

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2006**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Chamber by Chairman Carlson. Members present: Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio

II. PUBLIC HEARING – None

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING:

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the minutes of March 2, 2006, as read.

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

III. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Mr. Robert Breckinridge, Natural Resources Commission Chairman, presented a Natural Resource Award to Ruth Maher. This award was presented to her for her many years of service both as a resident and teacher at the original Towpath School of which several students proceeded to become prominent business people and leaders within the community. We are and should be very proud. She has ingrained all of her students with respect for our natural world and responsibility for stewardship. In her later years when she left teaching she became the editor of the Avon Land Trust News Letter. She wrote countless articles on the histories of Avon families and the land development and how they are involved. Her life has been devoted to education and services, with special emphasis on Avon's many resources, its land, its people, and the creatures among us. He called upon everyone to thank her, as she is a very special person. Ruth Maher reported this is a glorious planet and we should all be grateful.

IV. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

V. OLD BUSINESS

05/06-22 Review and Approval: Amended and Restated Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the Members of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department

The Town Manager reported the Town Attorney has reviewed and approved the Amended and Restated Length of Service Award Program document, the Fire Department also reviewed and gave approval, we just need a formal approval.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve the amended and restated Length of Service Award Program (LOSAP) for the members of the Avon Volunteer Fire Department.

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

05/06-42 Appointments

a. United CAT Advisory Council (2R)

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table this to the next meeting.

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

b. NEC Mental Health Board

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Maura L. Shea to serve as Town Council Representative to the NEC Mental Health Board.

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

05/06-56 Review and Discussion: Agreement for Trail Connection:

Bob Breckenridge

Chairman Carlson reported we had a presentation a month ago from the Land Trust regarding the trail connection and there were several neighbors who attended. It was requested that the Land Trust and interested neighbors get together with the Town Manager, to make certain that issues were discussed and resolved, then return for further discussion. He questioned whether those meetings have taken place and if so has an agreement been reached.

Mr. Breckenridge reported following the Town Council meeting we sent out letters to abutters, inviting them to a meeting, the meeting was attended by roughly 40 people. They definitely have questions and concerns, unfortunately there was a feeling that this moved very quickly for them, and were not given a lot of time to think things through which led to natural concerns that may or may not exist. Many of the points that we brought up have to be addressed and thought through at this point. The Land Trust board members who were there were also asked if people would be available to hike the trail, we sent out a second letter and offered two times on a weekend for the hike where we had about 14 people attend. That was quite productive as it allowed people to actually see the trail, we had excellent discussion and it showed to us that there was potential to answer a lot of questions. We find that this came about too fast for people, in all fairness, he would ask the Town Council to table this item, to allow us to get together with people who have an interest in constructive discussion, and see if we can solve some of their concerns. We have been in contact with the Park Association, and hope that information will reasonably answer some of the questions, and come up with our own answers to bring back to the Town Council in a month and discuss this further.

A resident in the audience reported there is a point of process that needs clarification. Mr. Breckenridge stated after being questioned, from a constructive perspective would he rescind his response, and he stated he did, and that is that the Land Trust will move ahead with the Trail on their property, without the Town's approval, either way, and four people who were at the meeting said they were in unanimous agreement. That is kind of an inflammatory statement, when you are trying to have a constructive process, what we do not know is if that can legally be done, does the Town Council have a veto, or are we just going through the process to feel better? The Town Manager reported we have not sought a legal opinion on that, and it really relates to the Land Trust as a legal entity unto their own, the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, and the State of Connecticut. Unless the Town Council directs him otherwise, we do not usually spend Town money for Town Attorney opinions on somebody else's issues. That would require some voluntary cooperation among the State of Connecticut, the Department of Environmental Protection, in particular, the Land Trust and the Connecticut Forest and Park Association. We do not normally get involved with organizations or the State when they are doing things on their own. He does not know what standing we would have, other than as an abutting property owner delving into somebody else's business. Chairman Carlson questioned whether we are at that point yet, it is a good discussion point, and certainly from a where do we go from here perspective, but are we at that point where hopefully we can work it out, and work out some of the issues, that makes what is a great resource for the Town continues to be a great resource for the Town but with minimal impact to the neighborhood, and hopefully the dialogue and the process that we have opened up will by tabling this tonight, allow more time to discuss it. Mr. Breckenridge reported we are not at that point, we are seeking constructive solutions to this, there were some constructive alternatives laid out, even though it was somewhat of an emotional meeting. We were just frustrated and wanted to bring it to the Town Council's attention.

