



Thomas S. Scarpati  
First Selectman

**TOWN OF MADISON CONNECTICUT**  
**06443-2563**  
**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

William Gladstone  
Noreen Kokoruda  
Kathi Traugh  
Charles F. Walz

**MEETING DATE:** Monday, December 18, 2006

**MEETING PLACE:** **Madison Room (Room A), Town Campus**

Selectman Scarpati called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:05 p.m. Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Walz, Gladstone, Kokoruda, and Traugh.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to enter into executive session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss the following items:

1. Personnel -- Land Use

-- Web Security

This was unanimously approved.

Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Walz, Gladstone, Kokoruda, and Traugh. Also present were Administrative Services Assistant Helen Burland and Director of Human Resources Katherine Christopher.

Departs Director of Human Resources Katherine Christopher (7:15 p.m.)

Enters Director of Technology Art Sickle (7:15 p.m.)

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to exit executive session at 7:25 p.m. This was unanimously approved.

Selectman Scarpati called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:38 p.m. Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Walz, Gladstone, Kokoruda, and Traugh.

2. Approval of minutes – December 4, 2006.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to approve the minutes of December 4, 2006 as written. Selectman Traugh asked that future minutes provide appropriate detail when action items involved lengthy discussions. This was unanimously approved.

3. Citizen Comments.

Gerard Farrell, Sr., 30 Hamilton Drive, presented a “Petition in Opposition to the Acceptance of a Portion of Hamilton Drive” that included 45 signatures. He stated he would like to see this issue as an agenda item at a future Board of Selectmen’s meeting. He stated additional development in this area would contribute to the on-going water problems which plague the neighborhood. The properties in the area cannot handle any additional water. First Selectman Scarpati received the petition on behalf of the residents.

**OLD BUSINESS**

4. Discuss and take action on a request from Madison Hose Company #1 with regard to an event celebrating 100 years of providing fire and rescue services to the citizens of Madison (tabled on 12/4/2006). Chief Gerard was present to respond to a request for a map of the Surf Club and designation of proposed areas for expansion. Recreation Director Scot Erskine explained the present drinking ordinance has boundaries that include the seawall to the parking lot line and the parking lot to the boat racks. He further commented that the area for alcohol consumption could be expanded at the Surf Club to include Strong Field; and the exclusion of alcohol should continue to apply to the beach areas and parking areas. Vendors could be placed on Strong Field as has been

done previously during past Shellfish Festivals. Selectman Gladstone asked if there would be additional parking? Recreation Director Scot Erskine stated parking would also go out onto the Exchange Field. They are also looking at shuttling people from the commuter parking lot depending upon expected need.

**MOVED** by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to accept the request from Madison Hose Company #1 with regard to an event celebrating 100 years of providing fire and rescue services to the citizens of Madison and to expand the drinking ordinance boundaries as designated on submitted map. This was unanimously approved.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

5. Certificate of Appreciation to Robert C. Hodge for his dedication and service towards the development of Bauer Park and to the Town of Madison. First Selectman Scarpati, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Robert C. Hodge “as our appreciation for the people of Madison and to express our thanks for all your efforts.”

6. Discuss and take action on the 2007/2008 Budget Workshop Schedule. Board of Finance Chairman Fillmore McPherson commented that the new schedule compresses some discussions and expands other areas of the process. The boards and commissions would make their presentations regarding their budget requests to both the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance at the same time. The financial decisions/deliberations are delayed and will be compressed into a shorter amount of time during a 2-1/2 week time frame. Selectman Kokoruda commented that according to the schedule the Board of Education would have their first presentation on March 28, 2007. She wondered if they would be sharing their proposal before then. Chairman McPherson

indicated that if the Board of Selectmen wanted an earlier preview, they should schedule it directly with the Board of Education. First Selectman Scarpati stated all boards and commissions would get their materials (official guidelines with a not-to-exceed increase of five percent) in January 2007. Selectman Gladstone commented that maybe more specific guidelines should be sent out; as opposed to uniform guidelines. Administrative Services Assistant Helen Burland commented that preliminary work is going on which involves (a) a look at imbedded costs (energy, workmen's compensation, insurance costs, etc.) and (b) having the Senior Management Team look at specific recommendations and priorities throughout the system—balancing the individual needs of departments. First Selectman Scarpati stated the Senior Management Team has been tasked with developing a strategic plan to cover a five-year period for the Town. They are being asked to look at areas that include manpower issues, retirement issues, equipment issues, and staff issues.

