

Prospect Town Council
Special Budget Meeting
Unapproved Minutes
March 10, 2015

The Special Meeting of the Prospect Town Council was called to order by Chairman Thomas J. Galvin @ 6:30 P.M. and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was held at the Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center Street. The meeting was taped.

Members Present: T. Graveline, S. Pilat@ 6:41 P.M., C. Graveline, D. Merriman, Al Delelle, P. Geary, Carla Perugini-Erickson and T. Galvin

Members Absent: J. Slapikas

Recreation #7400:

Proposed \$232,560.00, Mayor's recommended \$202,460.00, Decrease \$30,100.00.

Mayor Robert J. Chatfield introduced the Board of Recreation by advising that the substantial project, the new hard ball field at Hotchkiss Field, is complete; the work that was done was completed under cost. The Mayor stated that the members of this Board have given a considerable amount of their time over many years. Mayor Chatfield proceeded to introduce those members present: Christopher Moffo, Park and Rec Director, Larry Fitzgerald, Chairman and Board member Mary Gluck. Director Chris Moffo reviewed the budget. C. Moffo advised that the summer camp program will be expanded to six weeks beginning the week after the 4th of July and continuing to the second week of August; the camp would begin @ 8:30 A.M. and end at 2:30 P.M. A discussion took place regarding expansion to programs if Community School was purchased by the Town of Prospect. C. Moffo also advised of the plans to repair the basketball court at Hotchkiss Field and the tennis courts at McGrath and Canfield Parks. C. Moffo stated that the Board of Rec plans to add a second basketball court to Hotchkiss Field and also a volley ball court. C. Graveline questioned where the second basketball court would be added. C. Moffo advised that the new court would be toward Rte 69 and some of the wooded area would be eliminated. C. Moffo also explained that for the upcoming season, the baseball field at Hotchkiss will be used by the LRMS school team, a 'Twilight' men's team and the legion team. The discussion continued with the Mayor advising that fees for field usage would not be considered due to liability, but the Mayor added that the Town's Attorney, John Yarbrough, is reviewing if field maintenance fees could be received for each time an out-of-town team uses the fields. Also under discussion, T. Graveline asked C. Moffo to consider grants for the parks and for programs to expand. T. Graveline added to notify the Council if any grants were applied for. P. Geary commented that the ice rink was opened more than most this season. Chairman Fitzgerald advised that the clearing of the road to the rink is done once the roads are completed after a storm. P. Geary asked Mayor Chatfield to consider adding to the hired trucks work roster, clearing of the road and the rink for more use. P. Geary congratulated C. Moffo and the Board for all of their work in offering many diversified programs to the residents and public. D. Merriman also complimented the Board of Rec and the Director, C. Moffo and inquired as to the number of people using the fields and

programs. C. Moffo stated approximately 2,000 people have access to the parks and programs that are offered. T. Graveline and P. Geary advised C. Moffo that the budget for the Rec Department had been decreased by \$30,000.00 and asked what would be cut from the plan to improve the fields. C. Moffo advised that the plan to add a second basketball court to Hotchkiss Field would be cut at this time. T. Galvin requested a motion. **Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by C. Graveline to approve the amount of \$202,460.00 for #7400 Recreation. 7 Approved/ 1 Opposed, T. Graveline.** T. Graveline explained that she would like to see the decreased amount of \$30,100.00 added back into the total. **Motion passes.**

Councilwoman Carla Perugini-Erickson presented a power-point on Sidewalks. C. Perugini-Erickson advised that there are many grants available to the Town and she would like to see the Town benefit from some. C. Perugini-Erickson advised that she would like to see sidewalks in place along the main business strip of Rte 69 to Hotchkiss Field. C. Perugini-Erickson advised that the sidewalks would provide safety for pedestrians and allow foot traffic access to small businesses in the Rte 69 business district along with providing a health benefit. The presentation also noted that sidewalks bring ‘added value to a community’. The power-point listed the areas where grant money is available: LOTCIP, STP URBAN, LoCIP, STEAP, Main Street Investment Fund and CT Safe Routes to School. C. Perugini-Erickson advised that the grant monies could also be used for such projects as parks and a greenway. Questions were raised from the audience regarding responsibility of sidewalk clearing during bad weather and maintenance for repairs. Members of the audience commended C. Perugini-Erickson for coming forward with her presentation. A question was also raised regarding the installation of sewers once a section of road is dug for conduits. Discussion.

T. Galvin advised that the next Budget Workshop would be held at the Library @ 9:00 A.M. on Saturday March 14, 2015.

Adjournment: Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by T. Graveline to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned @ 7:49 P.M.

Thomas J. Galvin, Chairman

Rosalyn B. Moffo, Clerk