

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 5, 2006**

I. OATH OF OFFICE:

The Town Clerk administered the oath of office to the members of the Town Council.

II. CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Clerk called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

III. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTION OF COUNCIL CHAIR: Town Clerk

The Town Clerk called for nominations for Town Council Chair.

On a motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council elected John F. Carlson as Town Council Chairman. Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING:

05/06-36 7:30 p.m.; Accept Darling Drive/Arch Road Connector

The Town Clerk read the call of the Public Hearing as follows:

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF AVON

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Town Council of the Town of Avon, Connecticut will hold a Public Hearing on Thursday January 5, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, Selectmen's Chamber, 60 West Main Street, for the following purpose:

To consider and permit all interested persons to speak on the plan of the Town Council to accept 1.309 acres of land as shown on the map entitled Reflexite Corporation and Ensign-Bickford Realty Corp. dated June, 1997 – Hodge Surveying Associates, P.C. The proposed parcel is a 50-foot wide strip to be used for a future road connection between Arch Road and Darling Drive.

A copy of said map is on file in the Avon Town Clerk's Office and open to inspection during normal office hours.

Dated at Avon, Connecticut this 22nd day of December, 2005

Philip K. Schenck, Jr.

Town Manager

On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Carlson, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept on behalf of the town of Avon, 1.309 acres of land as shown on the map entitled Reflexite Corporation and Ensign-Bickford Realty Corp. dated June, 1997 – Hodge Surveying Associates, P.C. The parcel is a 50-foot wide strip to be used for a future road connector between Arch Road and Darling Drive.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

V. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING:

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approves the minute of the October 19, 2005 meeting as read.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, and Woodford voted in favor.

Mr. Zacchio abstained-newly elected.

On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the minutes of the December 5, 2005 meeting as read.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, and Woodford voted in favor.

Mr. Zacchio abstained-newly elected.

On a motion made by, Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mrs. Hornaday, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the minutes of the December 12, 2005 meeting as read.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, and Woodford voted in favor.

Mr. Zacchio abstained-newly elected.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE-None

VII. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL-None

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

03/04-50 (8:30 p.m.) Final Report of the 175th Anniversary Committee

Mr. Carlson reported we have a report from Mr. Pandiscio which is very comprehensive, well done, as was everything they did throughout the year. We commend the Committee for the excellent job that was done and it should serve as a benchmark for other towns because your work was outstanding.

Jim Martino reported all the bills to date have been paid. To date, we have \$939.45 left in the account. He reported, at a previous meeting, we spoke on the possibility of transferring unused funds to the Free Avon Public Library. Now that we know the amount we are requesting \$939.45 to be donated, if the Council sees fit, to benefit the Marian Hunter History Room, for the preservation of Avon history.

Anthony O'Neill reported it was surprising how well things went with the Pasta Fest. There was quite a crowd, everyone was so impressed and people came from far and wide to help out.

Mary Harrop reported it was a wonderful experience and everyone in this town were just great to work with. The Police Department, the Public Works Department and the list goes on for the people that were so enthusiastic, willing and helpful. We had the greatest committee. She also reported the fireworks were such a great hit and would like to have them again for Avon Day this year. We would like to solicit funds, we already have \$1,000 promised for that, but if we do not make the \$10,000 -\$13,000 for the cost of fire works, would the town be able to help with the cost? The Town Manager requested that she put this request in writing.

Mrs. Hornaday reported the smaller events were wonderful, they were not specific to any demographic group. Each one of the events were also attended by a wide range of the population, in terms of age and what part of town they were in. So, those small events were more special to people than I had anticipated and that is what made it a year long celebration.

Jim Martino reported we had such great help and cooperation from the town employees that worked with us. There was no job that was too large or too small for them. We asked and they were there, which was fantastic.

The Council Chairman reported we have to look at the list of donors, which is three pages long. That is a great testimony for people and businesses in this town. We should send a letter of appreciation to all the committee members, and especially to Carl Candels who handled the publicity for the Committee.

Mr. Shea questioned if the money that the town appropriated for the 175th Celebration was used.

The Town Manager reported the money that the Town appropriated for the 175th Anniversary Celebration has not been spent and is not a part of the \$939.45.

On a motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mark Zacchio, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approved unexpended funds, in the amount of \$939.45, be returned to the Town by the 175th Committee, to be given to the Library for the Marian Hunter Room, for the preservation of Avon history.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

03/04-64 (7:45 p.m.) Status Report and Joint Meeting:

Avon High School Renovations/Addition
Building Committee, Avon Town Council,
Board of Education and board of Finance
Avon board of Finance

On a motion made by Mr. Shea, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table Item 03/04-64 to a future meeting.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

**05/06-06 FY 06/07 Budget: Town Council Budget Workshop Schedule:
Saturday, February 11, 2006**

On a motion made by Mr. Zacchio, seconded by Mr. Woodford it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the Town Council Budget Workshop Schedule of Saturday, February 11, 2006, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Selectmen’s Chambers as follows:

