

**Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting  
May 10, 2016**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** First Selectman Dan Jerram, Selectman Alesia Kennerson, Selectman Laura Garay; Reggie Smith (in at 6:25 pm), Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward.

First Selectman Jerram called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. He noted that item number 2 on the agenda (Denton Butler – Antolini School Roof) would be removed from the agenda due to the fact that Mr. Butler had intended to discuss alternatives to address a change order for the Antolini School roof project; however the vendor was unable to provide details in time for the meeting.

**Minutes – March 10, 2016, March 21, 2016; April 6, 2016, April 12, 2016:**

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to amend the minutes dated March 10, 2016 to include a statement that discussion was held among the Selectmen to “do something” to honor the memory of David Childs. The Selectmen will think about ways to do this and will take action sometime in the future; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous*

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to approve the minutes dated March 21, 2016 as presented; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous*

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to approve the minutes dated April 6, 2016 as presented; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous*

**MOTION:** by Garay to approve the minutes dated April 12, 2016 as presented; seconded by Kennerson.

*Unanimous*

**Denton Butler – Antolini School Roof**

Agenda item removed.

**Temporary Deputy Fire Marshal (due to medical leave for Fire Marshal):**

First Selectman Jerram informed the Board that Fire Marshal William (Bill) Baldwin has requested a short term medical leave. His leave will begin on May 11 and is anticipated to last approximately 4 – 6 weeks. Mr. Baldwin has asked that the Selectmen appoint Terrence Ferrarotti as a deputy fire marshal so that adequate coverage is in place during this leave. Mr. Ferrarotti is a deputy fire marshal in

Harwinton. Mr. Jerram noted that Robert Upson currently serves as a Deputy Fire Marshal but his availability is limited due to his work schedule.

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to appoint Terrence Ferrarotti to serve as temporary Deputy Fire Marshal for the Town of New Hartford; term to expire June 30, 2016; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous.*

**Set time, date, manner of Special Town Meeting:**

First Selectman Jerram stated that there are several agenda items that are ready to be presented for Town Meeting approval. They are as follows: the sale of two parcels of town owned property to abutting property owners, the acceptance of a parcel of land to be deeded to the town as Open Space, the election of a member to the Stanclift Cove Authority and consideration of an Ordinance that provides for part time employees to serve as members on Land Use Boards.

The Selectmen considered dates for the meeting. The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 2016. This meeting may have several items on the agenda that should not be limited by a defined time frame set by having to attend a meeting at 7:00 PM. The Selectmen agreed that Thursday, May 26, 2016 would be the date. The Call of the Meeting was read (attached).

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to approve the Call of the Meeting as read, noting that the Special Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 26, 2016 at 7:00 PM in the Senior Center; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous.*

**BOS authorization to execute DOT Grant Agreement re; Carpenter Road Bridge:**

First Selectman Jerram informed the Board that the formal Grant Agreement between the Town of New Hartford and the State of Connecticut for funding for the Carpenter Road Bridge has been received and needs to be executed and returned to the State. He asked that the Board reaffirm their approval to execute the Grant agreement.

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to authorize First Selectman Daniel V. Jerram to execute the agreement between the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of New Hartford for the local bridge program for Carpenter Road over Nepaug River, Bridge No. 09103; seconded by Garay.

It was noted that this Grant application and funding for the bridge was approved at a town wide referendum in November of 2014.

*Unanimous.*

**Operations Updates:**

First Selectmen Jerram briefed the Selectmen regarding on going operations. He informed them that a Grant Application seeking funding for a 10 passenger bus to be used for transportation for senior and disabled citizens has been submitted to the State.

Remediation of hazardous materials (asbestos) has been completed at the “Brodie House.” Additionally, the water line has been disconnected. There are still a couple of things that need to be completed (removal of furnace and filling in an old well) before demolition can occur.

A parking lot is being completed at town owned property located on Cotton Hill Road. This lot will providing off street parking for those who wish to access the trails that currently exist leading from Cotton Hill to Antolini School and the Phillips Farm Trail.

