

Board of Selectmen's Regular Meeting
Monday, July 14, 2008 @ 7:30 PM
108 Main Street, Falls Village, Connecticut 06031

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:30 PM by First Selectman Patricia Mechare. Also in attendance were Selectman Peter Lawson and Selectman Charles Lewis.

The following people spoke in the public comment section of the meeting: Amy O'Dell, Pricilla Belcher, Lorma Davis, Audrey Robson, Vanessa Edgerton, Luis Cabassa, Jude Streng, Lee Ann Lasher, Suzanne Chinatti, Bill Dickinson, Duke Moore, Sarah Charlesworth and Norma Galaise. Comments generally dealt with the accuracy of the public comment section of the July 3, 2008 Special Board of Selectmen meeting minutes, the lack of a job description for the Transfer Station Attendant, questions regarding probation of the Transfer Station Attendant, opinions of the Transfer Station Attendant's work environment, comments on the latest performance review of the Transfer Station Attendant, criticism of the Operations Manager of the Transfer Station, a procedural question regarding public comment and a suggestion that the Town build a separate building to accommodate the items that the Transfer Station Attendant puts aside and saves for people.

On a motion by Lewis, seconded by Lawson the minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen's meeting of June 9, 2008 were unanimously accepted as presented. On a motion by Lawson, seconded by Lewis it was moved to accept as presented the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of June 12, 2008. Unanimous. On a motion by Lewis, seconded by Lawson it was moved to accept as presented the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of June 26, 2008 as presented. Unanimous. On a motion by Lewis, seconded by Lawson, it was moved to accept the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of July 3, 2008 as presented with reference to the public comment section of the July 14, 2008 meeting which referenced the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's July 3, 2008 meeting. Unanimous.

On a motion by Lawson, seconded by Lewis it was moved to receive the Treasurer's Report. Unanimous. On a motion by Lawson, seconded by Lewis it was moved to receive the Tax Collector's Report.

Mechare informed the Board that the Town had received a letter from Philip Prelli, Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture acknowledging the appointment of Laura Mittaud as the Town of Canaan Animal Control Officer. Mechare shared a memo from the Falls Village Energy Task Force requesting energy audits of the Town Hall and Lee H. Kellogg School. On a motion by Lawson, seconded by Lewis it was moved to allow the Falls Village Energy Task Force to arrange for an energy audit of the Town Hall and consult with the administration of Kellogg School to do the same. Unanimous. Another written communication was received after the agenda had been posted from a group called LESS THAN TEN, a group which is concerned with climate changes.

The following reports were made:

- A. There was a review of existing openings on Town Board and Commissions
- B. Announcement was made that the Town Farm Swimming Pool was scheduled to open on Wednesday, July 16th at 11 AM
- C. A brief report of the latest Public Safety Task Force and REPT meetings was given by Mechare
- D. Mechare gave a brief review of the latest COG meeting
- E. It was reported that the Route 7/Johnson Road Feeder Grant Project required only the sign-off from Cocchiola Paving that they had received their final payment and the treasurer could submit the final reimbursement papers to close the project
- F. It was reported that the 107 Main STEAP project had been completed by the June 30, 2008 deadline, that the final contracting information had been submitted and that the Town was awaiting word regarding the close-out process. It was reported that the Town was awaiting a contract for the 103 Main Street (FVCT) project and had completed as much paperwork as they could to date. It was also reported that the Town had received the extension for the FVVFD 2004 STEAP grant.
- G. It was reported that the Northwestern Regional Planning Collaborative had signed a contract with the State for the \$125,000 grant it had received and hired Chris Wood and Joslyn Ayers as the planners.

Under Old Business it was reported that there has been no communication from the State regarding DEP Asphalt Paving Regulations. The area at the Transfer Station regarding the newly build area for propane tanks has been inspected by Engineer Ed Fenn who has written his approval of the area to the DEP. The Town is awaiting word from the DEP regarding a final inspection from that agency. It was reported that David Seney, FVVFD Chief has written a letter to the Bridge and Safety Division of DOT regarding the ability of emergency vehicles crossing the Route 7 bridge over the Housatonic River as most of the Department's emergency vehicles are just barely over the weight limit. Mechare reported that the engineers are putting the final touches on the engineering report to repair the iron bridge over the Housatonic. There is no date, nor a company

selected to make the repair. Mechare indicated that she and Curtis Rand, First Selectman of Salisbury would be meeting soon to discuss the final cost of the project and what the division of payment would be between the two towns. Mechare reported that no progress had been made in hiring a recording secretary for either the Board of Finance or the Board of Selectmen and the jobs would be re-advertised. It was reported that the Town had received a communication from Arums and Associates, LLC regarding the fuel oil consortium to which the Town belongs and when the consortium was anticipating locking in a price for fuel oil for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The communication indicated that it was hoping for a lock-in price of around \$3.75.

The following items were discussed under New Business:

- A. Review of a communication regarding a town-owned tree in front of 21 Beebe Hill Road and the report of the tree warden regarding such tree and its removal.
- B. Discussion regarding the appointment of George Wright to a full position on the Zoning Board of Appeals to replace Margaret Ruotolo. On a motion by Lawson, seconded by Lewis it was moved to appoint George Wright to fill the term of Margaret Ruotolo as a full member on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Unanimous.
- C. Consideration and Action on Cost membership was deferred.
- D. Mechare reported that the town had an opportunity to become part of a cooperative for purchasing Ice-Be-Gone with the towns of the Litchfield Hills Council of Elected Officials and had taken that opportunity.
- E. Action on a memorandum of Agreement Between the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and the Town Canaan was deferred until Dan McGuinness of our COG could review the agreement.

With no other business to come properly before the Board on a motion by Lewis, seconded by Lawson the meeting unanimously adjourned at 8:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Allyn Mechare
First Selectman