



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, February 26, 2007

MEETING PLACE:

Madison Room (Room A), Town Campus

First Selectman Scarpati called the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were Selectmen Scarpati, Walz, Gladstone, Kokoruda, and Traugh.

1. Approval of minutes – February 13, 2007.

MOVED by Selectman Walz and seconded by Selectman Traugh to accept the minutes of February 13, 2007 as presented. This was approved 4-0-1. Selectman Scarpati abstained.

2. Citizen Comments.

Peter VanStrum, 40 Strathmore Lane, attended the meeting on behalf of Team 20 and explained that about five years ago Team 20 was formed with the objective of filming and broadcasting Town board meetings. It was hoped that there would be enough volunteers so that each volunteer would tape one meeting per month. They are presently looking for someone to tape meetings on the third Wednesday of each month. Team 20 is now taping the Board of Education meetings, the Board of Education budget workshops, along with the Board of Selectmen meetings, Board of Finance meetings, and Planning and Zoning meetings. Mr. VanStrum mentioned he has put articles in newspapers, placed notices on Channel 20, and made announcements at the Over Sixty Luncheons; but has not had any response. First Selectman Scarpati suggested talking with Kathy DeBurra at the Senior Center. Selectman Walz suggested talking with other Town committees. If anyone is interested in volunteering on Team 20, they are asked to contact Peter VanStrum, Madison Public TV, at 245-5677 or the Office of the First Selectman at 245-5602.

First Selectman Scarpati wished to make a statement regarding a misprint that appeared in the Hartford Courant and New Haven Register indicating that the Town of Madison sold a parcel of land to him for \$1. This is totally wrong, and needs to be addressed and clarified. The newspapers have printed corrections that indicate the land was given to the Town of Madison from the State of Connecticut years ago in order to improve the turn coming out of Garnet Park—which was eventually not needed. During the recent construction project on Nathans Lane, a title search was conducted and the State asked that the Town of Madison give the property back to them; then Madison could have the remaining piece of property for their use. First Selectman Scarpati stated he did not pick up a piece of property on Boston Post Road for \$1.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Discuss and take action on proclaiming the week of March 11-17, 2007 as *Girl Scouts Make the World a Better Place Week*. Siobhan McHugh, Troop #2084 Leader, and several girl scouts approached the front of the room; Selectman Kokoruda read the following proclamation:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Monday, March 12, 2007, marks the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, throughout its distinguished history, Girl Scouting has helped build millions of girls and women of courage, confidence and character; and,

WHEREAS, through the dedication, time, and talent of volunteers of different backgrounds, abilities, and areas of expertise, the Girl Scout organization thrives for girls in so many settings,

WHEREAS, through Girl Scouting's unique leadership development program, girls define leadership by making the world a better place by discovering, connecting, and taking action in their communities; and,

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls' awareness of the opportunities available to them today in math, science, sports, technology, health and fields that can expand their horizons; and,

WHEREAS, more than 3.7 million Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating 95 years of this American tradition, with nearly 50 million women who grew up participating in Girl Scouting and exemplify the impact of this amazing movement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Thomas S. Scarpati, by virtue of the authority vested in me as First Selectman of the Town of Madison, do hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouts has made to America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 11 – 17, 2007 as ***Girl Scouts Make The World A Better Place Week***.

DONE...this, the 26th day of February, two thousand and seven in the Town of Madison, CT.

For the Board of Selectmen
Thomas S. Scarpati

4. Discuss and take action on calling a Public Hearing for Wednesday, March 28, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School for the purpose of a budget presentation by the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education conducted by the Board of Finance in accordance with the Town Charter 10.5.A.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to call a Public Hearing for March 28, 2007. This was unanimously approved.

5. Discuss and take action on a request from the Shellfish Commission for permission to use town-owned land for public access and to apply for a grant for improvements.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to discuss and take action on a request from the Shellfish Commission. Steve Nikituk, Chairman of the Shellfish Commission, commented that the mission of his commission is to restore shellfish beds and to provide for recreation. He explained the reason he was making the request was to ask for the Board of Selectmen's permission before he goes to the Town Engineer to restore a hardshell clam and quahog bed. The Shellfish Commission would like to go through the process of engineering design, obtaining approval from the Department of Environmental Protection, looking at cost estimates for the program, and to apply for State grants. Selectman Gladstone stated 'go for it,' it would be exciting to have more access to our public waters. Mr. Nikituk read an email from Public Works Director Stew MacMillan stating he has 'no objection' with the presentation, but would ask that the Shellfish Commission work with the Town Engineer to evaluate the project prior to

applying for grant funding. First Selectman Scarpati stated it is a good idea, made a **MOTION**, and suggested the wording be changed on the request to “Discuss and take action on a request from the Shellfish Commission for permission to use town-owned land for public access and to work with engineering on a plan for improvements.” The Board of Selectmen’s decision to authorize grant application is being deferred until the Shellfish Commission meets with the Town Engineer. This was seconded by Selectman Gladstone and unanimously approved. First Selectman Scarpati thanked Shellfish Commissioner Nikituk for his efforts to resurrect the program.