**MOVED** by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to accept the 2007/2008 Budget Workshop Schedule. This was unanimously approved.

7. Discuss the Beach and Recreation personnel involvement in Beach and Recreation-sponsored activities. First Selectman Scarpati stated this issue is on the agenda to deal with this item in an open forum. A citizen complaint letter had been submitted to Board of Finance Chairman Fillmore McPherson identifying a “Beach and Recreation employee policy that is costing the town ‘hundreds of thousands of dollars’ and being swept under the rug.” Beach and Recreation Commission Chairman Flannigan Smith stated their commission investigated the allegations. Commission member Scott Zimmerman cautioned against using the term “investigation” because it automatically implies wrongdoing. Selectman Gladstone stated that it is not people behaving contrary to the

policy; but rather assessing the impact of the policy. Beach and Recreation Commission member Jeff Rosenberg read the following:

The procedure we used was to examine the computer-generated printout of all transactions involving Beach and Recreation Department employees and their families in programs offered by the department since 1997. We interviewed Scot Erskine, Director of the Beach and Recreation Department. We requested and received communications from the two previous First Selectmen delineating their respective understanding of the practice and procedure by the Beach and Recreation Department during their administrations.

As a result of this investigation, we find the following:

1. The practice of allowing members of the Beach and Recreation Department and their families to participate in department-sponsored programs free of charge has been an accepted practice since at least the early 1980s; and
2. This practice was contingent upon openings in the programs being available and that no other prospective participants were denied entrance to the programs; and
3. The elected officials of the Town of Madison were aware of this practice and allowed it to continue up to the present time; and
4. Previous Beach and Recreation Commissions were aware of this practice and allowed it to continue; and
5. The present Beach and Recreation Commission was not aware of this practice; and
6. There was an insignificant loss of revenue to the Town as a result of this practice; and
7. That it was understood by the employees and the previous administrations that this practice was a form of compensation for work they do beyond the normal work day and work week.
8. The staff and/or their family participated in 262 programs over the past nine (9) years, an average of 29.11 programs per year.
9. The total cost of these programs for the nine (9) year period was \$16,286, an average of \$1,809 per year.

Based on the facts enumerated above, we have reached the following findings and recommendations:

1. There has been no wrongdoing by any member of the Beach and Recreation Department.
2. It is impossible to discern any financial loss to the Town, since we cannot assume that if the staff and/or their family did not participate that other people would have registered. In fact, as is stated in #2 above, participation was contingent upon openings in the programs being available and that no other prospective participants were denied

entrance to the programs.

3. The practice in question should be temporarily halted pending an in-depth examination and discussion of these findings by the current Beach and Recreation Commission.
4. The Beach and Recreation Commission shall make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for implementation of any procedures in the future as it relates to this practice.

This information was presented to the Beach and Recreation Commission and they voted to accept the following motion:

After extensive discussion, the Commission passed the following motion made by Tom Banisch and seconded by Jeff Rosenberg “to maintain the present policy for employee participation in programs free of charge, after the cut-off date for registration and if space is available. If a paying member of the public wants to enroll prior to the enrollment cut-off date and the staff member’s roster spot prohibits them from enrolling, the staff member must either pay for their spot or withdraw from the program.” This motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Kokoruda stated she had not been contacted about this issue even though she served as chairman of the Beach and Recreation Commission over an eight-year period. Jeff Rosenberg stated that what we have proposed to the Board of Selectmen is fair, legitimate, and appropriate. He asked why would the Town want to under-subscribe an activity just because someone raised a question? Selectman Gladstone asked if the Commission had explored opening the policy to all employees; not just Beach and Recreation employees? Commission member Jeff Rosenberg indicated that they did not feel they had the right to make such a recommendation. They only had ‘say’ over Beach and Recreation employees. Beach and Recreation Commission member Tom Banisch stated (1) no money was lost to the town, (2) why do Board of Education employees get free passes to all sports events; and (3) Beach and Recreation employees get good feedback from their children who are in the programs. First Selectman Scarpati commented that this issue was discussed at a recent Senior Staff Meeting; they found

