



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: **Thursday, May 25, 2006**

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

A. PUBLIC HEARING

Selectman Scarpati called the Public Hearing session of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:04 p.m. Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Kokoruda, Walz and Traugh. Selectman Gladstone was absent. There were no members of the public present.

1. Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment, opposition and support for the following: Designating the Planning & Zoning Commission as the Town's Aquifer Protection Agency.

Selectman Traugh read a memo from Town Sanitarian, John Bowers. Mr. Bowers said that the Water Pollution Control Authority has acted as the town agency to be liaison with the State's Aquifer Protection Act and their authorization expired several years ago. At this time the State Department of Environmental Protection Agency has now approved model land use regulations and that this regulatory scheme is better fitted with the Town's Planning & Zoning Commission since what is being suggested is an overlay of zones to the Town's existing zoning map. He said that the Water Pollution Control Authority reviewed this program and recommends that the Planning & Zoning Commission be designated by the Board of Selectmen as the Town agency to implement this Aquifer Protection Act in Madison.

Selectman Kokoruda said that the Selectmen should get input from the Planning & Zoning Commission about this.

Selectman Scarpati said that he will have this issue put on the agenda for the last Selectmen meeting in June and have John and the town's Planning & Zoning

Administrator, Marilyn Ozols, work with the Planning & Zoning Commission before then.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to close the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m. This was unanimously approved.

B. REGULAR SESSION

Selectman Scarpati called the regular session of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:31 p.m. Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Kokoruda, Walz and Traugh. Selectman Gladstone was absent. There was no executive session.

2. Approval of minutes – May 8, 2006

MOVED by Selectman Traugh to approve the minutes from the May 8, 2006 meeting. The motion carried by 3-0-1 (Kokoruda abstaining).

3. Citizen Comments – there were no citizen comments.

C. NEW BUSINESS

At this time Selectman Scarpati opened the agenda and added agenda item 4a: Discuss the action to request funding to complete the Green Hill Field, and vote at the first June Selectmen's meeting.

4. Discuss and take action on response to Charter Revision Commission.

Selectman Scarpati said that the Selectmen gave a preliminary copy and now they need to formalize it.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the response by the Board of Selectmen to the Charter Revision Commission.

Comments: Selectman Scarpati said he spoke with Charter Chairman Tom Banish about hosting a joint meeting between the Commission and the Selectmen.

Selectman Walz said he had two comments about the draft response. In the Preamble section Mr. Walz indicated that the addition of language of 'non-U.S. citizens cannot be voters' should be reviewed against State and Federal law and that if it is not prescribed by law it should not be in the Charter.

Selectman Walz's second comment was regarding Section 3.1.2 General Powers of The Board of Selectmen -- it was his understanding that the job title of Deputy Chief was to be removed from the proposed Charter Revision and that the Selectmen would not create that position in the Charter.

Selectman Traugh said she thought the provision about publishing the budget was to read 'published in the last two available editions prior to the referendum'.

Selectman Scarpati reiterated Selectman Walz's comment and said if the Selectmen have the discretion in editing out the Charter Revision Commission's new addition of language about the citizenship status in the definition of voter, the Selectmen want it removed. He then called the motion with changes and it was unanimously approved.

4a. Discuss action for funding for Green Hill Road field.

Selectman Scarpati said that with the \$500,000 State Grant money for the Green Hill Road field development now available, that a grass field could be built but the Selectmen should consider investing an additional \$250,000 for building the field with a synthetic turf similar to what was installed at the multipurpose football field. He added that the multipurpose field has demonstrated the ability to maintain high usage even after heavy rain conditions. Selectman Scarpati said that if the Selectmen agree in making the investment then the options of funding need to be discussed.

Selectman Scarpati said that using undesignated funds could be considered and then replenishing the fund when the town goes out to borrow. With this scheme construction could be done during this summer for a spring opening.

Selectman Walz inquired about the money left from the high school building project and Director of Finance Dottie Bavin said that there was a state contingency of 5%.

Selectman Walz said with that there were now two pictures of replenishment: the borrowing or the state contingency money.

Selectman Traugh asked if the money borrowed could go to Undesignated Fund Balance, and added the idea of the town issuing a short-term note.

Selectman Scarpati said that the Board of Finance could look into this question. He added that the town's ability to locate and purchase new fields is extremely slim so the key in field planning is to maximize existing fields.