It was the consensus of the Town Council that Land Trust representatives and the Town Planner get together to address those issues, as well as any other issues that come up during those meetings, and return with recommendations.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table this item to the May 4th Town Council Meeting.

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

05/06-58 Review, Discussion and Approval: Recreation Gift Catalog: Glenn Marston

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table this item.

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

VI. NEW BUSINESS

05/06-61 Review and Discussion : Reconstruction, Hickory Hill Road

The Town Manager reported we received a request from residents of Hickory Hill Road to bring the road up to Town standards. This is an very old town road, we referred the request to the Engineering Department to get a cost estimate, which is approximately \$85,000, that does not include right-of-way acquisition, and does not include any State requirements that might come out of our cooperating with the State of Connecticut on Route 10, Waterville Road, in terms of site work that might have to be done. We do not have the money in the budget currently to undertake this and he would recommend to the Town Council that is you wish to proceed with it, that it be placed in a future Capital Budget, and in the meantime we can have the Public Works Department do some patching and trimming. To bring the road up to Town standards will mean substantially widening the road, as you can see in the Engineering report, we are looking at the current width of 13 to 16 feet, the new width would be 22 feet. We would be taking rights-of-way probably on most of the road where we can identify where we have a right-of-way at the present time. The whole right-of-way acquisition phase, requires appraisals, assessments and the potential getting the lawyers involved and surveying in that part of it. It will take some time and we may be able to get some of those preliminary things done in-house with the Engineering Department, such as surveying the rights-of-way and so forth. The most dangerous aspect of it is the intersection with Waterville Road and the site line, as you head out of Hickory Hill Road to the intersection with Waterville Road there is a house immediately on your left that is practically right on the State right-of-way and what is or was the Hickory Hill right-of-way, so we have to work around that.

Susan Gass, Hickory Hill Road - I am the one that initiated the petition, I have been a resident of Hickory Hill for 15 years, and fortunately I have not run into a garbage truck, Fed Ex truck or a post office truck, it is a very dangerous road. At the opening, we have had traffic backed up, as we cannot get out of that road. My daughter was in the Avon School System, and for 8 years she could not take a bus because it was such a dangerous intersection. I understand the Town does have, and I did see the cost, but I do not think that in this particular case that we can justify the fact that it is definitely a liability to the Town and to us as residents and that is why we were in some agreement that we should get this done as quickly as possible. I missed the accident on Route 10 and 44 by five minutes, so I saw that this could be a potential for our own road, and that is why I initiated this.

Chairman Carlson reported we need to recognize that because it involves a State road, Waterville Road, there is a fair amount of engineering work that needs to be done, we must recognize it as a stop gap using the actions the Town Manager outlined, including bringing potential costs into a future capital item.

Mr. Shea reported he understands their position, but the Town cannot really respond as quickly as they would like it, recognizing that you have an issue there, but it has to go through the capital budgeting process. The Public Works Director needs to come in and talk to us about it, we need to put it in the procedures that we normally use when we deal with a road.

Mrs. Hornaday reported she agrees, but we could also ask the State if there is adequate signage where people are coming up to the intersection on the State highway, to see if there are signs there, as an initial step.

Mr. Woodford questioned the procedure to get the State involved in something like this, do we just call them and say we are thinking of doing this? The Town Manager reported you basically call the District 4 Engineering Office which is in Thomaston, and advise them we are looking to bring this road up to Town standards, and it's intersection with Route 10, and we need to talk with them concerning drainage and rights-of-way. We can do that but, we do not want to get ahead of ourselves, we can get all of the engineering work done, in-house, it is the construction cost of implementing it. We can go up there and if there are bushes along the side, or things of that nature and maybe even fencing that is on the State right-of-way, we can bring that to the State's attention, they may go to the homeowners, depending upon what is there, and ask them to remove fencing and trees and brush. Mr. Woodford reported he would not want the State to do something that is prohibitive, such as saying the half the house has to come down or something. The Town Manager reported it is possible that they could go in and acquire the house, and tear it down. He does not anticipate that happening.

