



**TOWN OF MADISON**  
CONNECTICUT  
06443-2563

Fillmore McPherson,  
First Selectman  
William Gladstone  
Al Goldberg  
Noreen Kokoruda  
Joseph MacDougald

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**MEETING DATE:**

Monday, June 28, 2010

**MEETING PLACE:**

James Madison Room (Room A) - Town Campus

**Board of Selectmen - Regular and Special Meeting**  
**Board of Finance - Special Meeting**  
**Minutes**

First Selectman McPherson called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen of Monday, June 28, 2010 to order at 6:45 p.m. Present were:

Board of Selectmen: First Selectman McPherson  
Selectman MacDougald  
Selectman Kokoruda  
Selectman Goldberg  
Selectman Gladstone (absent)

Also in attendance: Town Attorney Floyd Dugas  
Town Attorney Ira Bloom  
Chairman of the Board of Finance Helen Burland  
Manager of Human Resources Rita Umile  
Kathy Rossini, Kathy Stahelski, Jim Matteson, Jennifer Tung and  
Peggy Lyons - BOF Members

**CALLED** by First Selectman McPherson, **MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald, and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the following agenda item.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

1. Review of open legal issues

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to exit Executive Session at 7:20 p.m.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

2. First Selectman McPherson and Helen Burland, Chairman of the Board of Finance, called the Special Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance to order at 7:31 p.m. The joint meeting has been scheduled to propose a new budget because the first and second Town budget referendums did not pass. Present were:

Board of Selectmen: First Selectman McPherson  
Selectman MacDougald  
Selectmen Kokoruda  
Selectman Goldberg  
Selectman Gladstone (absent)

Board of Finance: Chairman Helen Burland  
Member Peggy Lyons

Member Kathy Stahelski  
Member Kathy Rossini  
Member Jennifer Tung  
Member Jim Matteson

### 3. Citizen Comments

Public input was received from the following:

Bob Roxborough (Woodsvale Road)  
Gus Horvath (Aylesbury Circle)  
Bill Barker (Hamilton Drive)  
Walter Lippmann (Sycamore Lane)  
Donna Farrell (Country Way)  
Mahlon Hale (Middle Beach Road)  
Ted Mallory (North Avenue) (Chairman of the Scranton Library Board)  
Ellen Benevento (Brantwood Drive)  
Barbara Davis (Stone Road)  
Robert Willenkin (Neck Road)  
Herb Gram (Boston Post Road)  
Ron Hick (Hamilton Drive)  
David Melillo (read letter from Pat Melady, Chairman of the Senior Citizen Commission)  
Charles Beckman (County Road)  
Colin Reeve (Williamsburg Circle)  
Marlene Beckman (County Road)  
Eric Thornburg (Chairman of the Board of Police Commissioners)

### 4. Discuss budget action

**DISCUSSION:** First Selectman McPherson outlined a proposed zero operational budget of \$314K with reductions in the following areas:

- Eliminate the proposed senior services director position
- Eliminate the proposed 2% pay increases for Town employees
- Postpone hiring one new police officer until October 1, 2010 and postpone hiring the second officer until April 2011
- Saving on worker's compensation, liability, auto, and property insurance
- Cut contract for Town landscaping services in half
- Regionalization concept or subcontracting of the building official position
- Decreasing the proposed library budget to a zero increase or an additional \$10K to bring it below zero
- Eliminate insurance funding to Friends of Madison Youth
- Decrease funding to Madison Cable TV (MCTV)
- Decrease proposed funding to the Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) to a zero increase
- Decreasing non-public nurses to zero increase
- Reduction in office furniture
- Reduction due to the delay in opening of new Senior Center

