

Prospect Town Council
Regular Meeting
Unapproved Minutes
March 1, 2016

Chairman Thomas J. Galvin called to order the regular meeting of the Prospect Town Council @ 7:20 p.m. The meeting was held at the Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center Street and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was taped.

Members Present: T. Galvin, Jeff Slapikas, Pat Geary, Al Delelle, D. Merriman, Carla Perugini-Erickson, C. Graveline and L. Fitzgerald

Members Absent: S. Pilat

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Robert J. Chatfield gave the Council a document received from NVCOG for a municipal resolution to pursue an 'OPM Regional Performance Incentive Grant benefitting the Municipality'. Mayor Chatfield stated that this approval will come at the next Town Council meeting as the deadline for this document is March 15, 2016. A copy of the new Covanta contract was also given for review.

Mayor Chatfield requested several transfers:

Motion made by J. Slapikas, seconded by Al Delelle to approve the use of Line Item #5650 Land Acquisition Account to pay for the expense of the land survey of 5 Cheshire Road, Prospect CT in the amount of \$3,635.00. **Unanimous.**

Motion made by J. Slapikas, seconded by L. Fitzgerald to approve the transfer

From: I & S Labor	\$4,762.50
To: I & S Relief Personnel	\$4,762.50

Total: \$4,762.50

Unanimous.

Motion made by J. Slapikas, seconded by C. Graveline to transfer

From: I & S Labor	\$7,500.00
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To: Town Roads – Tree Trimming	\$7,500.00
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Total: \$7,500.00

Unanimous.

Motion made by Al Delelle, seconded by J. Slapikas to approve the transfer

From: BTE 30 Payment Plan	\$ 7,093.00
BTE Medical Benefits	\$ 8,907.00

To: Town Hall Bldgs – Custodians	\$15,000.00
Town Council Clerk	\$ 1,000.00

Total: \$16,000.00

A discussion took place regarding what had been budgeted for the Custodians and what areas they cleaned. Mayor Chatfield advised that (2) buildings were contracted out for custodial cleaning: the Meeting Place and the Police Station. The Town Hall, Fire House, Grange and Chapel Hall were cleaned by the Town Hall custodians. The Senior Center was cleaned by a staff member. A vote was called for.

6 Approved/ 2 Opposed, P. Geary, C. Perugini-Erickson. Motion passes.

Community School: Mayor Chatfield advised that he was very pleased with the outcome of the Town Meeting for the purchase of Community School and he will submit a copy of the Budget meeting dates to the Superintendent of Region 16 to allow for the future District meeting date to be set.

Chair’s Report:

2016-2017 Budget Process: T. Galvin commented that the Budget process has begun and this gives the Council more time to address the topics.

Charter Revision Commission: T. Galvin introduced Glen Gruber, Chairman of the Charter Revision Commission. G. Gruber advised that the Commission had (9) meetings and (1) public hearing; the commissioners had reviewed the entire Charter. G. Gruber stated that they are following the State Statutes and if all goes well and the timelines are met, the document will be on the November 8, 2016 ballot. G. Gruber commented that the CRC will submit a draft to the Town Council by May 16 to the latest, May 26. At that point, the Council may recommend changes. P. Geary questioned if the Council could reject one part of the document or would it need to be the entire document.

G. Gruber remarked that the Council could recommend changes, but it is up to the CRC to reject the whole document. D. Merriman questioned if the vote could be from one Council member or the entire Council. G. Gruber commented that it would be a vote from the Council majority. Mayor Chatfield advised to advertize in the Citizens News or the Prospect Pages. T. Galvin questioned if the Auditor had attended a CRC meeting. Glen Gruber advised that the Treasurer attended one meeting, but the Auditor did not respond to emails nor come to a meeting.

T. Galvin raised his concerns that he had questions and emailed Mike Battiste the Town’s Auditor and had not received an answer. T. Galvin asked Mayor Chatfield why M. Battiste has not attended a meeting after requesting his presence several times. Mayor Chatfield advised that he would contact M. Battiste to contact T. Galvin. T. Galvin also stated that he would like M. Battiste to come to a meeting, in particular to come to the

March 15, 2016 meeting. T. Galvin commented that he had some questions from last year's Budget process that still have not been answered.