Mr. Zacchio questioned with the house that sits on the south side of the right-of-way what other possible solutions could be looked at, from a right-of-way perspective. The Town Manager reported moving the road further to the north, then making sure that the site line is clear as possible to the south. The house is not right on the road, there is some set-back. Mr. Zacchio reported if we were to consider this for a future capital item, we could do some paving, some looking into the road sign issues, anything that the State might find of benefit, and get the State involved, so that if we do have that in a capital item down the road, at least we are moving toward that, if we all agree that is an item.

Mrs. Jakubiak – We are part of the problem that started this, we are building a new home on this road. It is not the site line that is the main issue, the problem is it is not wide enough. When I am trying to pull into Hickory Hills, especially being new and our house is not finished yet, there can be a car or truck coming out and I have to stop on 10 and stop traffic, until that car leaves Hickory Hill or backs up. The neighbors normally back up into the first house driveway to let the car go in or out. My son is in 4th grade and will be going to Avon this September, and I am very concerned about him taking the school bus, something is going to happen, and if we needed an ambulance or a fire truck to come up that road, it is impossible. We even had some of the trucks that needed to deliver supplies for our house, they could not even make the turn onto Hickory Hill Road, it is very dangerous. We even have a problem with the Town plowing they blocked us from getting onto our driveway because there is no room for the Town plow. We cannot wait - - somebody is going to get killed, I also have a 13 year old daughter, I am very concerned about us moving there, it is dangerous. You just cannot pull in and pull out, and people do not want to stop. DOT has marked Route 10, the signs are there telling people that there is a road, but people just want to rear end you, when I am trying to turn onto Hickory Hill, it is very dangerous. I know, I used to be an engineer planner, and it is an old country road, but something has to be done, it has to be widened. You do not need to fix site lines by cutting down bushes, there are none really, it is that it is not wide enough. I also worked for Rocky Hill regarding liability insurance, I know that if the Town knows of the situation and something is not done quickly, something will happen, and the Town will have a serious problem, just like Route 44.

Mr. Woodford reported if you worked for the State in this capacity, you know this is not going to be a sure process. He questioned what she meant by quickly. Mrs. Jakubiak reported she means an alternative - if there is an accident, she is looking for answers, she is saying quickly, the sooner the better, just like Route 44 that is probably moving quickly ahead. Mr. Woodford reported in his mind this would take at least a year or so. Mrs. Jakubiak reported then the Town is on record, from your own insurance

prospective. Mr. Woodford reported we have to deal with the State on this process and that is going to take a lot of time.

Mr. Shea reported to keep this discussion productive we have to look at not the past, but the future. What you need to do is let us wait 30 days, let us give the Town Staff some time to work with the State of Connecticut, take a look at what the options are. Although you have put us on notice, you must understand that we just do not have \$85,000 to solve the problem, and at this point any citizen in Town could come and say we are liable for any issue that goes on in Town. So respectfully, we recognize, we hear you have a problem, let us sit tight give us 30 days to collect our thoughts, reexamine our thinking, take a look at the creative solutions that could come together.

Debbie Wilson – Hickory Hill resident for 14 years – In the interest of trying to find the solution here, the real problem, and in fact we are not really interested in widening the whole road, the real problem is just widening the mouth of the road, and I do not know if that is possible, but widening the mouth of the road where it intersects with Route 10. That would solve 95% of the problems.

Mr. Carlson reported rather than having us try to solve it here, which with all due respect to the one engineer, let us not try to solve the engineering here. Direct the Town Manager through his staff to involve the right people to go out and take a look, come back with an assessment of it, involve the State that we have asked and put them on notice. First of all, see if there is any immediate action that can be taken, i.e. trees and trimming, and beyond that put together a plan, and address it through our process. The Town Manager reported he will come back with a report of gathering more information on it, if that is the expectation. That is not necessarily going to resolve the problem immediately but it will give us some further direction.

