

**Board of Selectman
Regular Meeting
Wednesday August 26, 2009 (Rescheduled from August 12, 2009)
5:30PM
Court Room
Revised**

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 5:30PM. Present were Selectmen Edward Meadows and Kevin Generous. Also present: Peter Silvestri, Gerry Meadows, Glenn Cheney, Denise Lance, Stan Simms Stan Walczyk, Sue Zimmerman and Charles Edenbum Norwich Bulletin

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by C. Osten

3. Review and act on minutes of July 8, 2009, July 13, 2009 and July 15, 2009.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by C. Osten to accept the minutes of 7/8/09, 7/13/09 and 7/15/09. Unanimously voted.

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

Motion made E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to accept the request for tax refund of overpayment of taxes for Jennifer Geragotelis \$46.35, Theresa or Carl Sadosky \$8.12, Douglas Tiffany \$11.44, Katharine Lemire \$30.00. Unanimously voted.

5. Discussion and possible action on Solar Energy.

Peter Silvestri presented the Board with a Solar System Project cost justification sheet. It showed calculations figuring if the Town did nothing or if the Town installed the Solar System reflecting the cost to the Town after 20 years. Calculations were based on a 5 percent increase. If we did nothing the total cost after 20 years would be \$418,288. And if we installed the Solar System, the total cost after 20 years would be \$386,753. CL&P has recommended SolarWrights as a good company.

C. Osten suggested that the Board accept SolarWrights as the solar company for this project and at next month's discuss the money portion with a more extensive concept; this approval from the Board would bring the Town one step closer to getting funds from CCEF and USDA to help offset the project. Mystic Solar had no installations. Solartek was over in cost and the last company did not submit a proposal. Hold a Special Town Meeting with all the components.

E. Meadows and K. Generous would like to talk to references who have hired SolarWrights.

K. Generous had concerns on writing assumptions on repairs, replacement cost and roof maintenance costs, he would like to see a committee set up for this; states the analysis so thin and does not support this; needs to be addressed before commitment. He is not convinced that this is a good business for the Town.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by C. Osten to contact SolarWrights as the preferred company for solar energy for the Town. K. Generous opposed.

6. Discuss and possibly act on adoption of an ordinance on tax exemption for farm equipment and buildings.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by C. Osten to adopt an ordinance on tax exemption for farm equipment and buildings and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting. Discussion: Impact on Town would probably be under \$10,000 in total which currently includes two farmers. K. Generous would like to see the figures in writing; to be available at the Special Town Meeting. Unanimously voted.

7. Discuss the updated Employee Handbook

Board discussed updated handbook.

8. Authorize the First Selectman to go to the Board of Finance for an appropriation of \$150,000 to fix the damages on Hanover Versailles Road/Pearl Street and to call a Special Town Meeting for said appropriation.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by C. Osten to authorize the First Selectman to go to the Board of Finance for an appropriation of \$150,000 to fix the damages on Hanover Versailles Road/Pearl Street and to call a Special Town meeting for said appropriation. Discussion: K. Generous asked where the funds are coming from. C. Osten stated Town finances. He also asked why this was not in this year's budget. C. Osten stated damage happened this spring. If not approved, this will be one of the first projects in next year's Capital Budget. K. Generous opposed.

9. Authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting for Parkwood Road drainage easement - John and Diane Dunn.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting for Parkwood Road drainage easement – John and Diane Dunn. Unanimously voted.

10. Authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting for Parkwood Road drainage easement – Glenn and Solange Cheney.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting for Parkwood Road drainage easement – Glenn and Solange Cheney. Unanimously voted.

11. Adopt resolution authorizing First Selectman to execute on behalf of the municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

This is a targeted grant. There is no match; town will be receiving \$5,000.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by C. Osten to adopt the resolution authorizing the First Selectman to execute on behalf of the municipality a contract with Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant. Unanimously voted.

RESOLUTION

HISTORIC DOCUMENTS PRESERVATION GRANT

RESOLVED: That Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

12. Act on accepting a resolution for a USDA agreement for the renovations to the Grist Mill/Library and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to accept the resolution for a USDA agreement for the renovations to the Grist Mill/Library and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate. Unanimously voted.

