

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a special meeting on Wednesday, January 28, 2015, in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Center, Newtown. First Selectman Llodra called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**PRESENT:** First Selectman Llodra, Selectman James O. Gaston, Sr.

**ABSENT:** Selectman William F. L. Rodgers

**ALSO PRESENT:** Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, Director of Parks & Rec Amy Mangold, Assistant Director of Parks & Rec Carl Samuelson, Parks & Rec Commission Chairman Ed Marks, Police Chief Kehoe, Police Commissioner Brian Budd, Legislative Council Member Robert Merola, Geralyn Hoerauf of Diversified Project Management, 1 member of the press.

**VOTER PARTICIPATION:** None

**ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:** SELECTMAN GASTON MOTIONED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 20, 2015. First Selectman Llodra seconded. Approved.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**1. Municipal Buildings Strategic Plan Advisory Committee:** Ms. Hoerauf stated two changes were made the RFP's. First, the date of the legal notice is delayed one week ,to January 30<sup>th</sup>. Second, they are being more specific on the space needs assessment side by separating the police department from the emergency communications center. The review will be completed around the end of March.

**Community Center:** Ms. Hoerauf stated the architect started working on the programing phase in December. They have worked on the Senior Center, meeting with the commission on aging to learn what programs they want to offer. They will report to the Community Center Advisory Committee in February. They are also working with Parks & Rec on the aquatic center. They will begin talking to the community about the programs. The construction managers have been doing site investigation. Mrs. Llodra stressed the need for significant outreach to users of the community center is needed.

**2. Board of Selectman 2 015-2016 Budget:**

**Department of Public Works:** Mr. Hurley stated the Highway budget is essentially the same as last year. The changes are \$250,000 added to roads and an increase for salt due to the use of more salt and less sand. Increase use of salt is keeping down overtime. Decrease in sand has reduced amount in going into waterways. Mrs. Llodra asked if decreased sand use decreases safety. Mr. Hurley said it does not; there is enough sand in the mix. Sweeping sand will take less time and the sweepers will last longer. Treated salt costs more but it works to lower temperatures and is not as corrosive or polluting to water. We are minimizing the negative environmental effect on water. Mr. Hurley said they will be looking at a truck washing station and is speaking with other towns to share costs. Mr. Hurley stated they are looking to improve single stream recycling in the next few years. Mr. Hurley stated they will address aggressive energy conservation in all buildings. CL&P will do an evaluation, including looking at reducing light pollution. Mr. Hurley noted there has been a CL&P rate increase.

**Parks & Rec:** Mr. Marks stated their budget is \$63,000 higher than last year mostly due to salaries. Capital expenses are slightly higher. Mrs. Llodra asked with the amount of overtime, the list of tasks we no longer do, and the additional responsibilities and parks, would additions to staff would be more cost effective. Mr. Marks stated we are getting close to that point. Mrs. Llodra would like them to be aware of the balance between personnel and equipment, and to plan for the continued growth.

**Police Commission:** Chief Kehoe stated their budget came in lower. New staff that replaces higher paid employees and changing to computer aided dispatching records management software is the bulk of the reduction. Vehicle replacement program is working well. They are down 2 or 3 officer but will be at full staff around July. School safety officers program is going well. Police are patrolling at Fairfield Hills in addition to the security.

SELECTMAN GASTON MOVED TO APPROVE FOLLOWING BUDGET BOTTOM LINE ITEMS. FIRST  
SELECTMAN LLODRA SECONDED. ALL WERE UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED:

TECHNOLOGY, \$568,823  
DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS, \$15,000  
INSURANCE, \$1,010,000  
ANIMAL CONTROL, \$159,842  
NUSAR/EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT, \$60,565  
LAKE AUTHORITIES, \$49,153  
NW SAFETY COMMUNICATION, \$10,000  
NWCT EMS COUNCIL, \$250  
POLICE, \$6,314,260  
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, \$1,071,518  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS –HIGHWAY, \$6,911,392  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - WINTER MAINTENANCE, \$735,531  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - TRANSFER STATION, \$1,471,476  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - PUBLIC BUILDING MAINTENANCE, \$783,341  
PARKS AND REC, \$2,331,472

EMS will be added to February 2 agenda.  
Budget information can be viewed online at [http://newtown-ct.gov/Public\\_Documents/NewtownCT\\_Finance/index](http://newtown-ct.gov/Public_Documents/NewtownCT_Finance/index)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

SELECTMAN GASTON MOTIONED TO ADD DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY  
AT 36 YOGANANDA STREET TO THE AGENDA. First Selectman Llodra seconded. Approved.

Ms. Llodra stated the council approved demolition of the house. Charter doesn't speak to a structure on property. Legal opinions differ as to whether the structure is real property. Ms. Llodra is recommending they treat it as property and follow the steps stated in charter. The final step is a town meeting to approve the demolition. Mr. Gaston agreed. A legal notice will be posted in the Bee and the town meeting will be on Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**VOTER COMMENTS:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Carey Schierloh, Clerk