6. Discuss and take action on accepting the revised job evaluation for the Senior Center Coordinator. Approved by the Job Evaluation Committee on 1/25/07. Increase retro to January 1, 2007. Pro-rated increase total \$3,000—total base of \$42,520. Additional dollars for January 2007 to June 2007 = \$1,500.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to accept the revised job evaluation for the Senior Center Coordinator. Director of Social Services David Melillo stated there has been an increase in the number of citizens participating and number of programs at the Senior Center, including Dial-a-Ride, Medicare Part B, and Meals on Wheels. Senior Center Coordinator Kathy DeBurra has streamlined the programs and there is a \$5,000 savings for bus drivers. This was unanimously approved. Selectman Kokoruda asked if there would be a line item transfer to support this. Mr. Melillo indicated he would prepare one for the next meeting.

7. Discuss and take action on the hiring of Nancy Martucci to the Assistant Town Clerk position effective 2/27/07. Non-union, N-6 Step 1, \$13.58 with an evaluation at the end of the 6-month probationary period to increase step movement to Step 2.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to hire Nancy Martucci to the Assistant Town Clerk position. Director of Human Resources Katherine Christopher stated with the Board of Selectmen’s approval; she will begin tomorrow (2/27/2007). She has a strong administrative and legal background, wants to work in Madison, and wants to work in Town government. This was unanimously approved.

8. Discuss and take action on the four-year appointment of Robert Rothstein as Building Official, Full-time—effective 2/27/07. Salary \$63,000—Level E-5. Mr. Rothstein has been employed on a part-time basis since 7/1/05. He was a contractual employee for Madison prior to that.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to appoint (four-year appointment) Robert Rothstein as the Town's new Building Official. This was unanimously approved.

9. Discuss and take action on a special appropriation request of \$5,500 from the Madison Probate Court for the purchase of a new copy machine.

MOVED by Selectman Traugh and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to approve a special appropriation request of \$5,500 from the Madison Probate Court for the purchase of a new copy machine. Probate Judge Phil Zuckerman stated that if a Town wishes to have a Probate Court, they (the Town) are responsible for purchasing and maintaining a copy machine. He furthered that, for example, a trust document could possibly be over 100 pages and that his office can charge \$1 per page; but must produce the document. Director of Technology Art Sickle has evaluated the Probate Court's needs and has made suggestions for the type of machine to purchase. This was unanimously approved.

10. Discuss and take action on the following line item transfer requests from the Police Department:

\$200 from Police Services and Supplies to Purchase Services

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the line item transfer request from the Police Department for \$200 from Police Services and Supplies to Purchase Services. This was unanimously approved.

\$4,600 from Maintenance by Public Works to Overtime-Investigations

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the line item transfer request from the Police Department for \$4,600 from Maintenance by Public Works to Overtime-Investigations. This was unanimously approved.

11. Board of Selectman receive Town Requested Budget.

'Town Requested Budget' notebooks were given to the Selectmen. First Selectman Scarpati stated the Board of Selectmen has now received their Town Requested Budget and the budget review process begins March 6, 2007.

12. Board of Selectmen receive Draft Strategic Plan.

Assistant for Administration Helen Burland began by stating they met as a group of directors to prepare a Draft Strategic Plan that would reflect five years of goals and objectives. They met on Fridays during January and February 2007 and had 100 percent department participation. The mission statement was to define core beliefs/values; identify strengths and weaknesses; and then classify them into categories. We developed goals and objectives built on strengths and identified the weaknesses with objectives to address those weaknesses. We assigned years and responsibilities to each goal and objective. The workgroup feels they have taken it as far as they can before going to the Board of Selectmen to request feedback. The group suggested scheduling a workshop where they could meet with the Board of Selectmen to walk through the documents (interactive/informal discussion). This will be scheduled in early April. This was the first shot at a Strategic Plan on behalf of the Town. Selectman Gladstone stated it is refreshing and exciting to see a longer vision than just one budget cycle. Selectman Traugh commented that the workshop session should be informal. This plan could become more refined as we go through the budget process. She questioned department-specific objectives; Assistant for Administration Helen Burland responded that they were not addressed because some departments already have objectives they are working on and they did not have the time to dedicate to specifics. Maybe they will be discussed at a later date. Selectman Kokoruda commented that the plan did not address energy. She stated there were many great ideas; the workgroup members made a wonderful effort.