Selectman Kokoruda added that synthetic fields give all seasons play with multiple sports being able to use it.

Selectman Scarpati said this issue could be put on the next regular meeting agenda as a 'Discuss and Announce' item.

5. Discuss and take action on retaining Wachovia Securities as consultant for the Town Pension Plan.

Selectman Kokoruda gave the report as the Acting First Selectman liaison of the Pension Committee and said the Pension Committee met and reviewed six proposals and unanimously decided to select the proposal from Wachovia Securities. She added that Wachovia Securities already has a contract with the Police Pension.

6. Discuss Moody's Investors Service "The Six Critical Components of Strong Municipal Management".

Selectman Scarpati read the key factors/summary of the six areas of review undertaken by Moody's when a municipality's bond rating is awarded and they included:

- 1) Multi-year modeling;
- 2) Debt planning (with a 10% debt limit suggested);
- 3) Financial planning – documented;
- 4) Succession planning in key human resources positions;
- 5) Economic development plan; and,
- 6) Auditing practices and timely disclosures.

Selectman Scarpati stated that in the Town of Madison 6 out of 6 of these factors are in place, have been implemented and are continually being refined. He elaborated that with item #5, economic development planning, that this could be better and that what Moody's looks at is the level of reliance on property tax as revenue and that in Madison's case, having projects like the Leyland development, would help reduce the reliance level reviewed by the bonding community.

7. Discuss and take action on acceptance of donation in the amount of \$1,500 from the Madison Lions Club to the Madison Youth & Family Services. This donation is earmarked for Peer Helper Training.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda to accept the donation in the amount of \$1,500 from the Madison Lions Club to the Madison Youth & Family Services, earmarked for Peer Helper Training, with the Town's thanks. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walz and was unanimously approved.

8. Discuss and take action on acceptance of donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the Madison Men's Softball League to the Madison Beach & Recreation Department

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda to accept the donation in the amount of \$1,000 from the Madison Men's Softball League to the Madison Beach & Recreation Department, with the Town's thanks. The motion was seconded by Selectman Walz and was unanimously approved.

Selectman Scarpati said that the Men's Softball League have requested that the appropriation be held for softball field improvements.

9. Discuss and take action on special appropriation requests from Police Department:

a) \$36,000 for Class OT-Spec. Duty Pay – To insure sufficient funds to complete the fiscal year and cover current shortfall.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the special appropriation request from the Police Department of \$36,000 for Class OT-Spec. Duty Pay – to insure sufficient funds to complete the fiscal year and cover current shortfall. This was unanimously approved.

b) \$11,000 for Gasoline – To provide sufficient funds to fuel police vehicles for the balance of the fiscal year.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the special appropriation request from the Police Department of \$11,000 for Gasoline – To provide sufficient funds to fuel police vehicles for the balance of the fiscal year. This was unanimously approved.

c) \$18,000 for Classified OT-Investigative – to provide sufficient funds to complete the fiscal year.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the special appropriation request from the Police Department of \$18,000 for Classified OT-Investigative – To provide sufficient funds to complete the fiscal year. This was unanimously approved.

Selectman Scarpati recognized Chief of Police, Paul Jakubson.

Chief Jakubson said that for the Selectmen's edification that there are many active cases and added that quite a number of them deal with Identity Theft. He added that Detective Jim Daniels was instrumental in writing, and getting passed, a bill that criminalizes the possession of devices used in the commission of identity theft.

Selectman Kokoruda and Selectman Traugh both made comment about having an educational presentation be created for town residents about Identity Theft.

Chief Jakubson added that he could contact a number of experts to help with the presentation that could be taped and aired on Madison's public access channel.

10. Discuss and take action on special appropriation request of \$20,000 for Town Council for projected funding required for legal services for the balance of the fiscal year.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the special appropriation request for Town Council for projected funding required for legal services for the balance of the fiscal year. This was unanimously approved.

11. Discuss and take action on special appropriation request of \$12,000 for Self-Insurance for additional funding required for prescription drug claims under Heart and Hypertension and 2004-2005 Reimbursable Deductible Insurance Claim for the Builders' lawsuit.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the special appropriation request of \$12,000 for Self-Insurance for additional funding required for prescription drug claims under Heart and Hypertension and 2004-2005 Reimbursable Deductible Insurance Claim for the Builders' lawsuit. This was unanimously approved.