A resident at 4 Hickory Hill – I live near the intersection. Hickory Hill is different now than it was, five, ten or fourteen years ago. Adults can navigate carefully through the intersection, children cannot, and that is our concern now. It is different now than it was when it initially started. I know we cannot solve solutions now, but I think something should be done to at least get things going.

05/06-62 Review and Discussion : Secret Lake Association, Request for Public Water Installation: Trish Rioux

Trish Rioux reported she is here as the Town Liaison for Secret Lake Community, to continue our discussion on the engineering study, and here with me tonight is Kevin Gaucher, President of the Secret Lake Association, in case you have any further questions. We as a board in the community are committed to growing Secret Lake, it has come a long way, in the twelve years that she has been here, and it continues to move forward. We see the installation of public water as continuing in that growth path. We sent out a survey to all of the residents within Secret Lake, and you have a summary of our numbers. Please note that the yes's are not necessarily overwhelmingly great, it still is a stronger percentage, but what we need to do with our homeowners is to educate them. The only way we are going to be able to do that is after the engineering study is done, people really have to understand what are the true numbers, what we have are estimates. But those estimates could be close, there could be a larger gap, it could be smaller. We do not know what we could potentially be looking at from easement issues, what might have to happen - are peoples properties on part of the roads, or vice versa? It would be putting us back on the right path again. The roads need to be redone regardless, our drainage issues will be updated within the project in the generic scope, but what we are looking for is your approval to include in the engineering the costs of installing water. Then what we would do is take that to our homeowners with numbers from the Town, numbers from the Avon Water, to come out and hold small Town meetings with our group, so that all of the questions can be asked and answered so that we could definitively tell you, yes we want to include this, so that the budgeting process can begin, understanding that we are perhaps two to perhaps three years out from completion of this project.

Mr. Zacchio questioned as part of our study, would we walk away with that number that Mrs. Rioux just mentioned in terms of the cost of overall. The Town Manager reported we would get an estimate from the Avon Water Company on their part of it, and the Town would get an estimate on the road work, curbing and drainage issues, we could then put the package together. Some very preliminary estimates that were done some time ago, indicate that this project could probably go anywhere from 3/4 of a million to one and 1/2 million dollars, and the intent of the Association is to have this project proceed similarly to what we did with Lakeview several years ago, in terms of the Town acting as a bank, fronting the money for the whole project, then turning around and assessing back to the abutting property owners that portion that is related to the water line only. The paving, curbing, hydrants, drainage will be a Town expense that will be picked up out of general tax revenues and will probably be a capital budget item, as it was with the Lakeview Association. We do have \$30,000 that was appropriated in 04/05 budget, specifically to do the engineering work, to determine the cost estimates, so that we could start to move forward with the project. In addition to that, the Avon Water Company will do their estimate for their part. After which we would come back to the Town Council probably in time for the next year's capital improvement program, to start moving ahead. However, in the meantime the actions that Mrs. Rioux talked about in terms of getting a firm commitment from the Secret Lake Association, the Town Attorney worked with the Lakeview Association Attorney to map out a process for the Lakeview Association to follow, including votes and so forth, so that there was a legally binding commitment on the part of the Association to the project. Those are kind of the interim steps that once we decide we are going to move ahead, we would need to go through those steps.

Mr. Woodford questioned whether they know what it takes to obligate their Association to do this, in terms of 60%, 40% or 100% of participants. The Treasurer of the Board reported she is also an attorney, we have been working with Counsel for the Association, we reviewed the Charter, and we attempted to get resolutions from Lakeview but we have not been successful. When we are a little closer to being able to talk in reality, our Attorney does intend to talk to the Town Attorney to make sure that the voting process is done in such a way that it conforms to the Charter but also to the Town's requirements. We are in that interesting situation where we have Canton members, that are members of the Association, but not really affected by this project, so one of the things that we are hoping the two attorneys can put their heads together on at the right time is what vote, if any, do the Canton members get here. Because if there are easements to the common areas which are still on Avon roads at this point, then that may have to be spelled out in the votes, so that our Canton folks will know what they are voting for, and our Avon folks know what they are voting for. We are lining up to do the legal side of this, as we move along, and once we have something more real to talk about, we will go forward with those legal activities.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Engineering Study to be done in-house to determine cost estimates on, not only the installation of public water, but also repaving, drainage, curbing and other improvements in the Secret Lake Association road network in conjunction with, but after the installation of public water in Secret Lake.

