



Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
October 25, 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
Theresa Madonna, Third Selectwoman

Also Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
8 interested citizens
1 member of the press

2. **Approval of Minutes**

- a. **October 11, 2011 - Regular Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2011 as presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Correspondence** – Written response from Peter Zvingilas as requested by the Board of Selectmen at the October 11, 2011 Regular Meeting was received by the Board.

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 (four) tax refunds as presented by Rich Grabowski, Tax Collector. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b. **Discussion and possible action on request by Carl Fontneau, Town Planner, to consider using contract services of the GIS Specialist at SCCOG (Liz Crutcher) to assist the Town with several map related tasks**

S. Mikutel commented the letter of explanation from the Town Planner acknowledges that the Planning and Zoning Commission has authorized the appropriation of up to \$7500 to be approved by the Selectmen to update mapping of the POCD. T. Madonna commented the money has been set aside as part of a grant.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by T. Madonna, to authorize the request by the Town Planner, to use town funds up to \$7500 to assist the town with several map related tasks related to the Plan of Conservation and Development. **Motion carried unanimously.**

c. Discussion and possible action on appointment of recommendations to the Open Space Land Acquisition Committee as follows:

Planning & Zoning Commission – Courtland Kinne – 11/1/2011 – 10/31/2013

Planning & Zoning Commission – Gail Rooke Norman – 11/1/2011 – 10-31-2013

(for remainder of her term expiring 11/22/11)

Inland Wetlands, Watercourses & Conservation – Larry Laidley 11/1/2011 – 10/31/2013

Inland Wetlands, Watercourses & Conservation – Gary Serdechny – 11/1/2011 – 10/31/2013

Economic Development Commission – Thomas Giard – 11/1/2011 – 10/31/2014

Board of Recreation – 11/1/2011 – 10/31/2014

P. Anthony discussed the nominees noted above as well as the Board of Recreation nominee, Jamie Caporaso. He feels all are dedicated and would serve the town well. T. Madonna also has no objections to the nominees and gives them credit to be willing to serve. S. Mikutel commended all nominees for wanting to take on another assignment.

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, that the Board of Selectmen appoint as members to the Open Space Land Acquisition Committee, Courtland Kinne as a representative from Planning & Zoning for a two year term, Gail Rook-Norman as a representative from Planning & Zoning for the remainder of her term, Larry Laidley as a representative from Inland Wetlands for a two year term, Gary Serdechny as a representative from Inland Wetlands for a two year term, Thomas Giard as a representative from Economic Development Commission for a three year term, and Jamie Caporaso as a representative from Board of Recreation for a three year term. **Motion carried unanimously.**

d. Discussion and possible action on appointment of member of Board of Selectmen to serve on the Open Space Land Acquisition Committee – 11/01/2011 – 10/31/2014

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by T. Madonna, to table action on this item until the next selectmen's meeting. **Motion carried unanimously.**

e. Executive Session – to discuss legal personnel issue

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna to enter into executive session at (6:44 PM) for the purpose of discussing a legal personnel issue. T. Madonna amended her motion to include to hear the complaint filed against the town by the former Finance Director. Motion was then seconded by S. Mikutel. **Motion carried unanimously.**

***Executive Session ended at 7:02 PM.**

f. Discussion and possible action on legal personnel issue – No action taken

g. Executive Session – to discuss bids received for legal services

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to move item 4g to after item 7. **Motion carried unanimously.**

h. Discussion and possible action on bids received for legal services

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to also move item 4h after item 7. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Old Business - None

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

- a.** It was mentioned this is a letter from Carl Fontneau, Town Planner, basically asking the Board to consider an approval of \$1500 from the supplemental line of the Street Scape Grant to allow for designing of a Main Street logo to be used for banners. Kent and Frost wants to hire a local company, Capik Creative, to design the logo. T. Madonna commented the money is already included in the grant and there would still be money left in the supplemental services line of the grant.

MOTION: T. Madonna made a motion to approve the request of \$1500 and authorize the First Selectmen to sign the contract for Kent and Frost to hire sub contractor Capik Creative for the purpose of designing a theme logo for the Main Street project and the banners.