Ms. Tung suggested cutting the furniture budget further and questioned how many Town employees have cell phones. Ms. Kokoruda commented the Griswold Airport purchase has been controversial; it was not fully supported by our residents. During these tough economic times maybe we should fund only the State requirement for our Plan of Conservation and Development. Mr. Matteson suggested putting the 2% pay increases back in for Town employees; maybe there could be a cut in staff development; and the funding of LOCAP is important. Ms. Burland suggested the Town look closely at future vehicle inventory when the next new purchase comes up and look at the replacement schedule. Mr. Goldberg commented the Senior Services Commission has requested that the \$11K removed from the first budget be restored to cover items they had cut earlier. The Town's confidence in our Police Department has returned; he is reluctant to postpone hiring new police officers; we need three (3) patrolmen on each shift due to the increasing demands in the number of calls for police services. In

terms of Friends of Madison Youth, we need to be inventive on how we structure our relationship with this non-Town agency. We should also look at regionalization of services and manpower. Ms. Rossini would like to see some or all of the funds reinstated for Youth and Family Services and Senior Services; in LOCAP we can cut some maintenance. She has been in favor of keeping the 2% pay increases for Town employees and not singling them out. Mr. MacDougald commented the Town should focus on the timing of LOCAP projects. He would like to see the 2% or close to 2% salary increases for Town employees restored. Ms. Stahelski questioned which LOCAP projects would be affected by the lack of a budget. Director of Facilities Bill McMinn replied there were two projects: the siding on Brown School and the sideway/driveway improvements at Daniel Hand High School. Ms. Rossini questioned funding GASB and the North Madison water tank. Ms. Burland commented she would prefer to use LOCAP planning money before taking money from other accounts because the LOCAP planning funds are not tied to any specific project at this point in time. Ms. Tung commented with regards to the North Madison water tank, \$30K was requested and has already been reduced to \$20K. Ms. Lyons spoke in favor of pay increases for non-exempt employees, the library has already taken a cut, she does not support a below zero cut for them. She would like to keep funding for the VNA, restore senior services cuts, cut the legal budget, cut some money from LOCAP, and is in favor of regionalization. Ms. Kokoruda commented we should not balance our budget on the backs of our Town employees. We have heard from the Townspeople that they don't want to see the proposed 2% increases eliminated. Director of Town Services Alma Carroll thanked the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Finance, and the Townspeople for listening to the needs of Town employees.

**NEXT BOARD OF FINANCE MEETING:** The Board of Finance set Thursday, July 1, 2010, 7:00 p.m. for a Special Board of Finance Meeting to discuss and take action on a recommended Town budget to be presented at the Public Hearing on July 14th at 7:00 p.m. in the Polson School Auditorium.

There being no objection, First Selectman McPherson adjourned the Special Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance at 9:51 pm.

\*\*\*\*\* short recess \*\*\*\*\*

5. First Selectman McPherson called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 9:58 p.m.

6. Approval of minutes - June 14, 2010 - Regular Board of Selectmen Meeting

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting of June 14, 2010 as amended.

Item 8. The following sentence in Item 8 should read:

**MOVED** and **RESOLVED** by First Selectman McPherson and seconded by Selectman MacDougald that any such action taken by the preceding resolution be reported at the following Board of Selectmen meeting.

**VOTE:** This motion to amend was approved unanimously.

Approval of minutes - June 16, 2010 - Special Board of Selectmen Meeting

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen meeting of June 16, 2010 as written.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

#### 8. First Selectman's Comments

(a) Real estate tax bills were mailed today with the interim mill rate. Automobile and personal property tax bills will be mailed next week. The real estate tax bills do not include prior year and senior abatements because they depend on having an approved budget in place.

(b) He has toured the condition of the downtown sidewalks and is moving forward with immediate repairs to the most egregious areas.

(c) There have been many issues regarding the Surf Club - poor behavior from some of our children, cleanliness issues with the facilities, young people being dropped off as though the Town is the babysitter, our summer employees receiving a razzing from residents - these actions are not worthy of our Town.

Madison youth have done a tremendous job over the past year in their respective sports. Specifically,

Girls' Soccer - won the SCC Championship

Field Hockey - won the SCC Championship

Indoor Track - boys were the Class L State Runner-ups and the Divisional Championship and the girls won the Divisional Championship

Softball Team - won the SCC Championship

Girls' Tennis - won the SCC Championship

Girls' Lacrosse - won the SCC Championship

Boys' Outdoor Track - won the Class L State Championship

Girls' Outdoor Track - won the Class MM State Championship and were the National Champions in the 4x800 meters relay team

2009-2010 1<sup>st</sup> place for Michael's Cup - the Standard for Excellence in Connecticut High School Sports

Note: SCC = Southern Connecticut Conference

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to open the agenda and add the following two (2) items:

**13.A.** Discuss and take action on a resolution for a regional energy initiative.

**18.A.** Discuss and take action on downtown sidewalks.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to close the agenda.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

#### 7. Citizen Comments

Joan O'Neill, Pepperwood Court, stated she is against taking \$100K from the Land Acquisition fund for the Griswold Airport purchase. It is important to remember that a majority of the Townspeople voted for the acquisition of the Griswold Airport; \$100K is a drop in the budget for Griswold - but not for future acquisitions.

Walter Lippmann, Sycamore Lane, informed the Board that there are numerous police jurisdictions who are laying off their police officers; this could be an asset for Madison because we would not need

to spend \$100K to train them at the Police Academy. We tend to train police officers for other jurisdictions. In regards to his recent Freedom of Information (FOI) request/letter, it is time for the Town to get tough with the downtown property owners to repair their sidewalks - they are violating Town ordinance.

### OLD BUSINESS

9. Discuss and take action on recommendation from the Democratic Town Committee to appoint Tracey Barrett as an Alternate Member to the Planning and Zoning Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire 1/1/2014 (tabled 5/10/10).

**DISCUSSION:** This item remains tabled.

10. Discuss and take action on awarding bid for the repair of the Town Campus Learning Center Playground to the low bidder (tabled 6/14/10).

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to untable this item.

**VOTE:** This motion to untable was approved unanimously.

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to award bid for the repair of the Town Campus Learning Center Playground to the low bidder Alpha Playgrounds.

**DISCUSSION:** Director of Facilities Bill McMinn recommended awarding the contract to the low bidder Alpha Playgrounds and the alternate repair to the playground for a total of **\$14,820.00**.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

11. Discuss and take action on request from Madison Land Conservation Trust regarding Neck River Farms open space parcels (tabled 6/14/10).

**DISCUSSION:** This item remains tabled.

### NEW BUSINESS

12. Discuss and take action on calling a Public Hearing on the preliminary Town Budget as recommended by the Board of Finance on Wednesday, July 14, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.E).

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to call a **Public Hearing on the preliminary Town Budget as recommended by the Board of Finance on Wednesday, July 14, 2010** at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium of the Walter C. Polson Middle School in accordance with the Town Charter (10.5.E).

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

13. Discuss and take action on setting referendum date on the Town Budget for Tuesday, July 27, 2010 pending approval of dollar amounts from the Board of Finance Special Meeting on July 14, 2010.

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to set **referendum date on the Town Budget for Tuesday, July 27, 2010** pending approval of dollar amounts from the Board of Finance Special Meeting on July 14, 2010.

**DISCUSSION:** Director of Town Services Alma Carroll stated that due to staffing issues, the Town Clerk's office will not be open the Saturday before the July 27<sup>th</sup> referendum.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**13.A.** Discuss and take action on request from the Ad Hoc Energy Committee to adopt the following resolution.

**Town of Madison**  
**Resolution on Regional Energy Initiatives**

The Board of Selectmen recognizes the long term escalating cost of all forms of energy and the rapid evolution of technology and strategies to deal with those costs. The Board further recognizes its obligation to address these complex trends to assure effectiveness of town operations in a financially prudent manner.

To further this goal, the Board of Selectmen continues to support the Shoreline and Central Connecticut Regional Energy Initiative in collaboration with following towns: Branford, Durham, Guilford, Killingworth, Madison and Westbrook.

The Board of Selectmen further authorizes the First Selectman, after appropriate legal review, to sign the inter-town agreement and the eventual professional services agreement.

The Board of Selectman further approves the following to serve, in addition to the First Selectman, on the Steering Committee of the Shoreline and Central Connecticut Regional Energy Initiative:

1. Frank Altieri
2. David McIntosh

And the following to serve as alternates and advisors

1. Dean Plummer
2. Bill McMinn

Approved on date: June 28, 2010  
By the Board of Selectmen, Town of Madison Connecticut

**READ AND MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve the above-read Resolution.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**14.** Discuss and take action on applying \$100,000 from the Open Space Reserve Fund to debt service payments in the 2010-11 budget for the Griswold Airport purchase (pending approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Finance).