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

05/06-63 Delegation to the Board of Education of Certain Pension Plan Administrative Duties

The Town Manager reported about two years ago there were a number of questions that arose concerning Board of Education Administration of their plan for their non-certified employees. It is one of four plans that the Town has under one umbrella, and the Town Attorney was involved with the Board of Education and working out an arrangement to straighten out the issues that had arisen. He is happy to say that those have all been taken care of. This is the last part of it which is really a delegation of Administrative Authority to the Board of Education to carry out certain administrative tasks that relate to their particular

plan. That was not clear in the past. We need to approve this resolution. We have contacted the Superintendent of Schools, Richard Kisiel, and the Board of Education Chairman, Peggy Roell, and they have no problems with the delegation, they have reviewed the proposal and have given it their okay. The Town Attorney reported the only thing he would add is that our review of the records did not demonstrate that this kind of delegating process has taken part in the past. We thought it would be safe and appropriate for the Town Council to authorize it. As you will see from the language, it gives the Town Manager the authority to modify the delegation from time to time, as he sees fit. Ultimately the responsibility for the plans rests with the Town Council, with the Town, but we are comfortable delegating day to day responsibility for certain aspects of it to the Board of Education.

Mrs. Hornaday questioned whether there would be an annual report of that delegation, or is there oversight. The Town Manager reported its oversight occurs in different areas, oversight of the money, we have the Pension Investment Management Committee that oversees that and the Finance Director for the Board of Education is involved in that, oversight of the contracts that they have with their certified employees in terms of pension issues would remain with the Board of Education, but we have cleared the air on all of those issues and they are very sensitive to ensuring a uniformity of approach among their various groups. We manage in our office through the Human Resources Director the valuations that are done annually by the actuaries on the plan, and the Education Finance Director is involved with that aspect of it. He is not sure we need more than that at the moment, what he would like to do is to see how this works, then we can see if we need a reporting mechanism back to the Town Council.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize delegation to the Board of Education of certain pension plan administrative duties, as follows:

WHEREAS: The Town of Avon is the Administrator of the Retirement Plans of both the Town of Avon and the Board of Education (the "Plans"); and

WHEREAS: The Town and the Board of Education agree that the Board will administer certain aspects of the Board's Plan with respect to employees of the Board of Education'

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED: That the Town Manager be, and hereby is, authorized to delegate to the Board of Education of the Town of Avon such administrative functions with respect to the administration of the Board's Plan as he, after consultation with the Town Attorney, deems appropriate, including without limitation those function listed on Attachment A hereto; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Town Manager may from time to time modify any prior delegation.

Attachment A

The following administrative functions of the Retirement Plan for the Board of Education (the "Plan") will be delegated to the Board of Education by the Town of Avon:

1. Receiving disability benefit applications under Section 3.16(d) of the Plan.
2. Determining when benefit payments will commence, pursuant to Section 4.01 of the Plan
3. Determining what leaves of absence will not be considered a termination of employment pursuant to Section 5.08 of the Plan.
4. Receiving required notices from employees pursuant to Section 9.02 of the Plan.
5. Funding the Plan, pursuant to Section 9.04 of the Plan.

The following actions shall require joint approval by the Town and the Board of Education:

1. Amending the Plan, pursuant to Section 7.01 of the Plan.
2. Terminating the Plan, pursuant to Section 8.01 of the Plan.

