



TOWN OF MADISON
CONNECTICUT
06443-2563

Alfred Goldberg, First Selectman
William Gladstone
Noreen Kokoruda
Joseph MacDougald
Kathi Traugh

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, September 29, 2009

MEETING PLACE:

Madison Room A - Town Campus

**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes**

Special Executive Session

First Selectman Goldberg called the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 6:03 p.m. Present were Selectmen Goldberg, Traugh, MacDougald, Gladstone, and Kokoruda. Also in attendance were: Alicia Betty (Trust for Public Land), Fillmore McPherson (Board of Finance member), and Mike Ott (Director of Public Works and Town Engineer).

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Traugh to enter into a Special Executive Session to discuss the following:

1. Contract discussions with Trust for Public Land.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to exit the Special Executive Session at 7:05 p.m.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearing

First Selectman Goldberg opened the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m. for the following Item #2. Present were Selectmen Goldberg, Traugh, MacDougald, Gladstone, and Kokoruda.

2. Public Hearing for the purpose of receiving public comment, opposition and support regarding proposed new ordinance "Newsrack Ordinance." This proposed new ordinance will be voted on at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:24 p.m.

Regular Session

First Selectman Goldberg called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:30 p.m. Present were Selectmen Goldberg, Traugh, Gladstone, and Kokoruda. Selectman MacDougald was absent.

3. Recognition of 39 years of the ABC (A Better Chance) Program.

RECOGNITION: President of Madison A Better Chance Bill Stableford introduced the five current ABC students. He explained the mission of the ABC program is to recruit academically qualified students from inner cities and invite them to live and stay in Madison for their four years of high school. The students receive a full scholarship, attend Daniel Hand High School, and live at the Madison ABC residence. This is Madison's 39th consecutive year in operation as an ABC Program. There are only 24 schools in the nation with a community school program like this. Each of the five (5) students introduced themselves (three juniors, one sophomore, and one freshman). Mr. Stableford introduced the Resident Director and the Resident Tutor.

4. Approval of Minutes - September 14, 2009.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2009 as amended.

Item 1, DISCUSSION, last sentence should read:

Public comments were received in favor of and against the proposed project.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

5. Citizen comments.

Pam McKinnon, 53 West Wharf Road, took the opportunity to thank the Board of Selectmen for their continued support of the Madison Downtown Project. The Town was notified on Friday, September 25, 2009 that a \$200,000 STEAP Grant was awarded to Madison for the downtown project. This is the second STEAP Grant the Town has received. She stated her committee is very close to getting CL&P to start their work.

Walter Lippmann, a Madison resident, complimented the efforts of Ms. McKinnon's committee and made comments on the Police Commission meeting, their lack of accepting citizen comments, and the process they are following to hire a new police chief.

OLD BUSINESS

6. Update on traffic calming programs (tabled 9/14/09).

UPDATE: Director of Public Works and Town Engineer Mike Ott reported his department has collected data and is currently analyzing the data regarding speed and volume of vehicles on Waterbury Avenue. A traffic calming program and the process to be followed are still being worked on.

NEW BUSINESS

7. Presentation of final report from the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee.

PRESENTATION: Chairman of the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee Ed Dowling introduced the committee members: James Matteson, Peter Metz, Peter Pardo, Virginia Raff, Robert Regan, and

Linda Smith-Criddle. Mr. Dowling summarized the goal of the Committee was to provide a framework for ethical behavior within which all Town officials, employees, and volunteers can conduct their duties and responsibilities with confidence and transparency. The Committee believes a key element of the adoption of any ethics policy is a comprehensive orientation and communication process to introduce the Policy to all affected individuals as well as to inform the citizens of Madison. The report was officially received from the Ad Hoc Ethics Committee. It will be placed on a future Board of Selectmen meeting agenda.

8. Discuss and take action on the Board of Education's proposal for establishment of a Reserve Fund for unanticipated Special Education Placements.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Gladstone to recommend the Board of Education's proposal for **establishment of a Reserve Fund for unanticipated Special Education placements** to the Board of Finance for further action.