13. Discuss findings of Feasibility Study on Academy Street School.

Assistant for Administration Helen Burland started by saying the study looks at Academy School as (1) a school and (2) alternative uses for the building. Alternative (2)

was dropped because the Board of Education made a decision that Academy Street School should remain as a school. The workgroup then divided the options into four:

Renovation (Option A):

Includes limited renovations of the existing building to address Building and Life Safety Codes, accessibility, and infrastructure demands. The program includes 13 core classrooms supporting a student capacity of 280.

- limits student capacity to 280 (4 grades, 3 classrooms, 1 swing classroom)
- Town would assume all costs; shorter timeframe
- sprinkler installation; asbestos?
- total usable building area would 41,380 square feet
- travel prohibited from old to new portions through the basement—thus 2 elevators
- no core classrooms below grade

Renovate as New (Option B):

Includes more extensive renovations to meet the definition of ‘Renovation’ as established in Bureau of School Facilities Public Act 96-270 and commonly referred to as “Renovate as New.” The program includes 13 core classrooms supporting a student capacity of 280.

- limits student capacity to 280 (4 grades, 3 classrooms, 1 swing classroom)
- 3-year process, referendum, apply for State funding
- shelf-life of 20 years
- tied to State reimbursement opportunities
- sprinkler installation; asbestos?
- total usable building area would be 41,380 square feet
- travel prohibited from old to new portions through the basement—thus 2 elevators
- no core classrooms below grade

New Facility (Option C):

Demolishes the existing building in total and provides a new facility on the same site. The program includes 16 core classrooms supporting a student capacity of 350.

- 3-year process, referendum, apply for State funding
- 43,400 square feet
- 4 grades, 4 classrooms
- rebuild with architectural style

Addition/Renovation (Option D):

A partial demolition of the existing building, removing the 1936 addition, and providing a new replacement addition. The program includes 16 core classrooms supporting a student capacity of 350.

- 3-year process, referendum, apply for State funding
- keep the same façade and work inside
- renovations and new construction total building area would be 51,468 square feet
- 4 grades, 4 classrooms

First Selectman Scarpati commented that it is a great report. Some questions are whether there is a lesser number that could bring the school on-line and how long would

Option A last? Selectman Walz questioned whether the Town is ready to open Academy Street School—why? Board of Education Chairman Bob Hale stated that in order to have all-day kindergarten, Academy Street School would need to be re-opened. The Board of Education’s preference is to keep Academy Street School as a school with 350 students. Selectman Traugh stated we need to look at this seriously and move ahead with discussion; it’s been on the back burner for years. First Selectman Scarpati stated there is no way we would have an appropriate amount of time to agree on something of this magnitude in the next few months. He asked what the current plan would be for Island Avenue School? Board of Education Chairman Bob Hale stated they would plan to open Academy Street School first as a 350-student building, then Island Avenue School would house the Early Childhood Program, ACES, or a full-day kindergarten. This would take some of the load off of Jeffrey Elementary School because the core facility for Jeffrey is not large enough for the 650- student capacity. Bob Hale stated the group did an outstanding job; it gives the Board of Education something to think about. This is a very complete document and presents all possible options. A copy of the Facilities Study – Academy Elementary School by JCJArchitecture dated February 1, 2007 is available for review in the Madison Town Clerk’s Office, the First Selectman’s Office, and the Library.

14. Tax Abatements/Refunds.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the requests for tax abatements/refunds in the amount of \$6,281.89:

REFUNDS

Eric A. June	\$ 51.49
Pamela & Jeffrey Rosenberg	\$ 6,150.40
Jean & George Cook	\$ 80.00

Total Refunds: \$6,281.89

This was unanimously approved.

15. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Walz to open the agenda in order to discuss the Senior Center/Ambulance Association Building. First

Selectman Scarpati indicated as a result of the data presented at the last meeting, we would like a resolution on the Senior Center at the first meeting in March. He suggested the agenda for the next meeting should be kept 'lean' so the Board of Selectmen can conduct an extended public session and act on a resolution to move the project forward. If positive, the Board of Finance will get it in mid March; they will need 1-2 months. At the early April 2007 meeting, the Board of Selectmen's resolution would be to set the referendum for the budget to include the resolution for this project pending the approval of the Board of Finance. This was unanimously approved.

16. Adjournment.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Walz to adjourn the meeting at 9:39 p.m. This was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Palmer
Recording Secretary