Used for USDA – Grist Mill/Library

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of this Association be and it hereby is authorized and empowered to take all action necessary or appropriate –

1. To obtain for and on behalf of the Association through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or any other Governmental agency:
 - (a) A loan in a sum not to exceed \$ _____;
 - (b) A grant in a sum not to exceed \$90,000.00 _____;To be advanced by the lender or grantor in one or more advances at such time or times as may be agreed upon.
2. In case of a loan or grant or both -
 - (a) For the execution of such application or applications (including exhibits, amendments and/or supplements thereto) as may be required;
 - (b) For the execution and delivery to the lender or grantor of all such written instruments as may be required in regard to or as evidence of such loan or grant; and
 - (c) In its judgment to carry out the terms of this resolution.
3. And in case of a loan -
 - (a) To obligate this Association for the repayment of the loan at such rates of interest and on Such other terms and conditions as the Governing Board shall deem proper;
 - (b) To pledge, hypothecate, mortgage, convey, or assign property of this Association of any Kind and in any amount now owned or hereafter acquired, as security for any or all Obligations (past, present and/or future) of this Association to such lender; and
 - (c) From time to time to pay, extend, or renew any such obligations.

13. Act on Proclamation resolution recognizing September as Leukemia & Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month.

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to accept the resolution recognizing September as Leukemia & Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month. Unanimously voted.

Resolution Recognizing September as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month

WHEREAS, blood cancers currently afflict more than 894,543 Americans with an estimated 138,530 new cases diagnosed each year, and

WHEREAS, leukemia, lymphoma and myeloma will kill an estimated 52,910 people in the United States this year, and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, through voluntary contributions, is dedicated to finding cures for these diseases through research efforts and the support for those that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society maintains offices in Fairfield County and Meriden, Connecticut to support patients with these diseases and their family members in the Town of Sprague, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Sprague is similarly committed to the eradication of these diseases and supports the treatment of its citizens that suffer from them, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Sprague encourages private efforts to enhance research funding and education programs that address these diseases,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Sprague joins with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in designating the month of September 2008 as Leukemia, Lymphoma & Myeloma Awareness Month to enhance the understanding of blood related cancers and to encourage participation in voluntary activities to support education programs and the funding of research programs to find a cure for them.

14. Discuss Federal Flood Program

FEMA is updating the current perimeters for all towns. Sprague will post the preliminary maps so that residents can distinguish if their property is going into the floodplain on the new maps. Changing flood zones will impact some houses that were not currently in the flood zone. A Public Hearing will be scheduled.

15. Selectman's report

- Riverside Drive fence, owned by Cascade – repairs made to fence areas.
- Ordinances on website – all ordinance will be put on the Town's website
- 3 way stop signs on Pearl St. /Main St. Hanover – Signs will be posted to alert residents when this will occur. Speed issue.
- 4 way stop signs at the intersection of Main St. Hanover, Potash Hill and Salt Rock Rd. - Signs will be installed.
- CT Flu Watch – one case of H1N1 in Sprague.
- CCM – Municipal Aid Payments Schedule – Provided the Board with the State of CT Municipal Aid Payments Schedule.
- Food Services Establishment Closures – Provided information to the Board
- SCCOG – Resolution No. 09-6 (increased slot revenue funding) impact on Municipalities in SE CT – SCCOG passed a resolution relating to increased slot revenue funding for municipalities in SE CT.
- SCRRA – update on single stream – Agreement between Willimantic Wastepaper Co & SCRRA (Southeastern Conn. Regional Resources Recovery Authority); to make a decision by November 1. Each Town will have to decide who they want handling their recycling. Contract to be viewed by Town Council.
- Update on movie – Baltic Mill – soldier 1 sci-fi- movie filmed at headrace at the Baltic Mills. Company located in New London.
- Resident Troopers report provided to the Board
- Probate court proposal – using Norwich, does not impact Sprague at all.
- Mukluk Land Preserve – opening under the Conservation for bow hunting deer. Information distributed to Board members re: how other towns handle this. Town Attorney wrote a permission and release of liability Hunting, Fishing or other recreation participation for the Board to review for discussion at their next meeting in September.
- Sprague Registrars of Voters – poll workers pay. Due to the minimum wage increases, Demonstrators and Tabulator Tenders have been receiving increases. However, Official Checkers, Ballot Clerks and Absentee Counters have not had an increase; looking to change the pay scale that will fit into the budget.

16. Public comment

G. Meadows – Agrees with K. Generous that SolarWrights should come back to the Town so that all specific questions can be asked. C. Osten will invite them back to the next Board of Selectmen’s meeting asking for another presentation. G. Meadows is against deer hunting at the Land Preserve. C. Osten handed out information from DEP with recommendations for managing/thinning out the herds. Hunting is already an approved use in the open space easement for the Land Preserve.

Linda Putez, Friends of the Library – will be discussing a new library with the Library Board. Suggests that the Grist Mill remain a historic building. Suggested Town Hall should purchase computer products from Dell to take advantage of cash back. Wants the Librarian to be the administrator for all computers in the Library. She would like to see Economic Development continue.

17. Adjournment

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to adjourn meeting at 7:00PM. Unanimously voted.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine A. Osten
First Selectman