricter, then we will follow said policy. Effective date of this policy is immediately following acceptance from the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance. One of the signatures will be either the First Selectman's or the Treasurer's.

**6. Discuss and possibly act on the results of the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen regarding the Recreation Committee salaries.**

- Motion made by C. Osten to pay the summer recreation employees but states this should have been handled under the previous administration.
- Motion made by K. Generous seconded by C. Osten to rescind the November 14, 2007 Board of Selectmen's decision regarding the summer recreation salaries.
- Motion made by C. Osten, seconded by E. Meadows the Town will reimburse approximately \$700 to \$800 to summer recreation employees; time sheets need to be formalized before correct amount to be reimbursed. E. Meadows stated that the employees should have been paid out after the budget passed back in September. Unanimously voted.

### **7. Discuss and possibly act on petition**

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to discuss and possibly act on petition. Petition was submitted to Town Clerk with 89 signatures asking for the Board of Selectmen to request the Board of Finance to take such action as is necessary to restore \$22,500 to line item 6060.

K. Generous would like to clarify the petition; stating the petition doesn't address the entire question; wording is vague and states people did not know what they were voting for.

C. Osten – Petition is appropriate reviewed by Town Attorney.

Town has received approx. \$2,000,000 in grant money; \$888,000 pending; researching another \$1,000,000. Clear indication why we should reinstate the \$22,500 and explain to the public. The Town needs the Grant Writer in order to receive these funds.

K. Generous states were trying to reverse the results of a 5-month budget process. C. Osten states that this happens in many towns; money is taken out and then allocated back in for a reasonable purpose.

K. Generous suggested tabling; C. Osten does not agree stating the Town will be paying unemployment at approx 22,500 and would rather pay her than pay unemployment; makes no fiscal sense. We need to address the issues that have financial impact on the Town.

C. Osten says this should be forwarded to the Board of Finance as signed by 89 people; the Town has an obligation to support these signatures, forward to the Board of Finance and ask for a Special Town Meeting.

K. Generous states the Town made a decision to cut the Grant Writer and has nothing to do with loosing 1.5 million applied for.

Motion made by K. Generous to table the petition and send to legal counsel. He submitted to the Board a list of questions for Town Counsel to be addressed.

E. Meadows stated that the people who signed this petition should have the right to vote on this at a town meeting. Says we should let the people speak.

- Motion made by C. Osten to authorize the First Selectman to forward the request of \$22,500 to the Board of Finance. C. Osten and E. Meadows yes, K. Generous no.
- Motion made by C. Osten to authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting pending on the Board of Finance's review. C. Osten and E. Meadows yes, K. Generous no

### **8. Act on appointment for Stan Walcyk to the Sprague Economic Development Commission.**

- Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to appoint Stan Walczyk to the Sprague Economic Development Commission. Stan is very capable and he will be a benefit to the Town. Unanimously voted.

### **9. Review Code of Ethics**

Tabled until next meeting.

## **10. Selectman's report**

1. Grants update - Penny Newbury submitted a list to the Board of grants applied, approved and pending.
2. Overtime – Storms; Town Aid money will be used if budget over exceeds the overtime line item; last two storms were significant
3. Assessor's Report- requested a monthly report; next revaluation in 2009 money put in capital each year.
4. Senior Director's Report- requested a monthly report; Senior Coordinator is very active in revamping and meeting all seniors
5. Trooper's Report – requested a monthly report; Selectmen agree that the Trooper include in his report the call type and receive this report on regular basis.
6. 08/09 Capital Projects – elevator Grist Mill, ADA Compliance 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor reapply for funding and allow library to expand to the second floor. Roadway management 4 major roads that need attention. Parkwood Road drainage over \$200,000 and \$150,000 paving. Main Street Hanover paving. Pinecrest lane significant drainage problem; need Engineer, Pautipaug Hill Rd. 1 truck 20 years old; needs addressing, replace vault door in Town Clerk's Office approx. \$5,000.
7. Baltic Fire Dept. – Retaining Wall is shifting since Providence and Worcester reactivated the line. Engineer will inspect, letter will notify Providence and Worcester.
8. Secretary of State - tribute to World War Veterans in Town.
9. The Selectmen will need to go into executive session re: litigation.

## **11. Public comment**

Stan Walczyk – All budget sessions requested a true cost analysis of the Grant Writer. He states if Town Meeting is held all information should be given to the public.

Gerry Meadows – asking who makes the decision for a town meeting or referendum.

Pat Olson – asked if the Town pays the fuel for the all terrain vehicle used by the State Trooper. C. Osten stated it would be paid by the State

Joe Osowski – liability insurance all terrain vehicles. Unemployment cost for Grant Writer. Agrees with Town holding referendum. Requesting more coverage by State Trooper on Main Street Baltic.

Moved to go into executive session to discuss litigation at 8:45PM

## **12. Adjournment**

Adjourned in executive session at 9:15PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine A. Osten  
First Selectman