T. Galvin acknowledged the Anti-Blight Commission Chairman, Paul Krissavage. P. Krissavage advised that the Anti-Blight Commission had 29 Blight requests, with 18 closed and 11 active. P. Krissavage continued that there are two (2) Blight Hearing officers. P. Krissavage advised that the meetings are once a month. C. Perugini-Erickson suggested contacting the Elderly Protection Services if the Anti-Blight Commission is having problems with an elderly resident. P. Krissavage advised that there are ways the Commission is working on to give the Town leeway. P. Krissavage also advised that the Commission has had help from Chesprocott and the Land Use office.

Guests: None

Public Participation : None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by L. Fitzgerald to approve the minutes of February 16 & 18, 2016. **Unanimous.**

Motion made by P. Geary, seconded by Al Delelle to add to the Agenda the minutes of February 25, 2016. **Unanimous.** **Motion** made by P. Geary, seconded by Al Delelle to approve the Special meeting minutes of February 25, 2016. **Unanimous.**

Correspondence:

Surveyor's Map of 5 Cheshire

Meeting Dates for the Budget Process

T. Galvin's Email's from Attorney Yarbrough dated 2/26/16

Letter from Attorney Yarbrough - Carmody Torrance Sandak & Hennessey LLP dated 2/26/16

Region 16 Letter dated 2/29/16

Prospect (10 Best Places to Live in Connecticut)

Charter Revision Commission Briefing for Town Council Meeting – 3/1/16

Resolution of the Prospect Town Council 2015-07 Proposal

Office of the Treasurer dated January 2016

CAAO Legislative Update dated 2/22/16

Town of Prospect Revenue Sheet To Date as of January 31, 2016

Regional School District 16 budget Calendar Revised

Second Amendment to Solid Waste Disposal dated 2/29/16

NVCOG – Municipal Resolution dated 2/4/16

Ordinance # 71 -Town Ordinance For Property Tax Relief for Certain Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Homeowners – Draft

Town of Prospect Ordinance Regarding General Penalty

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

Unanimous.

New Business:

Refunds – None

Transfers – Already acted upon

Resignations – None

Appointments – None

Bids – A bid will be out for a 3 year contract for Lawn Mowing

Grants – None

C. Graveline advised that after the fatal crash that happened approximately 3 weeks prior on Summit Road, Mr. Don Binette, 36 Summit Road would like for the Town to place guard rails in front of his property as he has young children and he is worried for their safety. C. Graveline asked Mayor Chatfield what could be done. Mayor Chatfield stated that guard rails could be placed at 36 Summit Road but it would not be until July.

L. Fitzgerald stated that the American Legion would like to purchase a Flagpole to be placed at the new ball field at Hotchkiss Park. The Flagpole would be placed behind the backstop. Mayor Chatfield stated that he thought it would be a wonderful idea.

Mayor Chatfield left the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

Public Participation: None

Old Business:

Subcommittee Reports: J. Slapikas, Chairman of the Ordinance subcommittee gave the Council two (2) “Draft” handouts. J. Slapikas stated that the Ordinance of General Penalty (Schedule A) was suggested by the Town’s Attorney as the Town of Prospect did not have one. J. Slapikas stated that this ordinance will have a punishable fine for a violation not to exceed \$100.00; each day any such violation shall constitute a separate offense. This ordinance will apply to all ordinances that do not have a violation fine.

The second Ordinance for Property Tax Relief for Certain Elderly and/or Totally Disabled Homeowners (Schedule B) had minor changes including changing the maximum flat tax credit from \$200.00 to \$400.00. J. Slapikas stated that this ordinance varies for eligibility, but will give more people eligibility. J. Slapikas also commented that a resident of 21 years or more would get a 100% credit. J. Slapikas also noted that an approval would be needed from the Town Council.

Adjournment:

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by L. Fitzgerald to adjourn the meeting.

Unanimous. The meeting adjourned @ 8:40 p.m.

Thomas J. Galvin

Thomas J. Galvin
Chairman