

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
January 14, 2009
5:30 PM
Town Hall**

1. Call to order

Meeting brought to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 5:30PM. Present were Selectmen Edward Meadows and Kevin Generous. Also present: Claire Glaude, Linda Puetz, Keith Laliberte, Richard Douville, Denise Lance, Pat Deslandes, Peter Silvestri, Gerry Meadows, Sue Zimmerman, Kord Jablonski and Glenn Cheney.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Lead by C. Osten

3. Review and act on minutes of December 15, 2008

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to approve the minutes of 12/15/08. Unanimously voted.

4. Act on request for tax refund of overpayment of taxes

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to accept the tax refund of overpayment for Manuel Meneses Jr. \$538.95. Unanimously voted.

5. Act on appointment to the Sprague Water & Sewer Authority

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to appoint Walter Treat to the Sprague Water & Sewer Authority. Unanimously voted.

6. Act on Fair Housing Resolution

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to re-adopt the Fair Housing Resolution. Unanimously voted.

**TOWN OF SPRAGUE
FAIR HOUSING RESOLUTION**

Whereas, All American citizens are afforded a right to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice; and

Whereas, State and Federal Fair Housing laws require that all individuals, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, lawful source of income, sexual orientation, familial status, be given equal access to rental and homeownership opportunities, and be allowed to make free choices regarding housing location; and

Whereas, The **Town of Sprague** is committed to upholding these laws, and realizes that these laws must be supplemented by an Affirmative Statement publicly endorsing the right of all people to full and equal housing opportunities in the neighborhood of their choice.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the **Town of Sprague** hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase and obtain Financing for adequate housing of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis: and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the First Selectwoman, of the Town of Sprague or his/her designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practices in the Town of Sprague.

Re-adopted by the Town of Sprague on January 14, 2009

Ms. Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman

7. Act on Fair Housing Policy

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to re-adopt the Fair Housing Policy. Unanimously voted.

Fair Housing Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Town of Sprague to promote fair housing opportunities and to encourage racial and economic integration in all its programs and housing development activities.

Programs funded and administered by the Town of Sprague must comply with the provisions of Section 46a-64c of the C.G.S., and with related state and federal laws and regulations that prohibit discriminatory housing practices.

The Town of Sprague or any Subrecipient of the Town will carry out an affirmative marketing program to attract prospective buyers or tenants of all majority or minority groups, without consideration of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, creed, sexual orientation, marital status, lawful source of income, disability, age or because the individual has children in all programs and housing development activities funded or administered by the Town of Sprague.

The municipality's First Selectman's Office is responsible for the enforcement and implementation of this policy. The First Selectman may be reached at 860-822-3000x 202.

Complaints pertaining to discrimination in any program funded or administered by the Town of Sprague may be filed with the First Selectman's Office. The municipality's Grievance Procedure will be utilized in these cases.

Complaints also may be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunity, Special Enforcement Unit, 21 Grand Street, Hartford, CT 06106, Telephone (860) 541-3403.

A copy of this policy statement will be given annually to all Town employees and they are expected to fully comply with it. In addition, a copy will be posted throughout the Town.

Revised: January 14, 2009
Date

January 14, 2009
Date

Ms. Catherine A. Osten, First Selectwoman

8. Re-adopt the Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to re-adopt the Title VI Equal Opportunity Statement. Unanimously voted.

COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

The **Town of Sprague** does not discriminate in the provision of services, the administration of its program, or contractual agreements. The **Town of Sprague** seeks to fully carry out its responsibilities under the Title VI Regulations.

Title VI of the Civil rights Act of 1964 prohibits discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Title VI provides that "No person shall on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program" covered by the Regulations.

This policy is effectuated through the methods of administration outlined in the Town of Sprague Fair Housing Plan and is fully implemented to ensure compliance by the Town of Sprague as the recipient, and by subrecipients. The cooperation of all Town of Sprague personnel is required.

Ms. Catherine A. Osten, First Selectwoman

January 14, 2009
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9. Discussion on Solar Energy Power

Presentation by Peter Silvestri: A comparison was made between two systems (Solar Rights and Mystic Solar and the present cost from CL&P.

