



# Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
October 11, 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 6:36 PM

**Members Present:** P. Anthony, First Selectman  
Steven Mikutel, Second Selectman  
Theresa Madonna, Third Selectwoman

**Also Present:** Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant  
4 interested citizens

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **September 13, 2011 - Regular Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 13, 2011 as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence – Peter Zvingilas’ response to Mr. Sylvestre’s July 30, 2011 letter**

The correspondence above was received and discussed briefly. T. Madonna had the following concerns: Item 1 mentioned the discussion on the Aubin property had been tabled by the Board of Warden and Burgesses for the Borough and that is not found in the minutes provided in the response; Item 4 refers to Plainfield Road, Dutch Uncle having storage boxes for several years and his question is how does the Board wish to proceed and I would like to ask him as the Zoning Enforcement Officer how does he wish to proceed; Item 13 question as to the two addresses listed, 411 Voluntown Road (aka 70 Preston Road) in the document provided and would like clarification; also the letter from Branse & Willis dated August 18, 2009 is missing page 2.

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 T. Madonna, to approve the (seven) tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector.

- b. Discussion and possible action on requesting bids for demolition of property located at 411 Voluntown Road** – the Board discussed the use of the two addresses of 411 Voluntown Road and 70 Preston Road and felt that the property must border both roads and thus both addresses are mentioned. However, the property in question is the property on 70 Preston Road. There was continued discussion that a judgment was given by the court that allows us to demolish the property and lien the property for the costs associated in doing so. S. Mikutel’s concern is that we have upfront costs and need to have that money before we can do the demolition. S. Mikutel suggested sending it to the Board of Finance to appropriate the money; however, we need to know the costs. P. Anthony suggested forwarding a letter to Erik Christensen, Finance Director, and have him identify the exact amount in the account available for this purpose and then bring it to the Board of Finance if need be. T. Madonna commented the item is possible action on requesting bids and she suggested we obtain bids first to know how much demolition will cost.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by T. Madonna, to go out to bid for demolition of 70 Preston Road. P. Anthony reminded the Board we only have thirty days to honor any bids received and suggested still getting an amount from the finance director so we have an amount to work with. S. Mikutel mentioned putting in the bid that the Town has the right to reject any and all bids. **The motion on the floor carried unanimously.**

- c. Discussion and possible action to approve the grant proposal for Solar Power External Motion Sensor Lighting to be approved for submission to the Southeastern Regional Action Committee (SERAC)** – P. Anthony commented the Parks and Recreation Department is seeking motion detecting, solar outside lights for around the skate board park. The grant is for \$2400 and has been outlined in the material received and distributed to the Board tonight. The exact items to be purchased with the grant are described in the materials received. S. Mikutel commented he has no problem with the grant, but if the grant is received would like to see a site plan for placing of the lights before they are installed.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by S. Mikutel to approve the Solar Power Motion Sensor Lighting Grant with the condition that if the grant is awarded the Board of Selectmen has to approve a site plan for the lights. T. Madonna seconded the motion but commented in the future she would like to see the complete grant proposal and not just three pages. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- d. Executive Session - Discussion on hiring a Seasonal Park Maintainer**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to enter into Executive Session at 6:50 PM for the purpose of hiring a seasonal park maintainer. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Executive Session ended at 7 PM.

- e. Discussion and possible action on hiring a Seasonal Park Maintainer**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to hire Adam Bessette of Jewett City as a Seasonal Park Maintainer under the supervision of Ryan Aubin and in accordance of Ryan’s memo to us dated October 11, 2011 to be employed for six weeks. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## 5. Old Business

### a. Executive Session – to discuss personnel issue

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to enter into executive session at 7:01 PM for the purpose of discussing a personnel issue. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Executive Session ended at 7:10 and a five minute recess was taken.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel to enter into Executive Session at 7:15 PM to discuss a personnel issue and invite in Lisa Wood. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Executive Session ended at 7:23 PM.

### b. Discussion and possible action on personnel issue – No discussion or action taken.

## 6. Any Other Business that may properly come before the Board - None

## 7. Public Forum

**Norm Sylvestre** – We need to take better action on enforcement of zoning violations. He has not seen much, if any improvement of the noise from motorcycles, between Taylor Hill and Rt. 138, especially at night. S. Mikutel commented a letter did go out from the Board of Selectman to the State Police regarding this issue. T. Madonna commented she has recently seen police parked on Taylor Hill Road. P. Anthony commented noise is monitored by decibel level, which some police have the equipment to check and some don't. He has been told it is a very difficult thing to control and prosecute. S. Mikutel commented there is a state law to monitor noise levels, however, it is not a priority of the enforcement officials. Mr. Sylvestre commented a lady will be calling the First Selectman's Office regarding collection of garbage at a neighbor's house on Williams Street, first house on the left. P. Anthony asked if it has been reported to Mr. Zvingilas or Al Gosselin if it is a health issue. Mr. Sylvestre commented about hedges on Green Ave. in front of one house that are almost as tall as the house and seems to think it would be a safety concern if a fire were to happen. P. Anthony commented unless it is a sight line issue or safety to the public there is nothing we can enforce. Mr. Sylvestre commented we need to restore pride to Jewett City. There is also a residence on Tracy Ave. that has had a truck in the yard with junk and garbage in it for several years and a house boat close to the neighbor's house. This property has been on the list for enforcement for some time and some action needs to be taken.

**Norm Higgins** - Commented since we have an order for demolition on the house at 70 Preston Road, is it possible to have the town at least cut the grass down there. P. Anthony commented, the town cannot cut the grass unless there is a sight line or safety issue.

**8. Adjournment**

**MOTION:** Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

Lisa M. Wood,  
Executive Assistant