Jerram noted that an additional trail along Marsh Road is being considered. He has informed zoning and inland wetlands of this potential trail area.

A 2017 International Truck has been ordered for the highway department (approved capital item in the 2016-2017 budget). The cost has been quoted as \$164,493.00 and is the same cost as the truck purchased last year).

Questions still remain regarding the State of Connecticut budget and its potential impact on Municipal revenues.

The Economic Development Commission Rails to Trails Subcommittee met last week (Dan is a member of this Committee) and they will be moving forward with developing an RFP for a feasibility study to assist in determining the proposed trail location.

The First Selectman has reached out to Oak School regarding rental of additional space at Ann Antolini School and has set up a meeting next week with the Director of Oak Hill and the Superintendent of Schools to discuss details.

Selectman Laura Garay mentioned that she would like the Board of Selectmen to consider questioning some of the agencies that benefit from Town funding. She noted that now would be the time “to set the table” for next budget season that additional information would be needed regarding finances, services and fiscal management before considering funding levels. Garay noted that as the State continues to cut back municipal funding, it will be necessary to find areas where the town can reduce their levels of support to organizations.

Jerram noted that the budget requests for the libraries are currently escalating at a rate higher than the general government budget. The Selectmen all agreed that this level of growth cannot be sustained. Jerram stated that it might be advantageous to consider “holding back” a portion of the budgeted appropriations to agencies that benefit from town support until close to the end of the fiscal year. He noted that if the State makes any mid-cycle funding reductions and the town loses revenues it had anticipated receiving, it could be detrimental to town operations. Therefore, it might be prudent to withhold some of the funding in the event this happens. To sacrifice town services in order to support other agencies does not seem right.

Ms. Garay also reminded the Selectmen of her request for consideration of an ordinance that that would create a 3<sup>rd</sup> Alternate position for the Board of Finance. Currently, there is no provision for minority representation on that Board and she, for one, would like to see that changed.

Jerram noted that there are still a couple of outstanding issues that need to be brought before Town Meeting; including an ordinance for Elderly Tax Abatement and finalizing the status of the Town Hill Cemetery.

Ms. Kennerson asked Mr. Jerram if he would investigate the possibility of an electric car charging station as there may be grants available for that purpose. She noted that the Town of Harwinton had recently been the recipient of such a grant and thought that this might be beneficial for New Hartford, as well. Mr. Jerram concluded his operations updates by informing the Board that the revamping of the Mobil Station on Route 44 was continuing to move ahead. Additionally, the Dunkin Donuts proposed for the corner of Routes 219 and 44 is also on track and will be seeking formal approvals soon. Jerram confirmed that parking spaces will be available for town use at that site.

**Line item transfer:**

First Selectman Jerram noted that the Board of Finance will be meeting this evening and that one of the agenda items for consideration is a line item transfer. Jerram noted that at the most recent Board of Selectmen meeting, the Selectmen had discussed using excess funds remaining in the highway overtime line item towards the purchase of a vehicle to replace the existing Jeep Liberty used by the First Selectman. The Selectmen approved removing the proposed capital funds in place for the 2016-2017 fiscal year, but had not formally endorsed the transfer of funds from the operating budget to the 2015-2016 capital budget for this vehicle purchase. Jerram also informed the Board that additional highway overtime had been incurred in early – mid April, which reduced the amount of the excess overtime funds available for use. He noted that there is currently \$29,602.63 remaining in that highway overtime line item.

**MOTION:** by Kennerson to transfer \$22,000 from highway overtime line item to the 2015-2016 capital expenditures line item to be used for the purchase of a vehicle to replace the 2004 Jeep Liberty; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous.*

**Request for Refund of taxes:**

**MOTION:** By Kennerson to approve a request for refund of motor vehicle property taxes in the amount of \$245.02 to Ally for Vault Trust due to transfer of lease as recommended by the Tax Collector; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous.*

Having no other to discuss, a **MOTION** was made by Kennerson to adjourn at 6:45 PM; seconded by Garay.

*Unanimous.*

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Christine Hayward, Administrative Assistant*