- 8:00 a.m. Budget Overview
- 8:15 a.m. Library
- 9:00 a.m. Fire Department
- 10:00 a.m. Break
- 10:15 a.m. Police Department
- 11:15 a.m. Public Works & Parks
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 12:30 p.m. General Government
- 1:15 p.m. Public Safety (except Fire and Police)
- 1:30 p.m. Health/Social Services
- 1:45 p.m. Recreation
- 2:15 p.m. Conservation & Development
- 2:30 p.m. Engineering/Sewers
- 3:00 p.m. Break
- 3:15 p.m. Special Revenue Funds/Capital Improvement Program
- 3:45 p.m. Adjustments, wrap-up
- 4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

05/06-28 Appointment: Plainville Area Cable T. V. Advisory Council

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table Item 05/06-28 to a future meeting.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

05/06-42 Appointments

Planning & Zoning Commission

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint David M. Cappello to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Henry R. Frey, Jr. to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Duane E. Starr to a four year term.

Planning & Zoning Alternates

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Linda H. Keith to a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Elaine G. Primeau to a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint David B. Freese to a two year term

Inland Wetlands Commission

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Rebecca Blackenbicker to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Matthew Gugliotti to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Conrad Nurge, Jr. to a four year term.

On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted to table appointments of H. Scott Smith and Rosalie Renfrew to the February 2, 2006 meeting.

Natural Resources Commission

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Dean S. Applefield to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Marianne A. Landers Clark to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Scott F. Lewis to a four year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Thomas J. Portelance, Jr. to a four year term.

Recreation & Park Committee

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Catherine M. Durdan to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Douglas M. Evans to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint David A. Jadovich to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Robert Meyers to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Peter J. Ponziani to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Peggy J. Roell to a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Kathy L. Thompson to a two year term.

Committee On Aging

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Cynthia Hooper to serve a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Gloria L. Farrell to a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Alice W. Herrmann to a two year term.

Water Pollution Control Authority- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint William E. Eschert to a two year term.
- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Russell C. Peckham to a two year term.

Town Attorney - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Dwight A. Johnson to a two year term.

Asst. Town Attorney - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Murtha, Cullina, Richter & Pinney to a two year term.

Town Treasurer - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint James R. McCarthy to serve a two year term.

Depository of Town Funds - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint the following to a two year term;
Bank of America
Reich & Tang L.P.
Municipal Investors Service Corporation (MBIA-Class for Connecticut)
Connecticut State Treasury's Short-Term Investment Fund (STIF)
Simsbury Bank & Trust Company
People's Bank
Webster Bank
Citizens Bank
Farmington Savings Bank
Sovereign Bank
TD Banknorth, NA

Insurance Agent of Record - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Webster Insurance to a two year term.

North Central EMS - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Mark Rinaldo to a two year term.

CRCOG COMMITTEE REP
Transportation - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Alan Slessler to a two year term.

Housing Commission - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Alan Rosenberg to a two year term.

Municipal Service - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Philip K. Schenck, Jr. to a two year term.

Community Development - On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Richard W. Hines to a two year term.

CRCOG Regional Planning Commission
Council Rep. -On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Linda H. Keith to a two year term.

Alternate -On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint David Pena to a two year term.

CRCOG Policy Board
Member -On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint John F. Carlson to a two year term.

Alternate

-On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Diane S. Hornaday to a two year term.

Alternate

-On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Richard W. Hines to a two year term.

Alternate

-On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Philip K. Schenck, Jr. to a two year term.

CRCOG Public Safety Council

Council Rep

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Mark Rinaldo to a two year term.

Plainville Area Cable TV

Advisory Council

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted to table the two appointments.

Central Region Tourism District

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Nancy Weiner-Anstey to a two year term.

Conn. Conference of Municipalities

Member

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint John F. Carlson to a two year term.

Alternate

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Philip K. Schenck, Jr. to a two year term.

Mental Health Board

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Susan R. O'Connell to a two year term.

Farmington Valley Visitors Bureau

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Nancy Weiner-Anstey to a two year term.

Constable

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Monte J. Hopper to a two year term.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Robert M. Propiescus, Jr. to a two year term.

Town Council Representatives

Lakeview

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Ebbe C. Blomstrand to a two year term.

VNA

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Mary C. Harrop to a two year term.

Senior Citizens

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Anona A. Broadman to a two year term.

Volunteer Fire Dept.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Russell Peckham to a two year term.

Secret Lake

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Patricia Rioux to a two year term.

Director of Health/Sanitarian

Town Council Rep.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Alice W. Herrmann to a two year term.

Town Council Rep.

- On a motion made by Mrs. Hornaday, seconded by Mr. Woodford, it was voted unanimously to appoint Philip K. Schenck, Jr. to a two year term.

05/06-43 Resignation:**Inland Wetlands Commission:**

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the resignation of H. Scott Smith.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

05/06-44 Appoint: Custodial Banking Services

Director of Finance reported that Chris Kachmar of UBS financial Services, Prime Asset Consulting, back in April of 2005, presented an alternative portfolio construction for the Town's Defined Benefit Pension Plans. In order to proceed, one of the recommended changes required separating custody and reporting services from the existing arrangement with ING. In July 2005, the Town went out with an RFP for custodian bank services and received seven (7) responses. Six (6) respondents had the necessary infrastructure to provide the services and support to the town. The Pension Committee, with the Pension Investment Advisor, selected three firms, as final list, based upon the ability to provide the services requested, experience in the municipal marketplace and cost.