S. Mikutel commented he thought there was going to be some community involvement, such as schools, in creating the logo. T. Madonna commented that Capik Creative will, according to the letter submitted, design a logo and that logo will go before EDC and the Board of Selectmen for discussion and possible revision. P. Anthony commented there is a Main Street meeting this week and felt the Main Street committee would guide whoever was doing the design. T. Madonna commented that Capik Creative would be working with Kent and Frost who has been closely working with the Main Street Committee. It was clarified the \$1500 is just for the design of the logo and not the banners. S. Mikutel expressed his concern that the Board of Selectmen have some input into the logo so it accurately reflects the history of Jewett City.

MOTION: T. Madonna withdrew her motion on the floor.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by T. Madonna, to approve the request as stated in the Town Planner's letter dated October 23, 2011 to authorize supplemental funds in the amount of \$1500 out of the Main Street Project to have Capik Creative design a logo theme for the Main Street Street Scape program on the condition that it comes back before the Board of Selectmen for review. **Motion carried unanimously.**

- b.** P. Anthony commented the members of the Board were given a draft proposal tonight regarding the bonding of infrastructure improvements for roads and drainage in the amount of 2.6 million and 2.6 million for sewer extension. P. Anthony commented on the strong bond rating we have at this time and he is just bringing the object forward for consideration. T. Madonna would like to see a financial analysis, a five year plan, on how we plan to pay back any bonds since the school bonds will be due. P. Anthony commented there would be more information forthcoming. T. Madonna also would like to see verification on the bond rating and is still not convinced that you secure long term loans for road improvement.

7. Public Forum

Ransom Young – Mr. Young questioned whether the Public Works Department had any plans to mow the cemetery on Rixtown Road. He also had mentioned the generator behind Rite Aid not powering on during the hurricane. P. Anthony responded the feed for the generator is from CL&P and they were hesitant to turn it on because of possible back charge issues. However, the lights were turned on after Jewett City lines were completely repaired and there was discussion between Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Anthony with CL&P. Mr. Young also questioned if the sewer lines are extended in town would there be a charge to property owners for installation past their house. P. Anthony commented no one would be forced to tie in if their current system is in good condition. However, if their system fails they may be mandated to tie in at that time. Also, there is generally an assessment charge for the line passing by your property.

Norm Sylvestre – Wanted to know if there was an update on the Aubin property. He also expressed his concern about the boat in the yard and the junk in the truck on Tracy Avenue. He also expressed his concern about the clutter piling up again out front of the Soda Shop on North Main Street. Mr. Sylvestre also commented on the clutter in the front lobby of the Town Hall. P. Anthony commented there is stuff left from the electricians that installed the energy efficient equipment and they have been asked to remove the equipment by the end of the week and Public Works has been instructed to remove the old bulletin board by the end of the week.

Betty Knox – Wanted clarification on recent articles in the paper describing monetary shortfalls. P. Anthony commented there is one of approximately \$700,000 from the previous fiscal year and the approximate \$900,000 is from this fiscal year and both are related to incorrect projected revenues.

Norm Higgins – Expressed his concern that the proposed extension of the sewer lines should provide for future development to any side roads it passes so residents throughout the town may have the option to tie into the system at some point. He also mentioned that all taxpayers would be paying for bonding of roads even if there road is not improved. P. Anthony commented you have to do what is good for the town as a whole.

Joseph Foye – Expressed his concern for a bond for the sewer system that the town does not own. He commented what you need to do first is get rid of the Borough so there is one unit. He also questioned why the Town if beautifying the Borough, shouldn't the Borough be beautifying the Borough. P. Anthony commented the Town does still own the Borough. Mr. Foye questioned when does the Town have jurisdiction and when does the Borough have jurisdiction.

4. New Business (cont'd)

g. **Executive Session** – to discuss bids received for legal services

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel to enter into Executive Session (at 7:46 PM) for the purpose of discussing the bids for legal services. **Motion carried unanimously.**

***Executive Session ended at 8:16 PM.**

h. Discussion and possible action on bids received for legal services

MOTION: Motion was made by T. Madonna, seconded by S. Mikutel, to schedule a Special Meeting for the purpose of interviewing candidates for town legal services as received according to the Town bidding process. **Motion carried unanimously.**

8. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by T. Madonna, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant