

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
January 5, 2011**

Present: First Selectman Thomas Frenaye, Eileen Moncrief, Brian Fitzgerald, Timothy Reynolds and Joanne Sullivan. Mr. Frenaye called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on January 5, 2011 in the lower level conference room.

Minutes: Selectman Reynolds made an amendment to the Minutes of December 15, 2010, under the second Public Input paragraph on the last page under Art Christian's comment to read that it was "Mr. Reynolds and not Mr. Christian that said he wanted to go on record stating that he is part of the RTC and that he never voted on this as a member of the RTC." Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the Minutes of December 15, 2010 with the amendment. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comment:

None

Mini Bus Grant Application:

Mini Bus Coordinator, Denise Winiarski (not present) was requesting Selectmen's approval of an application to the Department of Transportation for a new Mini Bus under the 5310 Grant Program. The Grant is for 80% State funds and 20% from the Reserve Fund, which allows the Town to purchase a new Mini Bus. This Grant which will replace Bus #15 which has 115,000 miles.

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the grant application to the Department of Transportation for a 5310 Grant of 80% State Funds and 20% from the Mini Bus Reserve Funds, for a new Mini Bus to replace Bus #15 and forward this recommendation to the Board of Finance for consideration.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked how old Bus #15 is and how much money is in the Reserve Fund and if this Fund is controlled by the Town. Mr. Frenaye will get back to him on this.

Farm Viability Grant:

Town Planner, Bill Hawkins (not present) has received a \$42,800 in a Farm Viability Grant and was requesting a resolution giving authorization to spend the funds. The Grant will be used for variety of projects such as updating the GIS data base and promoting Farmer's Markets and other projects which support the Farming Community.

Selectman Moncrief made the following Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that it is in the best interest of the Town of Suffield to enter into contracts with the Department of Agriculture.

IN FUTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION, the Honorable Thomas Frenaye, First Selectmen is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts dated _____ on behalf of the Town of Suffield. The Honorable Thomas Frenaye, First Selectmen is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the State of Connecticut in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescission, and revisions thereto.

THE TOWN CLERK IS AUTHORIZED to impress the seal of the Town of Suffield on any such document, amendment, rescission or revision.

ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN, THIS 5th DAY OF JANUARY, 2011.

The resolution was approved by unanimous vote.

Historic Document Preservation Grant:

Town Clerk, Elaine O'Brien (not present) was requesting that Board of Selectmen enter into a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Document Preservation Grant. Ms. O'Brien received the \$3,000 Grant and was looking for authorization to spend the funds.

Selectman Reynolds made a motion that Thomas Frenaye, First Selectman of the Town of Suffield is hereby empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on the behalf of the town of Suffield, a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Documents Preservation Grant. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Discussion on Capital Projects:

Mr. Frenaye announced that the preservation of the Leahey Farm on Taintor & Sheldon Streets passed unanimously at the Town Meeting last evening. After the Town Meeting there was another Public Forum held on discussions of the Capital Projects. Most of the discussion centered around the Library. There are people who feel Suffield does not need a new Library, and others that feel Suffield does needs a new one. Selectman Reynolds wants to wait and see how the State Budget is going to impact the local taxes before going ahead with any Bonding package. Mr. Frenaye said there is a meeting being held tonight with the Architect to get estimates on a design and cost estimates for a new Library at the Bridge Street School site.

Selectman Moncrief asked when the Fire Commission was going to supply the Selectmen with more information on the Fire trucks. Mr. Frenaye said there is a sub-committee who is still looking into this.

Selectman Fitzgerald felt the Board should not wait until the Governor's budget comes in. He felt we should move forward with the three projects namely, the Roads, Town Hall renovation and Fire trucks, and wait on the Library after we know what the State is going to do for funding. If the State cuts 10%, we will have to cancel the bonding entirely as there will be too high of a tax impact on residents.

Selectman Sullivan suggested putting the Library on the back burner for now and make a final decision on it later on, but move forward with the other three projects.

Discussions on the Library ensued for some time. Mr. Frenaye said he will bring more formal resolutions to the Board for the three projects by its next meeting on January 19th.