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

05/06-64 Approve Contract for Codification of Charter, Ordinances and Regulations

The Town Manager reported, by way of background, our esteemed Town Clerk, Clerk of the Town Council, will be retiring early 2007. Prior to her departure there are certain things we are trying to get done that we think are very important to get done while she is still in office, and one of those is codification of our Ordinances, Regulations and Charter. Most other communities have already gone through this, we put money in the current year's legal budget and we have money in next year's 06/07 legal budget to undertake this codification. The Town Clerk and the Town Attorney have been working on this, and would defer to them at this point as to background and details if you have questions.

The Town Attorney reported you have the memo that the Town Clerk prepared. We found it very difficult to compare these two companies proposals, because they both have such good reputations and references confirm that they have done an excellent job. Their proposals referral are impressive and then with each we conducted approximately an hour long tele-conference with each of their representatives, and the Town Clerk and he were impressed again. When push came to shove, the only distinguishing feature was that the Municipal Code proposal is a little more than \$3,000 less than the General Codes. It was a little tricky to compare them, but we both feel confident that there is a several thousand dollar benefit from using Municipal Code, and that is the basis for our recommendation.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with Municipal Code, for the codification of the Town Charter, Ordinances and Regulations for the Town of Avon.

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

05/06-65 Renewal of Dial-A-Ride Contract

Mrs. Hornaday reported she is in favor of the contracts, but would like the Social Services Director to come in to talk with us about the details of the Dial-a-Ride program, for my information and because she is aware that Seniors in all of our communities around, not just Avon but in the Farmington Valley, would like to have a little more inter-district kind of transportation available to them. She would like to know what we do and what is possible with regard to that. The Town Manager reported we entered into an agreement with Farmington to have a fixed service systems between our two communities, that was designed to answer some of the broader issues of people going to different locations. He will have the Director come in as a review with regard to the number of tickets sold, the amount of money that we bring in and the number of people using the service.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize on behalf of the Town of Avon a one year extension to the contract with Town and Managed Transportation Service, Inc., for provision of dial-a-ride services for Avon residents for FY2006/2007, in amount \$51,901, as recommended by the Director of Social Services.

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

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize on behalf of the Town of Avon a one year extension to the contract with McLean's Elderly Daycare Facility, for provision of Dial-a-Ride services for Avon residents participating in the elderly daycare and related activities for FY2006/2007 in amount \$9,270, as recommended by the Director of Social Services.

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

05/06-66 Set Public Hearing: 7:30 p.m., Thursday, May 4, 2006 for Amendment to Ordinance #1 Fireworks Display

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council schedule a public hearing for Thursday, May 4, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. for revisions to Ordinance #1.

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

05/06-67 Approval for Application to State of Connecticut for \$7,000 Historic Document Preservation Grant

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

RESOLVED: That Philip K. Schenck, Jr., Town Manager, or the Town Clerk as his designee is empowered to execute and deliver in the name of and on behalf of the Town of Avon, an application and contract with the State Library for a Historic Preservation Grant.

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

05/06-68 Approval for Application to State of Connecticut for \$101,018 LOCIP Grant

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to apply and sign, on behalf of the Town of Avon, the LoCIP Authorization/Expenditure Form, for grant funds in amount \$101,018 as reimbursement for FY2005/2006 capital expenditures, road overlay projects.

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

05/06-69 Avon Park South Sign: Approve Agreement with State Department of Transportation

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town of Avon the Right of Entry Agreement with the State Department of Transportation, for installation of the new Avon Park South signage.

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

05/06-70 Resignation: Alternate Zoning Board of Appeals, John Brooks

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of John Brooks, as Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

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

05/06-71 Appointment: Alternate Zoning Board of Appeals

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Samuel D. Chester to serve as Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

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

05/06-72 Renewal of Agreement to provide Contractual Social Services to the Town of Canton

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town of Avon the Renewal Social Services Contract with the Town of Canton for provision of Social Services for the sum of \$16,558, payable in quarterly installments of \$4,139.50 plus mileage reimbursement at \$.445 per mile, postage and the cost of reasonable supplies not provided by Canton for a period to commence July 1, 2006 and cease on June 30, 2007.