12. The following line transfers are designated as routine and appropriate for approval as a single action by the Board of Selectmen, if so desired. A Board member may request removal of any line transfer item from the consent agenda for review and discussion.

Motion: To approve Line Transfers totaling \$45,788.79.

MOVED by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the line item transfers totaling \$45,788.79. This was unanimously approved.

Selectman Kokoruda noted that there was a difference of \$109 from the list of transfers compared to the total amount given.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Walz to approve the line item transfers totaling \$45,897.79. This was unanimously approved.

13. Discuss and take action on appointment of Joseph Oslander as Madison's representative to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District's Representative Policy Board for a three-year term (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009)

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the appointment of Joseph Oslander as Madison's representative to the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District's Representative Policy Board for a three-year term (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2009). This was unanimously approved. Selectman Kokoruda thanked Deborah Bunnell for her more than ten years of service in that position.

14. Discuss and take action on reappointment of Ruth Burris to the Senior Citizen Commission for a term to expire January 1, 2010.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the reappointment of Ruth Burris to the Senior Citizen Commission for a term to expire January 1, 2010. This was unanimously approved.

15. Discuss and take action on appointment of Richard Nace to the Rockland Preserve Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2009.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the appointment of Richard Nace to the Rockland Preserve Committee for a term to expire January 1, 2009. This was unanimously approved.

16. Discuss and take action on resignation of John F. O'Brien from the Solid Waste Disposal Commission.

MOVED by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to accept the resignation of John F. O'Brien from the Solid Waste Disposal Commission, with the Town's thanks. This was unanimously approved.

17. Liaison Reports

Board of Education – Selectman Traugh said there were recognition awards given for 1st Place in the Continental Math League, and another for 1st Place in Odyssey of the Mind. Selectman Traugh said the Board is developing Continuity of Operations Plan with their Pandemic Flu Plan. They also reviewed the status of the Jeffrey School playground project and the Bus Depot project, and they’re monitoring the Sewage Treatment system, which is still not yet up to strict standards in readings.

Library – Selectman Traugh submitted copies of the Library’s “Statement Of Mutual Agreement” and said she would like this to be an agenda item in June.

Selectman Walz added that this was initiated by a request from the Board of Finance.

18. Tax Abatements/Refunds

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the tax refund in the amount of \$26,165.78. This was unanimously approved.

REFUNDS

Raymond C. Fitzsimmons	\$ 26,165.78
------------------------	--------------

19. Selectmen Comments

Selectman Scarpati recognized Board of Finance Chairman Fillmore McPherson. Mr. McPherson said that the Board of Finance met last night and set the new mil rate at 22.28 mils, an increase of 1.05.

As an aside, Mr. McPherson said that in the State’s Property Tax Relief Rebate Program of \$33 million dollars, Madison received \$22,000. – and had this been done on a ‘per capita’ basis the amount would have been \$173,000.

Selectman Traugh read into record a memo from Selectman Gladstone issuing his regrets in not being to make this rescheduled Selectmen meeting.

Selectman Kokoruda encourage the public to come out for this Monday’s Memorial Day Parade.

Selectman Scarpati reminded the public that there will be a Special Board of Selectmen meeting on Thursday where the Charter Question of an elected or appointed Planning & Zoning Commission will be presented.

Selectman Scarpati commented that the Town referendum passed the budgets and this can be taken as an endorsement of the process – that the Long Range Plan gave the 4.9% level. He said that he would now be working to update and revise the plan and present it.

Selectman Scarpati brought up a recent Governor’s Education Cost Sharing Commission meeting he attended where representatives from the States of Ohio and Massachusetts made a presentation. He said Massachusetts ranks 1st in the nation for Achievement Tests for 4th grade and 8th grade math and reading; Ohio is 4th and Connecticut is 3rd. He added that there was discussion of spending per student comparisons and both Ohio and Massachusetts spend \$850 less per student than Connecticut. He said both states operate on Strategic Long Term Plans. And what he found interesting is that both states stopped waiting for the money before they made accountability improvements in their school systems, and that they put achievement demands into the administrations, into the school systems – so they’ve seen improvements from forced accountability.

D. ADJOURNMENT

20. Adjournment.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Walz to adjourn this evening’s meeting at 9:27 p.m. This was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:

Abigail White

Recording Secretary

Pro Tem