



# Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
August 23, 2011  
6:30 PM

Downstairs Meeting Room, Town Hall  
28 Main St., Jewett City, CT



## APPROVED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** First Selectman, P. Anthony, called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

**Members Present:** P. Anthony, First Selectman  
Steven Mikutel, Second Selectman

**Also Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
Erik Christensen, Finance Director  
Steve Merchant, Board of Finance Chairman  
Brian Baker, Capital Improvement Committee  
2 interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **August 9, 2011 – Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 9, 2011 as submitted. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence – None**

4. **New Business**

- a. **Discussion and possible action on tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to approve the tax refund as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector, for Mr. Blaine Musser (\$11.24). **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on authorizing the First Selectman to enter into a**

**contract with Community Leasing Partners for capital lease purchase of pumper truck, Public Works dump truck and Board of Education dump truck** – Steve Merchant confirmed for the Board the money for the leasing of these vehicles, \$210,000 is in the budget under the Capital Improvement Fund. P. Anthony confirmed the leasing was discussed at public hearing, by Brian Baker, who gave a presentation on the terms and the pricing. S. Merchant stated the interest rate on the lease has gone down from what was originally figured. S. Merchant commented for S. Mikutel that by leasing the vehicles it cuts the burden to the taxpayer over several years instead of all in one year. S. Mikutel expressed his concern over the items having been cut from the proposed budget. S. Merchant commented the items were originally cut in full purchase and then the Capital Improvement Committee recommended going the lease route and the amounts for the lease were then put into the proposed budget which eventually passed. B. Baker commented that Norwich does participate in the lease purchase agreement and they are very happy with it. S. Mikutel asked what the Town gets at the end of the lease. S. Merchant commented this is a lease purchase, so at the end of the lease, the Town will own the vehicles. B. Baker commented it makes fiscal sense, because it is the responsible thing to do in these hard economic times. The repairs needed to some of the equipment are so expensive and it will not increase the value of the old vehicles, which will ultimately need additional repair. S. Mikutel asked what fire department the pumper truck was for and if it was needed and if it is duplication of the same equipment. S. Merchant stated the pumper truck is for the Jewett City Fire Department, it will replace two fire trucks, it is not duplicated, and confirmed it is needed. S. Mikutel asked where the \$210,000 was coming from for the deposit. Erik Christensen, Finance Director, confirmed it is in the Capital Improvement Budget with the \$150,000 for the fire truck from 2009/2010, \$35,000 from Public Works and \$25,000 from Board of Education. P. Anthony stated concerns of Theresa Madonna, who could not be present tonight. One concern was the vehicles did not go out to bid and he stated he informed her the trucks are part of the state bidding process. S. Merchant confirmed the two dump trucks are priced according to state bid and the pumper will be going out to a competitive bid. Her second concern was the package did not go out to bid to other leasing companies. P. Anthony responded there are few companies that provide leasing of this equipment and he feels the terms being provided by Community Leasing Partners are more than generous. S. Merchant confirmed there are other companies that offer a leasing program, but does not feel there are many that would do both dump trucks and fire trucks under one lease and if so, it would definitely be under their terms. P. Anthony commented he does feel it is a good proposal and it is passed within the budget and feels comfortable moving forward. S. Mikutel also felt it would be unlikely to get a better deal especially since two of the vehicles are already contracted by state bid. S. Merchant commented there is a chance the fire truck may come in under the estimated price. E. Christensen confirmed he spoke to the leasing company today who agreed if the price of the fire truck comes in lower, that price can be changed without effecting the terms. P. Anthony asked E. Christensen to get that in written verification, via e-mail. B. Baker, speaking for himself, commented if the price did come in higher on the fire truck, he would not support it.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to authorize the First Selectman to enter into a contract with Community Leasing Partners for capital lease purchase of pumper truck, Public Works dump truck and Board of Education dump truck in accordance with the letter from the Finance Director outlining the arrangements under option 2 and under four years of lease and the condition that the Finance Director gets the written confirmation from the leasing company that if the price comes in lower, we get the lower price. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- c. **Discussion and possible action on authorization to hire Jim Bellisle of Jewett City as Part Time Seasonal Borough Park Maintainer funded by the Borough** – P. Anthony commented the Borough normal gives \$2500 per year to the Recreation Director for flowers for the parks or events. Since there is nothing happening at the parks soon, R. Aubin has asked if the Borough would allow the money to be used to hire someone to clean the garbage up at the parks as that has been a real problem. S. Mikutel asked for background on Jim Bellisle. It was then discussed tabling the issue as it would be a personnel matter.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to table further discussion and possible action on hiring Jim Bellisle. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**5. Old Business - None**

**6. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony to add to the agenda for discussion, letter from Norman Sylvestre (dated July 30, 2011). **Motion carried unanimously.**

- a. **Discussion of letter from Norman Sylvestre (dated July 30, 2011)** – Mr. Sylvestre commented he is expecting from his letter, a written response to where we are at with the enforcement of the violations. He has no report or timeline on the case that is in court. S. Mikutel commented we do need to provide a written report for Mr. Sylvestre. P. Anthony confirmed that Mr. Sylvestre had met with the Borough Board and the former Warden and had no result. He has also met with the new Warden, Mr. Connelly. It was agreed by Mr. Sylvestre and P. Anthony that Mr. Connelly had mentioned he would request from Mr. Zvingilas, ZEO, an updated written report on all issues, and especially the Aubin property. P. Anthony commented he will work with the Borough Warden to get a written report from the ZEO on the Borough issues as well as the Town issues. Mr. Sylvestre then noted the lawsuit that was pending against himself and Mr. Anthony, where an individual was removed from a town public hearing regarding Sheldon Road, has been dismissed.

**7. Public Forum**

**Norm Higgins** – supported the violation concerns of Mr. Sylvestre and suggested asking the Town attorney to try to expedite the case with the property on Rt. 164 across from the school, and would like to see a written update report. He also commented he feels a service contract is needed to maintain the previously discussed improvements to downtown and that contract should be a budgeted item. He also commented the appearance and safety at the Rt. 164/Pleasant View intersection has been much improved.

**Norm Sylvestre** – expressed his concern about the loud noise the motorcycles are making, especially in the morning. He has mentioned it to the police and they said they would report it to the barracks to monitor it at night. S. Mikutel agreed the noise is excessive and requested the First Selectmen to send a letter to the Sergeant in charge that the motorcycles are making excessive noise and request them to pay particular attention to it and see if the motorcycles have straight pipes on them which is illegal. There is a law for disturbing the peace, a noise state statute that deals with excessive noise or illegal pipes. P Anthony supported that idea and commented the letter will be

sent to the Sergeant who supervises the Resident Troopers and we can copy the Resident Troopers. N. Higgins also commented some of the cars should also be checked into.

**8. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant