

Minutes
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting
Thursday, March 11, 2010

Present: Gerald D. Stomski, First Selectman
Barbara K. Perkinson, Selectman
George W. Hale, Selectman

Also present: Approximately 30 residents
Jamie Cura - *Voices*
Rick Harrison – *Republican-American*

Selectman Stomski called the special meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Annex.

Privilege of the Floor

- Reed Bertollette spoke on the appointments to the Charter Revision Commission, stating that the Commission needs people with good backgrounds and knowledge of the Town. He asked the Selectmen to reconsider the appointments approved at the March 25th meeting and consider a 4/3 bare majority.
- Dick Leavenworth spoke on bi-partisan participation on Charter Revision Commission.
- Louis DeLuca said no matter what party, the members of the Commission should work for the benefit and in the best interest of the Town.
- Sharon Sherman said the Board needs to concentrate on what constitutes a bare majority and need to work together for the benefit of everyone.
- George Madsen does not consider 5-2 a bare majority. He suggested adding to the number of appointees to the Commission and to bring in people with some experience.
- Charles Bartlett asked if the request for candidates was advertised. Also, did the full Board of Selectmen interview the respective candidates and if yes, where are the minutes? Selectman Stomski said he did.

The members of the public were thanked for their input.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Selectman Perkinson moved and Selectman Hale seconded to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2010 Regular Meeting with the following corrections:

Page 2 last sentence should read “It **is important** he sit on the Committee.”

Page 3 – Tourism Report – 2) should read “**The establishment of the Connecticut Antiques Trail.**”

Page 4 – Other Business-Website Update – last sentence should read “Martha Sherman said **the Attorney needs to sign off on a legal disclaimer**”.

Page 5 – Capital Projects, last sentence should read “Water too high **due** to beaver problem.”

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Charter Revision Commission

Selectman Stomski asked Town Attorney, Paul Jessell, to research the issue of minority representation on a Charter Revision Commission established by the Board of Selectmen. Selectman Stomski read the entire letter.

In summary, Atty. Jessell writes: “General Statutes §9-167a provides the basic statutory framework for minority representation on a “board, commission, legislative body, committee or similar body of the state or any political subdivision thereof.” That statute sets forth, in an accompanying table, the maximum number from any one political party that can be appointed to such a body. Under the terms of that statute, it is permissible to appoint five members of a single political party to a board, commission or other body having a total membership of seven.”

“Section 307 of the Woodbury Town Charter contains also identical language to that found in §9-167a and provides for the same maximum number of a single political party who can be appointed to a board, commission or other municipal body, again based on the total membership of the body.”

“It is clear that under General Statutes §7-190(a), no more than a bare majority of the members of a charter revision commission may be from one political party. Thus, in the case of a seven member commission, no more that four members may be from one political party. This statute, being more specific, would under ordinary rules of statutory construction, control over a more general statute, here, §9-167a. In addition, given the limiting language both in §9-167a and in the Woodbury Charter as discussed above, §7-190(a) would control for purposes of minority representation, it proving for greater minority representation than either §9-167a or the Charter.”

MOTION: Selectman Hale moved and Selectman Perkinson seconded, in spirit of cooperation and in accordance with the Town Charter, to rescind the motion and vote taken on February 25, 2010 in regards to the appointments to the Charter Revision Commission. *UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED*

Appointments/Resignations

Selectman Stomski responded to the question of board and commission representation on the Charter Revision Commission. He said no more than two (2) members of any board or commission can be on the Commission. However, he noted that all board and commission members will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes. This in turn allows for more outside representation on the Commission. The Town Committees were requested to submit names for consideration and there were announcements in the newspapers asking for townspeople to express their interest in being considered for appointment. A list of names for appointments was compiled by the Selectman’s office.

MOTION: Selectman Stomski moved and Selectman Perkinson seconded the appointment of the following residents to the Charter Revision Commission:

Louis DeLuca (R)	Elizabeth Adams (R)
Laurine Zatorski (R)	Judith Kelz (U)
Frank Shepard (R)	Curtis Jones (D)
Kevin Barry (D)	

Discussion:

Selectman Hale questioned the experience of the candidates. Someone with a legal background and a representative from the Board of Finance would be an asset to the Commission. He has no preference which candidates are chosen. We would be ignoring some valuable talent and input if we ignore them. Reconsider the appointment of Board of Finance members William Drakeley and Deb Fuller and Attorneys Frank Sherer and Robert Kolesnik Jr.

Selectman Stomski said he Board of Finance, as well as other boards and commissions will have the opportunity to comment and suggest changes. An attorney will be reviewing the changes and/or amendments made by the commission. As for the representation on the Commission: Betty Adams – Former First Selectman; Frank Shepard – old blood and former First Selectman. Betty Adams sat on the previous Charter Revision Commission. He feels the candidates have the knowledge and experience; there is diversity. Mr. Stomski noted that he spoke to the candidates nominated. Mr. Stomski stated the he did not feel that it was necessary for the Board of Selectman to interview appointees, Mr. Deluca, Betty Adams, Frank Shepard, Curt Jones, and Kevin Barry, since the Board of Selectman were familiar with who they were. Mr. Stomski spoke to candidates Judith Kelz and Laurine Zatorski by phone to discuss their interests in the possible appointments to the Charter Revision Commission.

Selectman Hale said he is not suggesting any of the candidates be removed but add more members to the Commission. Also, he is not sure being on a board or commission has the same opportunity as being on the Commission. Mr. Stomski spoke with past members of the Charter Revision Commission and their comments were that a board of seven would be sufficient – too many can be non-productive. The meetings will be open to the public and they will be given the opportunity to comment.

Voting Yea – Stomski and Perkinson; Voting Nay: Hale
MOTION CARRIED

Acceptance of Donations

MOTION: Selectman Perkinson moved and Selectman Hale seconded to accept with gratitude the following contributions to the Historic Town Hall Restoration Fund: Faith Warner - \$ 500
Proceeds from Miniature Golf Event - \$ 1,000
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Reauthorization for Grants

Selectman Stomski explained there are two active grants that need to be updated to authorize him to sign.

MOTION: Selectman Hale moved and Selectman Perkinson seconded RESOLVED, that Gerald D. Stomski, First Selectman of the Town of Woodbury be and hereby is authorized to execute on behalf of this municipal corporation a Personal Services Agreement with the State of Connecticut for financial assistance for the construction of the Nonnewaug High School Track.

In addition, that Gerald D. Stomski, First Selectman, is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements, contracts and execute all documents necessary to said grant with the State of Connecticut.

BE IT FURTHER KNOWN that Gerald D. Stomski was elected First Selectman. His term of office began December 7, 2009 and will continue until December 5, 2011. As the First Selectman, Gerald D. Stomski services as Chief Executive Officer for the Town of Woodbury, and is duly authorized to enter into agreements and contracts on behalf of the Town of Woodbury.
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

MOTION: Selectman Hale moved and Selectman Perkinson seconded WHEREAS, there are federal monies available from the Connecticut allocation of funds under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant; and

WHEREAS, these monies are available through the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants;

RESOLVED: that Gerald D. Stomski, First Selectman of the Town of Woodbury, is hereby authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of the Town of Woodbury any and all applications, contracts and amendments and to execute and approve on behalf of this municipality other instruments a part of or incident to such contracts and amendments, effective until otherwise ordered by the Board of Selectmen.
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED

Appointments/Resignations (con't)

Sub-Registrar – In a memo from Rita Connelly, Town Clerk, the law was changed last October that each Town must have at least two Sub-Registrars. These Sub-Registrars are authorized to issue transit and burial permits for any death that occurs in the registrar's town. The Town had only one Sub-Registrar in place (Lissa Lovetere) so the Town Clerk

Minutes
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting
March 11, 2010
Page 5

has appointed Carol Hickox as the second Sub-Registrar. The Board of Selectmen is required to approve the Town Clerk's appointment.

MOTION: Selectman Perkinson moved and Selectman Hale seconded to approve the Town Clerk's appointment of Carol Hickcox as a Sub-Registrar for the Town of Woodbury. *UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED*

Old Business

Naming of Road - The naming of the road next to Cushman Commons connecting Main Street South and Washington Avenue (across from the Post Office) to Memorial Way was revisited. Selectman Hale asked if Officer Romano made the recommendation as an individual. When told yes, Selectman Hale suggested the School be part of naming the street as they are in close proximity of the road. Action was tabled until the next meeting.

MOTION: Selectman Perkinson moved and Selectman Hale seconded to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. *UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED*

FILED SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Anderson
Clerk