The Director reported the Pension Investment Management Committee is recommending Webster Financial Advisors be appointed to provide custodial services and is seeking Town Council approval.

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED That the Town Council approve the appointment of Webster Financial Advisors to provide custodial services to the town and authorize the Town Manager, after review of the contract by the Town attorney, to sign a contract for custodial services.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

05/06-45 Approve/Recommend FY 04/05 Year-end Transfers, Supplemental Appropriations and Designations to Fund Balances

The Town Manager reported the Town Charter provides for the Town Council to approve year-end transfers within it's budget. We are looking at about \$ 197,000. out of 16 million dollar budget. He reported the Director of Finance has put together a list of why there was money left and why they were over expended. He reported one of the areas we were over-budget relates to storm damaged road sweeping. The Town Manager reported what we are finding out is the storm water management plan that was put into federal law about five years ago, (DEP are the administrators of it), is starting to cost us a lot of money in terms of street sweeping and catch basin cleaning. We now have a contract with a firm that has to do testing over our catch basins to ensure that we are doing it on the proper frequency. This is being done for environmental purposes but is basically micromanaging our drainage system. One factor that may affect this is, we are experimenting with magnesium coated salt which is more effective than the normal salt and sand mix. It is much more expensive than the regular salt, but we are using a lot less sand and, hopefully, that will factor into less catch basin cleaning and less street sweeping. We are in a period of transition between the traditional way we have been doing things and looking at new ways, which may cost more initially but will save on cleanup costs at the end. The cost of sand ranges between \$43-59 dollars a ton. Salt is about \$37 dollars a ton. The treated salt is running around 60 dollars a ton. We are about 62% expended on our overtime and material budget. The reason the costs are so high is, we had a storm on Thanksgiving, which is double time. We were also out for three days over the New Year holiday at double time. If things lighten up a little we may still be alright budget-wise. The final Fiscal Year Transactions FY 2004-2005 will be made part for the minutes.

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Shea, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve and recommend to the Board of Finance to approve FY 04/05 Transfers, Supplemental Appropriations and Designations to Fund Balances, to the Board of Finance for their approval.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

05/06-46 Supplemental Appropriations: Neighborhood Assistance Act**a. \$1,500 Town green Decorative Lighting**

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Zacchio, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 05/06 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

General Fund, Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip) Other Local Revenues Donations, Lighting Town Center, Account # 02-0360-43655 in the amount of \$1,500 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

General fund, Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP-Facilities, Lighting Town Center Account # 02-4829-53066 in the amount of \$1,500 for the purpose of recording Neighborhood Assistance Act donations for participation in the Town green Lighting Program.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

b. \$12,060 Two Eyewitness In-Car Video Systems

On a motion made by Mr. Woodford, seconded by Mr. Zacchio, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 05/06 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

General Fund, Other Local Revenues, Donations from Private Sources, Account # 01-0360-43651 in the amount of \$12,060 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

General fund, Patrol Services, Other Equipment, Account # 01-2107-53319 in the amount of \$12,060 for the purpose of recording Neighborhood Assistance Act donations to purchase eyewitness in-car video systems.

Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs: Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

X. REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

The Town Manager reported a group called "Playground for all Kids", is interested in developing a playground that is handicap assessable at the Buckingham field subdivision. Mr. Ferrigno had volunteered to remove the gravel. It is a project that is sponsored by the Junior Woman's Club. They have submitted an application under the Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP). The total cost of this playground is \$251,000, They are seeking a grant of \$150,000 and they plan on raising, through private donations, the balance of \$101,000. At this time there will be no financial contribution from the Town other than we would allow them to use the designated property on the Buckingham Master Plan. We may also be involved with some of the aspects of the installation such as park benches and some work on the parking lot. Those would be included in our general operating budget. If this grant is successful, we would have to have a public hearing to accept the playground. We have already given them the assurances that we would be willing to do that if they could put the program together without funding from the town. At this time, they have submitted this grant application to the state. Senator Herlihy, State Representatives Witkos and Farr are aware of it and have signed letters of support. The money for this grant comes out of the state and is generally from bond money. The Governor has raised red flags over the amount of State Bonding over the past six to nine months. Even if it is approved for funding, there may be a possible delay for a year in terms of giving out the bond money. The Park and Recreation Committee along with Director of Public Works, has been involved from an installation point. Mr. Shea, reported we need to help in any way that is possible since we do not have the money to give them.

Mr. Carlson reported there may be other ways to support this project by soliciting funds and/or labor from local businesses or companies. The Town of Simsbury did something similar several years ago where volunteer's from The Hartford came out on a Saturday to assist and do some of the labor needed on their project.

The Town Council was supportive of the project but are not in a position to aid them financially at this time.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Litigation/Negotiation-None

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Attest:

**Caroline B. LaMonica
Town Clerk**