



**MINUTES  
SPECIAL MEETING  
TOWN COUNCIL  
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT  
MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2011 7:00 PM  
POLK SCHOOL LIBRARY  
437 BUCKINGHAM ST., OAKVILLE, CT 06779**

**PRESENT:** Elaine Adams  
Richard DiFederico  
Katherine Duplissie  
Raymond Primini, Chairman  
Paul Rinaldi  
Mary Ann Rosa, Vice Chairman  
Thomas Winn

**ABSENT:** Linda Masayda  
Richard Fusco

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chuck Frigon, Town Manager  
Roy Cavanaugh, Director of Public Works  
Chuck Berger, Town Engineer

1. Call Meeting to Order.

Chairman Primini called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call.

Ms. Tobin, pro-tem secretary, executed Roll Call.

4. Consider setting the mill rate for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 for Personal Property, Real Estate and Motor Vehicle taxes.

(Kace Duplissie, seconded by Richard DiFederico)

**I move to approve the resolution setting the mill rate for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 for Personal Property, Real Estate and Motor Vehicle taxes as 23.32 due and payable on July 1, 2011 for personal property taxes, motor vehicle taxes and the first installment of real estate taxes due on July 1, 2011 and the second installment on real estate taxes due on January 1, 2012.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Discussion and possible decision on the Town of Watertown STEAP Grant Project to be submitted to the State.

Chuck Frigon discussed the four projects slated for possible funding under a STEAP grant to be submitted to the State of Connecticut.

1. Enhancement/maintenance of sidewalks – Mr. Frigon stated the plan would be to make Main St. more accessible and better for the businesses located there. Current budget for sidewalks is \$.03 per linear foot, which will not cover a great deal of area in town. With the STEAP grant, it may be possible to have contiguous sidewalks from French St. to Carvel. The area in front of the movie theater, St. Johns Church is in need of repair. The Seymour Smith curve could be straightened and made safer using grant funds. Ideally, sidewalks from the Pin Shop to Route 6 would be ideal on this heavily travelled road. This can't be funded through the General Fund as it is very costly and a grant is needed to consider the project. There are some areas where there are no sidewalks and would need to be installed and other areas that require repair.
2. Steele Brook Greenway – The majority of the community supports the Greenway, including businesses and private individuals. It is a linear park that the town does not have and can't afford out of the General Fund. Some of the money from this STEAP grant could be used for this project.
3. Purchase of property at 676 Northfield Road – This property is contiguous to Crestbrook Park Golf Course with a building that could possibly be used for indoor recreation such as batting cages, etc. It would mean taking \$8,000 off the tax rolls if it became town property. There is currently \$465,000 available from another grant but to purchase the property would require more funds.
4. Senior Center addition – Mr. Frigon read a memo from Lisa Carew, Director of Recreation stating there was not discussion from the Park and Recreation Commission to expand the Senior Center at this time.

Mr. Primini asked about submitting multiple applications for this STEAP grant.

Mr. Frigon stated that the town could apply for \$500,000 through the STEAP grant program and divide among any of the projects. He suggested as an example it could be split in half – one portion for sidewalks and another portion for another project.

The current STEAP budget of \$150,000 would be augmented by \$250,000 from the STEAP grant and used for new sidewalks or reconstruction of sidewalks from French St. to Carvel. A discussion with the Engineering Department would have to take place to determine how the money would best be spent and where.

Mary Ann Rosa asked if \$250,000 would make a dent in the work that needs to be done.

Roy Cavanaugh, Director of Public Works stated that Main St. is in deplorable condition and areas such as Academy Hill are accidents waiting to happen. Taft School has offered to help with sidewalks around The Green near the school. He stated that this project is a multi-year project and would be completed in phases.

Mary Ann Rosa stated that maintenance to sidewalks needs to be done first since it has been discussed and now a matter of public record.

Paul Rinaldi stated that sidewalks are a priority and a safety issue. He also stated that the Northfield Road property would be a good purchase as the town is always looking for more sports fields and the public will benefit.

Elaine Adams stated that the town needs to make sure that what is applied for is completed. She liked the idea of splitting the grant money between sidewalk construction/repair and the purchase of the Northfield Road property. She also asked about the trees on Main St. and whether they would be removed or replaced and possibly electrified.

Richard DiFederico asked if the Park and Recreation Commission is in agreement with the purchase of the land.

Chuck Frigon stated the Park and Recreation Commission had not considered that item yet. It has been determined that the purchase of the metal building would be too costly but would support a larger facility.

Ray Primini stated that the money from this existing STEAP grant has to be used within two years.

Ray Primini asked if the sidewalk work would be contracted out or done by town employees.

Roy Cavanaugh stated that it would be contracted out. Currently the town employees are working on Heminway Park School and Echo Lake Road.

Chuck Frigon pointed out that the town employees are very busy. He also mentioned that the actual cost for a 5 foot sidewalk is \$75 per linear foot.

Tom Winn stated that though he would like to see expansion to the Senior Center, time is too short to initiate this. He stated the sidewalks need to be finished and it needs to be done now.

Kace Duplissie stated she was in favor of splitting the grant money between the sidewalks and the purchase of the property. The sidewalks are an important investment in the town and its people.

Mary Ann Rosa stated she was in favor of splitting the grant money to take advantage of the purchase of the property and the sidewalk project.

(Richard DiFederico, seconded by Kace Duplissie)

**I move to direct the Town Manager to apply for the 2012 STEAP grant for a request of \$500,000 to fund the Sidewalk Fund for \$250,000 and \$250,000 toward the purchase of property on 676 Northfield Road.**

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Adjourn.

(Mary Ann Rosa, seconded by Thomas Winn)

I move to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm.

Discussion: None

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

---

Raymond F. Primini, Chairman  
Watertown Town Council

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Tobin, pro-tem Clerk