difficulty with the fact that some departments get privileges. Recreation Director Scot Erskine commented that the practice was accepted over the years; maybe times have changed due to what has happened in Hartford—maybe it makes sense to stop the practice and look at making the compensation for jobs more equitable in the department. First Selectman Scarpati stated maybe job descriptions need to be updated; public perception is incredibly important. He further stated other departments' policies (Board of Education) are not Board of Selectmen's concerns/control. Selectman Kokoruda commented that if we opened this up to all Town employees, how would we administer it—it would be so huge? Selectman Walz stated that just because one individual wrote a vindictive letter, we should not throw this practice out.

First Selectman Scarpati stated this will be a “discuss and take action” item at a future meeting; after a draft policy has been written with consultation with the Beach and Recreation Commission. He asked that this be completed to come back to the Board of Selectmen some time in February 2007.

8. Discuss and take action on a request from Madison Police Services to apply to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for the Highway Safety Project Grant. This Grant, in the amount of \$149,250, does not require a matching commitment from the Town and will be utilized to maintain communication with the Police Department's Mobile Data Units irrespective of cellular coverage. Police Chief Jakubson commented this Grant would allow the crash reporting function to be submitted electronically from mobile computers in the police cruisers to the Department of Transportation. Police efficiency is hampered by the inability of officers to cite violators in “real time.” Presently police officers have to come into the station to write an accident

report; this is time-consuming and keeps the officers off the roads—where they should be. This Grant will include money for a total of five towns; the Town of Madison will be the grant administrator for all five towns. Chief Jakubson strongly supported the acceptance of this Grant.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to authorize Madison Police Services to apply to the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, for the Highway Safety Project Grant. This Grant, in the amount of \$149,250, does not require a matching commitment from the Town and will be utilized to maintain communication with the Police Department's Mobile Data Units irrespective of cellular coverage. This was unanimously approved.

9. Discuss and take action on line-item transfer requests from Madison Youth and Family Services:

\$1,000 – \$500 from Professional and Technical Services and \$500 from Family Counseling to Travel for six (6) part-time workers who were previously contractual and are now entitled to mileage reimbursement as employees of the Town.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to approve this line-item transfer request from Madison Youth and Family Services. This was unanimously approved.

\$45,540 from Office Staff to Salary Administration for the Social Services Coordinator's salary to allow the funds to be drawn from the appropriate line-item (Salary Administration).

**MOVED** by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to allow funds to be drawn from the appropriate line-item. This was unanimously approved.

10. Discuss and take action on recommendations from the Madison Republican Town Committee to appoint/reappoint the following:

**Appointments**

**Kathleen Dess**, Youth Services Board, for a term to expire 1/1/11.

**Donna Schlott**, Building Code of Appeals, for a term to expire 1/1/11.

**Robert Newman**, Employees Retirement Board to fill vacancy to expire 1/1/08—  
Fireman's Benefit Committee to fill vacancy to expire 1/1/10 and Police Retirement Board for a term to expire 1/1/10.

**Reappointments**

Bauer Park Advisory Committee, **Heather Atwater** 1/1/09, **Holly Johnson** 1/1/10, **Theodore Rahman** 1/1/10, and **Robert Speziale** 1/1/09.

Beach and Recreation Commission, **Thomas Banisch** 1/1/11 and **Flannigan Smith** 1/1/11.

Building Code of Appeals, **Thomas MacDonald** 1/1/09 and **Benson Werthan** 1/1/09.

Employees Retirement Board, **Kenneth McKee** 1/1/10.

Fireman's Benefit Committee, **Joseph Maco** 1/1/11 and **Kenneth McKee** 1/1/11.