DISCUSSION: Bob Hale, Chairman of the Board of Education, reported that the Board returned \$219,000 to the Town in unexpended funds for the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 budget. David Klein, Superintendent of Schools, requested that \$75,000 of the \$219,000 be set aside to establish a Reserve Fund for the unexpected outplacement of special education students.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

9. Update on Capital Region Council of Governments (CRCOG) Solid Waste Plan.

UPDATE: Stew MacMillan, former Public Works Director and Town Engineer, explained the Town of Madison is currently a member of the Mid-Connecticut trash to energy plant operated by CRRRA and the contract expires late 2011/early 2012. The CRCOG has invited Madison and other mid-Connecticut towns to consider joining that authority, including a \$500 earnest money fee to defray the expenses of creating the authority documents. At any time, the Town can opt out of the commitment.

10. Discuss and take action on request from Madison Police Department to apply for a DUI Enforcement Grant.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve the request from the Madison Police Department to apply for a **DUI Enforcement Grant**.

DISCUSSION: Lieutenant Bob Stimpson reported that the Town applies for this grant on an annual basis. There has been a 50% drop in DUI arrests in one year. Their goal is to reduce DUI and alcohol-related crashes and this grant allows for extra officers to be placed on patrol on weekends and holiday periods.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action on Special Appropriation request of \$20,000 for additional funding required for projected expenditures for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for unemployment benefits.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve **Special Appropriation request of \$20,000 for additional funding required for projected expenditures for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 for unemployment benefits.**

DISCUSSION: Director of Finance Dotty Bavin reported that the Town does not pay unemployment taxes on their payroll; the Town is billed when a former employee collects unemployment. Historically the Town spends \$4.5K per year; this year the Town's exposure is higher due to high unemployment and unemployment benefits being extended up to 72 weeks.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

12. The following line item 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 item transfer from the consent agenda for review and discussion.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve line item transfers in the amount of **\$19,389.15**. A copy of "Summary of Line Transfers" dated September 29, 2009 is attached to these minutes.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

13. Discuss timeliness of implementation of the position of **Director of Land Use Operations and Planning.**

DISCUSSION: First Selectman Goldberg summarized that a year ago during the budget development process, the Board of Selectmen pulled the proposed position of Director of Land Use Operations and Planning from the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget due to the economic recession. The Town has never had a high-level land use planning position; the need for this position continues and the Board of Selectmen should discuss this item again to decide if the Town should go forward now or at some other time. Selectman Kokoruda commented a job description was approved a year ago, the need is great, we cannot wait; she suggested bringing someone on board in January 2010. Selectman Gladstone commented that at a recent Economic Development Committee meeting, members had a discussion to move forward now because it will pay dividends in the future. Pete Thomas, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission, stated the biggest concern is 'when' not 'why.' We need to get someone inside the Town Campus now; we cannot 'not' afford it. Selectman Traugh commented she is hesitant to change a budget that the Town has already approved. Selectman Kokoruda asked that this item be placed on their next agenda.

14. Tax Abatements/Refunds.

MOVED by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Traugh to approve **prior year and current year refunds in the amount of \$1,650.24.**

<u>PRIOR YEAR</u>	
CAB East LLC	\$ 159.31
<u>CURRENT YEAR</u>	
Toyota Motor Credit Corporation	\$ 249.98
Timothy D. Keefe	\$ 31.69
DCFS Trust	\$ 31.46
GMAC	\$ 731.68
Nissan Infiniti LT	\$ 20.85
William R. Platt	\$ 25.51
Honda Lease Trust	\$ 100.09
Toyota Motor Credit Corporation	\$ 299.67

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

15. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments.

Selectman Traugh

- she attended the recent Scranton Library board meeting; they are still discussing their renovation project
- the Shellfish Commission had a successful clam dig in September 2009

Selectman Kokoruda

- the Senior Commission met to discuss their strategic plan
- the State of Connecticut gave out 100 STEAP Grants
- the Joint Facilities Review Committee had their 1st workshop; the next community forum is scheduled for October 29th

Selectman Gladstone

- the return of \$219K from the Board of Education from last year's budget was nice; the Town also returned \$400K+
- he is getting information from Deb Heinrich that the wastewater systems have been approved by DEP for the Town of Old Saybrook

First Selectman Goldberg

- the log jam in Hartford over the current fiscal year's budget was passed; the Town of Madison was not harmed by the final state money; we came in within the range we had expected
- a Town Meeting on the West Wharf Land Swap is tomorrow evening, September 30, 2009
- the Board of Selectmen will announce the possibility of purchasing the Griswold Airport property, the voters will decide

16. Adjournment.

MOVED by Selectman Gladstone and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to adjourn the Board of Selectmen meeting at 9:32 p.m.

VOTE: This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Palmer
Recording Secretary