**DISCUSSION:** Selectman MacDougald clarified this request is for \$100K for the 2010-11 fiscal year only. First Selectman McPherson stated he would like to apply \$100K for each of the next three years; but that can be discussed later. Selectman Kokoruda stated the \$300K in the Open Space Reserve Fund is not presently slated for any particular parcel of land.

**MOVED** by Selectman McPherson and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to approve applying **\$75,000 from the Open Space Reserve Fund to debt service payments in the 2010-11 budget for the Griswold Airport purchase**, pending approval of the Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Finance.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved (3-1).

**15.** Discuss and take action on request from the Town Clerk to adopt the following resolution:

**Resolved** that Fillmore McPherson, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to adopt the above-read resolution regarding an **Historic Documents Preservation Grant**.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

16. Discuss and take action on establishing an Ad Hoc Pension Review Committee to study and make recommendations on implementing a Defined Contribution Pension Plan for Town employees and to appoint the following to the committee:

Fillmore McPherson - Board of Selectmen  
Al Goldberg - Board of Selectmen  
Helen Burland - Board of Finance  
Kathy Stahelski - Board of Finance  
Becky Coffey - Board of Education  
Ed Dowling - Board of Police Commissioners

Term of the Committee not to exceed March 1, 2011.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to establish an **Ad Hoc Pension Review Committee** to study and make recommendations on implementing a **Defined Contribution Pension Plan for Town employees** and to appoint the above-read members. The term of the committee is not to exceed March 1, 2011.

**DISCUSSION:** Director of Town Services Alma Carroll asked that a Town employee also participate on this committee. First Selectman McPherson stated he will discuss this item at the next Senior Staff Meeting and decide which Town employee(s) would get involved.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

17. Discuss and take action on the following recommendations from the Republican Town Committee to appoint the following:

Bauer Park

Jeff Brohel - to fill a vacancy for a term to expire 1/1/2013  
John Paulson - term to expire 1/1/2014

Building Code of Appeals

Mitch Cohan - term to expire 1/1/2014

Inland Wetlands

Bob Zodon - term to expire 1/1/2014

Town Landscape Committee

Eileen Johnson - term to expire 1/1/2014  
Gunnar Johnson - term to expire 1/1/2014

**READ AND MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to appoint the above-read names to their respective committees.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

18. Review of revised Board of Selectmen Policy on **Acceptance of Gifts**.

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman MacDougald to adopt the revised Board of Selectmen Policy on Acceptance of Gifts.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**18.A. Discuss and take action on repair of downtown sidewalks.**

**DISCUSSION:** First Selectman McPherson commented the downtown sidewalks are in poor condition. The property owners were sent notices on April 1, 2010; if after 30 days there is no action taken, the Town can do the repair work. Even though the sidewalks will be ripped up in a couple of years during the downtown redevelopment project, he is proposing that our Town Engineer repair the worst spots and send bills to the respective property owners.

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to approve action on repair of downtown sidewalks as stated above.

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**19. Discuss and take action on resignation of Peter Thomas from the Economic Development Commission.**

**MOVED** by Selectman MacDougald and seconded by Selectman Kokoruda to accept the **resignation of Peter Thomas from the Economic Development Commission** - with our great thanks!

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**20. Discuss and take action on request by Heritage Taxi to expand their service to include Madison.**

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to approve request by **Heritage Taxi to expand their service to include Madison.**

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**21. Discuss and take action on changing the date of the July Board of Selectmen's Meeting from July 26 to July 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.**

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **change the date of the July 2010 Board of Selectmen's Meeting from July 26 to July 19, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.**

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**22. Refunds**

**MOVED** by Selectman Kokoruda and seconded by Selectman Goldberg to **approve Refunds in the amount of \$2,260.91.**

**REFUND OF PROPERTY TAXES**

BMW Financial Services	\$ 1,423.83
CAB East LLC	\$ 837.08

**VOTE:** This motion was approved unanimously.

**23. Liaison Reports/Selectmen Comments**

None.

**24. Adjournment**

There being no objections, First Selectman McPherson adjourned the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 11:02 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Judy Palmer  
Recording Secretary