Inland Wetlands, **Kenneth Munro** – move from Alternate to Regular Member for term to expire 1/1/08.

Job Evaluation Committee, **Peter Thomas** 1/1/10.

Planning and Zoning, **Henry Maguire** 1/1/11.

Planning and Zoning Alternate, **Neal G. Payne** 1/1/11.

Police Retirement, **David Watson** 1/1/09.

Senior Citizens Commission, **Carol A. Behrman** 1/1/11, **Elizabeth Booth** 1/1/11, and **Judy Stigle** 1/1/11.

Shellfish Commission, **Stephen Nikituk** 1/1/11.

Youth Services, **Susan G. Sadowski** 1/1/11.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to accept the above appointments and reappointments. This was unanimously approved.

11. Discuss and take action on the resignation of Diana Insolio from the Inland Wetlands Commission.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to accept the resignation of Diana Insolio from the Inland Wetlands Commission with their thanks and regrets. Gratitude was expressed for Diana's service on both the Commission and for her work with the Charter Commission. This was unanimously approved.

12. Tax Abatements/Refunds

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Walz to approve the request for a tax abatement in the amount of \$3,305.34. Selectmen Kokoruda commented how pleased she was that this was finally resolved.

**ABATEMENT**

Guilford Land Conservation Trust	\$ 3,305.34
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**TOTAL ABATEMENT:   \$ 3,305.34**

This was unanimously approved.

**MOVED** by Selectmen Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the requests for tax refunds in the amount of \$2,616.60.

**REFUNDS**

Chase Manhattan Auto Finance Corporation	\$ 290.22
Daimler Chrysler Financial Services	\$ 224.20
Theodore R. Strickland	\$ 40.55
CAB East LLC	\$ 382.61
Ford Motor Credit Company	\$ 357.47
Jaguar Credit Corporation	\$ 346.69
Volvo Finance NA Inc.	\$ 974.86

**TOTAL REFUNDS:            \$ 2,616.60**

This was unanimously approved.

13. Policy Action – Second Reading: Ethics Policy

Administrative Services Assistant Helen Burland stated the draft Ethics Policy has been cleaned up and she is waiting for more feedback from boards and commissions. She stated most of the feedback from the departments has been positive; however, Land Use would be presenting some real-life examples and would like to understand how it would be interpreted. Selectman Kokoruda and Selectman Traugh will talk with CCM and get some recommendations concerning the selection process of the Commission’s members. Administrative Services Assistant Helen Burland stated she is in the process of pulling ordinances that conflict with the new Charter. This information will be brought to the Board of Selectmen’s meeting in January 2007.

14. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.

First Selectman Scarpati read the following newspaper article that appeared in the December 18, 2006 edition of the New Haven Register:

**Two area men to be inducted into state Veterans Hall of Fame**

An East Haven resident who organizes veterans’ support services through AT&T and a former Madison selectman will join two Medal of Honor winners as inductees to the Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame.

Robert Janicki, 59, a Branford native and former Guilford resident, served with the Marines in Vietnam from 1966 to 1969. He is a senior project

manager in AT&T's consumer service department, and is the founder and chairman for the last 25 years of SNET/AT&T Veterans.

The organization works not only with veterans among the company's workforce, but with numerous organizations assisting ill or homeless veterans, and the families of employees deployed with Reserve or National Guard units.

Peter Pardo of Madison, who served in the Army in World War II and then for 26 years in the Air Force, is a former Madison Selectman and now a member of the Board of Finance. He has served Madison as an elected official for more than 24 years.

The 2006 inductees were announced Monday by Governor M. Jodi Rell's office.

"It's overwhelming," said Janicki, who as a corporal served as an infantry squad leader in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Division.

"When you work with veterans for so many years, when you're doing it in a voluntary capacity, you're not out looking for accolades," he said. "To be recognized in this way is just incredible."

Janicki said the group organizes things such as food and clothing drives for needy veterans and works with veterans' shelters and hospitals.

He said that since the group's founding, the company has donated manpower and equipment for things such as telephone service for veterans' hospitals. It also has set up computer and job-training labs for veterans.