Appointments:

North Central District Health Board:

Selectman Sullivan made a motion to appoint David M. Mack as a member to the North Central District Health Board for a three year term through June 2013. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Social Services Commission:

Selectman Moncrief made a Motion to appoint Rev. Bridget Fidler, to the Social Services Commission to fill the vacancy through November 30, 2014. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Tax Rebates:

Selectman Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the following tax rebates:

Jeffrey A. & Robin L. Basal	\$103.00
Jeffrey A. & Robin L. Basal	\$283.00
Canon Financial Services	\$ 36.35
Bhavin Patel	\$ 20.72
VW Credit Leasing, LTD	\$ 31.78
VW Credit Leasing, LTD	\$ 20.67
VW Credit Leasing, LTD	\$ 31.78
Stephanie or John E. Descy	\$ 23.90
Honda Lease Trust	\$113.72
Honda Lease Trust	\$136.28
Honda Lease Trust	\$113.72
Honda Lease Trust	\$ 20.72
Honda Lease Trust	\$174.74
Honda Lease Trust	\$ 22.78
Honda Lease Trust	\$101.79
Donna L. Garside	\$ 18.68
Antonetta Gibson	\$ 3.73
Norma E. Waldmann	\$ 4.84
Pamela J. Nault	\$ 74.00
Edward Markowski	\$168.06
Colombe M. Adams	\$ 84.26
GMAC	\$100.13
Margaret M. Dilko	\$ 8.57
Carmon and Company, LLC	\$392.16
DCFS Trust	\$173.16
DCFS Trust	\$ 49.33

Daniel J. Fahy	\$ 22.73
Andrea S. or Manasir Farhad	\$ 21.62
Sil Austin Kendrick	\$ 49.77
Rohit Y. and Sara G. Masih	\$ 15.41
Vanita R. Smith	\$ 22.62
Donna L. Wright	\$ 7.18

The Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Selectman's Updates:

- **Town Clock:** The official Town Clock which is on the First Church of Christ Congregational on High Street is not working on two of the four sides. The estimate for the repairs is \$3500. Mr. Frenaye announced that a donation toward fixing the Clock was received from Fred & Rosemary Brockett in the amount of \$1,000. A letter of gratitude and thanks was sent to the Brockett's.
- **AT&T** will be performing work to enhance its services in Town to install U-Verse Broad Band Service. They will be installing the new equipment in several locations for this upgrade project.
- **Street Lights:** The Police, Fire & EMS have been meeting regarding shutting off the streetlights in town from midnight to dawn. The town attorney is also looking into liability issues.
- **Town Audit.** The Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Audit will be presented to the Board of Finance at its meeting on Monday, January 10th.
- **Probate Court:** The Suffield Probate Court is now closed. The swearing in of Judge Zelman took place today. The new name of the Probate Court which will service Bloomfield, Windsor Locks, East Granby and Suffield is: Tobacco Valley Probate Court. The offices will be in the Windsor Locks Town Hall.
- **Search for Superintendent of Schools:** Selectman Fitzgerald said the Board of Education is currently searching for a new Superintendent. He feels that the Board of Selectmen members should give some input into the process of the search.
- **Cox Cable:** Selectman Moncrief said the Public and Local Access Channels #15 & #16 are off the air. In order to access these channel, some specialize equipment must be obtained. Mr. Frenaye said he was never notified of this from the Cable TV Advisory Board. He will check into this.
- **Zak Grant:** The Hartford Foundation for Public giving announced that it is accepting applications for grants of up to \$25,000 each through the Amiel P. Zak Public Service Fund. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, looking for community organizations that may wish to apply for grant money. Grants will be considered for a broad range of civic needs. In the past the Zak Grant awarded 47 Grants totaling over \$400,000 in funds.

Public Input: Perry Robbin of the Suffield Patch. He asked if the town ever considered combining the Library with the Library at Suffield Academy. Mr. Frenaye said the Town Library actually used to be in the building which is currently the Academy's Library.

Adjournment: Selectman Reynolds made a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Koren, Recording Secretary

Next Meeting: January 19, 2011 at 7 p.m., lower level conference room town hall.