- Goal – to keep our cost static; maintain the cost level in the Town Hall Building
- In order to receive monies from the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund, a Pre-application incentive form will be submitted to the State of Connecticut. Town would lose the opportunity for funding if application is not completed.

- Board met with Solar Rights at their November 24, 2008 meeting and would like to invite Mystic Solar to their next meeting scheduled for February 11, 2009

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to add agenda item 9a.
Unanimously voted.

9a. Review Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for fiscal year 2009/2010

- Roadway management overlay -\$400,000 drainage & overlay Parkwood Rd. and drainage on Hanover Versailles, and Potash Hill road.
- Chip seal 2 miles - \$36,000 Baltic Hanover Rd, Main St. Hanover, Spruce, Mission and Wendy Dr.
- Landscaping tree replacement - \$2,000
- Equipment Brush Hog - \$75,000 for open space, reservoir, Mukluk, river park, ball fields.
- Revaluation- \$15,000
- Replacement of 1987 wood chipper - \$25,000
- Replacement of 2000 550 Ford Mason - \$85,000
- Digital recording system- \$5,000
- ADA upgrade- \$55,000 grist mill elevator installation, sprinkler installation, upgrade restrooms and town hall
- Defibullators (4) - \$6,984
- Ribbon Rail – 6,300 Main St. Hanover, Riverside Dr., Baltic Hanover Rd., Salt Rock Rd.
- Doors around Town Building- \$5,076
- Replacement roadside mower John Deere 6110 w/almo mower - \$80,000
- Dry hydrants- \$2,000
- Replacement plow on Ford L8000 - \$7,255.00
- Blanchette Field Concession Stand/bathroom - \$55,270
- Blanchette Field Grills - \$1,000
- Records storage center vault - \$50,000
- Wide format map machine- \$13,000
- Mailing system - \$3,000
- Blanchette field grills- little league area
- Computer stations senior center
- Fencing protection at little league

CIP proposals will be submitted to the Board of Finance for review. C. Osten's recommendation is continuing the maintenance of roads.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to add agenda item #9b.
Unanimously voted.

9b. Discuss and possibly act on new policy for the Grist Mill Meeting room

Draft rules submitted by Town Attorney. Board requested more time to review and is tabled until next month.

Motion made by K. Generous, seconded by E. Meadows to add agenda item 9c.
Unanimously voted.

9c. Review Charter Commission survey.

Richard Douville updated the Board with results from a survey that was sent out to each household.

- Not all surveys have been returned but will accept regardless of the deadline date. Final results will be published in Our Town

10. Discuss and possibly act on adoption of tax exemption for farm buildings

Tabled until next month.

11. Discuss the development of a blight ordinance

Tabled until next month.

12. Discuss recording system for the Town of Sprague Boards and Commissions

C. Osten recommendation: submit the recording system as a capital project. Also recommends adopting an ordinance re: recording of meetings by all Boards and Chairmen; and a policy stating that using the machines should be done by everyone. C. Osten to contact all Board and Commissions for their input.

13. Selectman's report

State Trooper's report - reviewed.

Assessor - grand list completed by the end of January.

Governor Rell – presented budget; impact on Sprague

Stimulus package – small towns will need assistance as well – to speak at Capitol.

Motion offered by K. Generous: A Motion that, at all its Board meetings, all substantive matters discussed by Selectman on matters of town policy and town expenditures that are raised and discussed by any selectman be included in the written meeting minutes of record. C. Osten needs time to review motion. Tabled.

14. Public comment

K. Laliberte – questioned the over production solar energy. C. Osten asked K. Laliberte to submit his questions.

k. Jablonski- compliments presentation by P. Silvestri. In favor of signing on with a Solar Power Company that does business in the USA.

L. Putez – will be submitting Charter Commission survey to the town. In favor of Solar Energy. Stated a comprehensive plan should be in place if the Town wants funding from Congress.

15. Adjournment

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous. Unanimously voted.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine A. Osten
First Selectman