And when an AT&T reservist got called up for Middle East duty and suddenly was in charge of more than 24,000 men, "we sent him 600 pounds of Dunkin' Donuts coffee," Janicki said. "They loved it!"

Pardo, a former Clinton and Westbrook resident, served in the infantry in Europe as a staff sergeant under General George S. Patton.

Enrolling in Colgate University's ROTC program after the war, he became an Air Force officer serving during the Korean War and then at an air base just outside of Saigon in Vietnam, retiring as a colonel.

He said he was nominated by Attorney Roberta Willenkin, whom he knows through town government.

"I'm flattered," he said. "I didn't think a lot about it. I told her there are

probably 300,000 vets in Connecticut, with a lot better than I am and a lot just as good.”

Of all his decorations, he is proudest of his combat infantry badge earned while forcing occupying German armies out of Western Europe.

Two posthumous inductees are Medal of Honor winners William J. Johnston, a World War II Army veteran from Colchester, and Edward Whitaker of Killingly, who served in the Civil War.

Our congratulations to Peter Pardo.

Selectman Traugh stated the Scranton Library Workgroup is continuing to work on a Memorandum of Understanding which will be discussed at their next meeting scheduled for December 20, 2006. The plan for the library expansion is moving forward; they are contracting with the architect to continue to do more work and to reach out to relevant boards and commissions to start some discussion.

The Board of Education has their Drug and Alcohol Survey results; all relevant boards and commissions have worked on the survey and they feel good about the results and want to look at where intervention would be helpful. A Board of Selectmen member will be on a Steering Committee that will look at the survey, different interventions, and recommend policy changes.

Selectman Traugh stated several people have expressed concern about the Election Day issues. They want to know what Tax Collector Alma Carroll was charged with when asked to identify the issues? Will there be an opportunity for public input? Will there be a written report? Should a third polling place be considered? First Selectman Scarpati stated Tax Collector Alma Carroll's charge was to discuss the event that occurred and give recommendations on how to avoid this kind of situation in the future. First Selectman Scarpati stated we also need to factor in that the Town of

Madison will be going to electronic voting in 2007. A new traffic pattern is being discussed for the Town Campus polling location where cars will enter the Town Campus driveway and exit the Police roadway. Administrative Services Assistant Helen Burland agreed to ask Alma Carroll to include an opportunity to obtain public comment before issuing a final report. Selectman Traugh stated people are very passionate about voting.

Selectman Kokoruda stated the Senior Citizens meet Thursday, December 21, 2006, and there have been lots of emails concerning the Early Childhood Education program going to Island Avenue School.

Selectman Gladstone commented that the Economic Development Committee is still discussing the Bradley Road Vision Study and putting it into a format where it can be brought forward to see what the public wants.

Selectman Gladstone further commented that he is thankful the Board of Selectmen's packets are ready on Wednesday now.

At the last Madison Youth and Family Services meeting they worked on the 2007/2008 budget and started to explore new programs for youths. Sue Zaccagnino has stepped down as chairman; but still remains a member and deserves our thanks for her many years of service in the past and to come. C.J. Gladstone is the new chairman.

Selectmen Walz stated that the Police Commissioners voted on the communications Grant at their last meeting. The reasons for recommending two additional police officers are based upon their 5/2-work model and based upon available workdays prior to the end of the current contract.

First Selectman Scarpati commented that at the December 20, 2006 joint meeting of the three subcommittees of the Governor's Commission, they will be voting on their

recommendations. Assuming there is an agreement, this would support Secretary Genuario's (Chairman of the Committee on Education Finance) desire to have the final report by the end of the month and a report to the Governor. We have met in Hartford regarding the ECS (Education Cost Sharing) equation; the recommendations of the three subcommittees are talking about a substantial increase in education funding; well over \$1 billion.

First Selectman Scarpati closed by saying he and his family want to "wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and especially a prayer for our men and women overseas in harm's way. Thank you and we look forward to next year."

15. Adjournment.

**MOVED** by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 p.m. This was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Recording Secretary  
Judy Palmer