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

05/06-73 Renewal of Agreement to provide Contractual Assessing Services to the Town of Canton

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to sign on behalf of the Town of Avon the Assessment Services Agreement with the Town of Canton for provision of Assessment Services for the sum of \$45,720, payable in monthly installments of \$3,810, plus mileage reimbursement at \$.445 per mile, postage and the cost of reasonable supplies not provided by Canton for a period to commence July 1, 2006 and cease on June 30, 2007.

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

05/06-74 Supplemental Appropriation; Capital Assistance Grant Contract, Greater Hartford Transit District; \$10,391.41

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council favorably recommends to the Board of Finance an appropriation not to exceed \$10,391.41 from General Fund, Other Financing Sources, Undesignated fund Balance, Account 01-0390-43913 and General Fund, Capital Improvement Project, Equipment, Dial-a-Ride Van, Account 01-8503-53382 for transfer to Capital Projects Fund (Facilities & Equipment), Other Financing Sources, Interfund Operating Transfers In, Account 02-0390-43918, and Capital Projects Fund (Facil.&Equip.)Town CIP Equipment, Dial-a-Ride Van, Account #02-4844-53382 for the purpose of funding the Town's share of the Dial-a-Ride Van.

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

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

The Town Manager reported the Fire Department has the money and has requested to put signs in front of each of the Fire Stations. They have been working for a year and a half on the project with the Town Planner in terms of getting all of the permits and everything in place. You will be seeing them as soon as they get the signs manufactured and installed. Mr. Woodford questioned why they have gone before the Planning & Zoning Commission, when this is the Town. The Town Manager reported they are the applicants, because they want to do it as the user of the properties, the Town or he as Town Manager, has to approve as the Owner of the property, the sample signage is included in the packet, they are dark red with gold lettering on them, the one for Company 3 is going to be on the building.

The Town Manager reported he forwarded an E-mail from Dick Hines to the Town Council, requesting we do both a backward look and forward projection on the Grand List so that we can get some type of indication of where we are going in terms of the sustainability of the revenue stream for the Grand List growth. We did some of that with the High School project, and Mr. Hines feels that we should be doing more in-depth look at that. The Town Manager reported we can certainly do it, but he would need some input. It would add staff work to do, but maybe it is a good thing to look at it in terms of progressive grand list growth as we get into these tighter budget years coming up, with increased debt service, potential for revaluation, and school projects. Chairman Carlson reported he would suggest that before the next budget season that the Town Manager take a look at it. It is a good idea, but not sure how closely you can estimate that growth, that is going to be a challenge, we must be careful we do not put a number out there that everyone jumps to and say we are going to have this.

The Town Manager reported the only other thing is for the Town Clerk to briefly bring you up to date on the Avon High School project. The Town Clerk reported unfortunately we have had another delay, we just received a letter from the State Department of Education and they have promised possibly next week, however there is still that problem with the 1/2", 1/4" pitch on the roof and they have denied it. The normal appeal process is such, but Dr. Kisiel has asked for a meeting with the Commissioner. We are

still in a delay pattern, it may be September before we have a referendum. Mr. Carlson reported that is unfortunate but pretty much out of our control. Mr. Shea reported we do not want a referendum in July or August anyway. The Town Clerk reported that is correct. The Town Clerk questioned if the Council would like her to ask the Architect if he wants to go that route, because he has sort of cautioned us not to go the political route, and he is the one that will have to make the presentation. The other option is why not go with the 1/4" pitch, we may not get reimbursement on that portion of the roof, but the roof to go to a 1/2" pitch is about \$500,000, with the 1/4" pitch it is \$250,000, so it may not be such a big deal to lose it. She will talk to the Architect and see if that is a possibility, but they may not give us an approval for the plan unless we change it.

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council go into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m to discuss land negotiations. Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

The Town Manager, Town Clerk and the Assessor attended the meeting.

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

RESOLVED: That the Town Council come out of Executive Session at 10:20 p.m. Mrs. Hornaday, Messrs Carlson, Shea, Woodford and Zacchio voted in favor.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.

ATTEST:

Caroline B. LaMonica
Town Clerk