

Prospect Town Council
Regular Meeting
UN-Approved Minutes
May 19, 2015

Chairman Thomas J. Galvin called to order the regular meeting of the Prospect Town Council @ 7:00 P.M. The meeting was held at the Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center St., and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was taped.

Members Present: T. Galvin, T. Graveline, P. Geary,
C. Graveline 7:03 p.m., J. Slapikas, Al Delelle, Carla Perugini-Erickson 7:10 p.m. and
D. Merriman

Members Absent: S. Pilat

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Robert J. Chatfield requested a transfer from the Police Overtime Account to the Police Officers' Account in the amount of \$60,709.50: **Motion** made by D. Merriman, seconded by P. Geary to approve the transfer from the Police Overtime Account to the Police Officers' Account:

Officers' Account #6700	\$56,009.50
Social Security	<u>4,700.00</u>
Total	\$60,709.50

Unanimous.

Mayor Chatfield requested a motion from the Fund Balance in the amount of \$26,131.67. **Motion** made by J. Slapikas, seconded by Al Delelle to approve the transfer from the Fund Balance in the amount of \$26,131.67:

To: Blight Clerk	\$ 500.00
Community School Clerk	500.00
Parks Maintenance	3,900.00
Merf B	9,042.28
Town Hall Buildings Water	4,500.00
Town Hall Buildings Propane	<u>7,689.39</u>
Total	\$ 26,131.67

Unanimous.

Mayor Chatfield advised that Community School had participated yearly in the Flanders Field 'recital contest'. Mayor Chatfield advised that a young lady by the name of Anna Nichols from Community School, won the contest and will be 'reciting' Flanders Field in front of the Capitol on May 27, 2015 along with notables remembering the members of World Wars past.

Mayor Chatfield stated that the Community School Purchase Committee met on May 11, 2015 and has set their meeting dates for every other Tuesday with expectations of special meeting dates. Mayor Chatfield gave the Council a letter of requests (Schedule A) that

were made to the Committee to review. Mayor Chatfield stated that the deadline for review will be late summer or early fall.

T. Graveline questioned the purpose of the “cameras” in Town Hall. Mayor Chatfield advised that the “cameras” are located in the hallways facing the doors, in the Town Clerk’s Vault (due to pages of documents have been taken from books in other Town Halls) and in the Tax Office. The Mayor stated that these are “security cameras” with video only, no audio.

Chair’s Report:

Charter Revision Commission Update: Chairman Galvin gave an update on the potential changes to the Town Charter. Chairman Galvin explained that the timeframe to appoint members is within 30 days as the start date would be in July 2015 due to the process takes approximately 12-16 months and the vote to accept the new Charter would be in November 2016. Chairman Galvin advised of the letter that he sent to the Prospect Pages asking the Public to participate. Chairman Galvin advised that the committee could consist of 1/3 Council members and the remainder would be private citizens with 9 to 15 members in total. One resident responded and came to the meeting, Mr. Bob Nash of 150 Sycamore Dr. Chairman Galvin asked the Council to recruit interested parties to participate in this committee.

Section 3.14 – Chairman Galvin advised that he is waiting for Attorney John Yarbrough’s reply regarding the actual intent of Section 3.14. Mayor Chatfield advised that research is currently being done through “Archives” and once the information is received it will be given to the Council.

Guests: None

Public Participation: Chairman Galvin acknowledged Zoning Board of Appeals member, Chuck Witkowski.

Approval of Minutes: **Motion** made by D. Merriman, seconded by T. Graveline to approve the minutes of 5-5-15. **Unanimous.**

Correspondence:

Police Overtime Transfer dated 5/19/2015

Fund Balance Transfer dated 5/19/2015

Letter from Mayor Chatfield to the Community School Study Committee

Community School Purchase Committee dated May 11, 2015

Anti-Blight Commission Meeting Minutes dated 4/22/15

Building, Electrical, Plumbing & Heating Inspectors Reports dated April 2015

Mayor’s Expenditures 2014-2015 for March 2015

Zoning Inspector’s Report April 2015

Town of Prospect CT Discount Prescription Card March 2015

Notice of Bid for May 14, 2015

Motion made by J. Slapikas, seconded by C. Graveline to place the correspondence on file. **Unanimous.**

C. Graveline suggested that the Inspectors' (Building, Electrical, Plumbing, Heating) names are added to all reports.

New Business:

- Refunds – None
- Transfers – Already Acted Upon
- Resignations – None
- Appointments – None
- Bids – Bids opened on May 14, 2015:
 - Storm Draining and Installation awarded to Shaw's
 - Road Paving awarded to Cocchiola Paving
 - Re-grading and Pavement and Street Maintenance awarded to NJL Corp.
 - Tree Trimming awarded to Ed the Treeman LLC.

Public Participation: None

Old Business: Sub-committee Reports – Pension & Benefits Update: Mayor Chatfield advised the Council that he has been in conferences with the Region and the Union regarding the Town Employees joining with Regional School District 16 for medical benefits. The Mayor stated that he is waiting to hear more from the Region and once he does, he will request a special meeting. P. Geary requested a special meeting of the Pension & Benefits Sub-committee to discuss the benefits for the Town employees that are being offered.

Mayor Chatfield asked the Council to set the date for a special meeting of June 5, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. to set the Mil Rate.

C. Graveline commented on the previous Budget process regarding a wage increase to the Town Council. C. Graveline quoted Section 3.01 of the Town Charter: 'The Council - Section B: Each member of the Council shall be paid in the amount of \$25.00 per month. Thereafter, any increase in remuneration shall be approved by the Town Budget meeting immediately preceding a biennial Town election and in accordance with Section 7-460 of the General Statutes. Said increase shall become effective on the Monday following said election.' C. Graveline noted that the request could have been approved during the budget season just completed and requested the increase to be allowed at the next available opportunity of the budget session of 2017. **Motion** made by C. Graveline, seconded by P. Geary to approve an increase to the Town Council members' monthly stipend from \$25.00 to \$125.00; this should be acted upon at the next available opportunity according to the current charter (Budget season 2017). In addition, the Council will recommend to the Charter Revision Commission to consider and possibly act on this increase. **Unanimous.**

C. Perugini-Erickson requested that the Council move forward with a sub-committee to review the possibility of sidewalks. Chairman Galvin advised that the Economic Development Commission requested the sidewalks for CVS and the applicant agreed. Mayor Chatfield advised that he applied for a STEAP Grant to place sidewalks along the

Town Hall and this side of Center Street along the corridor down Columbia Ave to Long River Middle School and out to Rte 69; at this time the Mayor has not yet heard a response to the grant application. C. Perugini-Erickson requested a 'task-force' to review the possibilities of sidewalks. The 'task force' would include one member each from P & Z, Economic Development, the Prospect Businessmen's Association and Town Council (C. Perugini-Erickson was chosen) and the Mayor.

Chairman Galvin advised the Council that the Economic Development Commission would like to discuss with the Council an Ordinance for 'Tax Abatements' to attract more businesses to town. J. Slapikas requested to invite the 'EDC' to the next Town Council meeting of June 2, 2015.

C. Perugini-Erickson advised the Council that she would like to have more exposure of meetings for the public and requested to place articles in the local newspapers. After discussion, Council members asked to promote the Town's website as a source and to call the Town Hall for any announcements.

Adjournment:

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by C. Graveline to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.** The meeting adjourned @ 8:08 p.m.

Thomas J. Galvin, Chairman

Rosalyn B. Moffo, Clerk