



**MINUTES  
TOWN COUNCIL  
WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT  
MONDAY, JUNE 20, 2011  
REGULAR MEETING - 7:30 P.M.**

**WATERTOWN HIGH SCHOOL  
LECTURE ROOM  
324 FRENCH STREET  
WATEROWN, CT 06795**

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

**ABSENT:** Linda Masayda

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Chuck Frigon, Town Manager  
Frank Nardelli, Assistant Town Manager/Finance Director

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairman Primini called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Ms. King executed the roll call.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Public Participation**

**Amy Dyer – 310 Black Rock Road**

I wanted to bring something to your attention, I am sure that word has gotten around of the activities of possibly having a cell tower put on Crestbrook property and Black Rock Farms which is our family property which abuts Crestbrook. Crestbrook, I am not sure if you are aware that the property acquired, it was through state and federal funding. Having state and federal funding in a acquisition land grant means that the property is designated for open space, water shed and land acquisitions, which is a special grant program that was put forward several years and it was great purchase to get Crestbrook through that acquisition. If there is a possibility of putting the cell tower there I am highly opposed to it. I want to bring it to your attention because when someone says cell tower the people think “we can generate a lot of money for ourselves for the town and we can bring in \$2,000 to \$3,000 dollars a month by doing something like this and just put it on town property.” I am all for the town property. The other reason that we chosen to live and reside in this location is the premium property on Black Rock Road because we are protected by water sheds, land grants, protected open Space property, we are protected by federal government and protected by Art Johnson who is on the other side. We have concerns that all that the town will hear is the opportunity to make money but there are restrictions placed on the land which will be brought up later today by Charles Frigon about what it takes to turn property for cell towers usage. I just want to point out that it is a very costly process to try to do this. I am sure that Mr. Frigon will be able to explain what it would take and I am very concerned about the taxpayer’s money. It could damage the ecological sound on Black Rock Road and potentially damage beautiful property that was dedicated long time ago for this open space. There are a couple different ways that something like this land acquisition can happen it would mean the town itself would have to sign and purchase land which is not currently in our ownership as a town to trade or swap it with Crestbrook and it would have to be greater or more value. It is going to take at least \$100,000 to do that plus the property would have to be surveyed and there is no guarantee that the DEP would even approve of this process. They really don’t want to see land like this that has been dedicated towards open space be altered, so it is a lengthy expensive process. I do have open space and water shed land acquisition grant program information here about the guidelines that are required. I don’t know if you all are familiar with what it takes to do and be able to get property into a land grant but it is a lot of work and a lot of thought that is put into it and a huge amount of money. Let’s just say for a minute that the town says we definitely want to put it on Crestbrook property and it turns out that this way and they want to proceed who will pay for it, would it be the tax payers of Watertown, would it be the Crestbrook budget, it will cost a lot of money do this. What can we do to try to preserve the land that we have without disrupting the open space that has been dedicated in this premium spot? There is also something I would like to make you aware of, it is called Full Signal. I am not sure if you heard of it but it is a documentary which is available that you can watch and it is going to be shown in Warren and I actually went to go see it in Gun Memorial library I have the information on it and I would be happy to

share it and it talks about the health risks related to being near cell towers and radio frequencies, everything that is just related to health issues. Not just for people but for the ecology as well. I think a lot of this has to be taken into account not just going with blinders and saying yes we can do it let's jump through the hoops lets have Paul Jessell go through all the motions to get this approved because it is very expensive and really going against all the reasons decided to create a homestead there and our long term plans to live at the farm and raise our families there and have our grand children live there. I mean it affects everything and it is just so close within vision and we don't even know if it is safe. And the final thing I wanted to point out is that technology is changing so quickly and those towers are enormous and they are eyesores and it takes a lot of management to be able to take this thing down and manage the property with the dead end road it will invite trouble. The people that go there and hang out would be hoodlums there and it won't be monitored and I am very concerned about all of these issues. Health, economics and the original intention of Crestbrook. I can give a copy of this for Warren, and I will also give you the open space watershed and land acquisition grant program these are all the guidelines that people were asked to provide when creating property that will be preserved in an acquisition program such as Crestbrook. So you understand the ramifications and implications on something that feels like it would be perpetual and all of a sudden it could possibly change and we never expected it.

**Richard Dyer – 306 Black Rock Road**

I have been living in Watertown at 306 Black Rock Road for 30 years. This subject has been tossed around town as a controversial subject ie. a cell tower. I am all in favor of the town having legitimate means of acquiring the income they need for Crestbrook. What I am concerned about is about there seems to be a double standard in that the location of the tower at Crestbrook Black Road. It is an area clearly objected to by Dave Minnich in a letter written four years ago against putting a tower right in that area and I have it in writing. At that time it was proposed to be on Black Rock Farm property at the time I was interested having it with our family then we learned more about the health risks, the impact on our local residents, the property values and the environment. Primarily the environment we let the option go by and we did not put the tower in because it I felt it was unhealthy for the environment and the residents of the area. Meanwhile I am prepared to have a conservation earth easement of 15 acres because of the wilderness there and how beautiful it is and I would like very much to proceed with that. I am discouraged when the town will consider putting in a tower. I would be very disappointed if the Town Council or the Planning & Zoning enabled this in spite of all the objections which are reasonable objections and there are other alternative which can be considered. We all know the need for cell towers is marginal some people want them we don't really need it. I think maybe a location which is not intrusive and not going to cause a short term tax strain and a long term tax loss. Property values in the area are certainly going to be effected on Black Rock Road and the surroundings areas if properties are destroyed in order to make a tower become part of that environment.

**Arthur Johnson – 165 Black Rock Road**

My family has been here since the late 1940's, I have approximately just under 50 acres of farm land up there and it is an actively managed farm with about 1,500 or so linear feet on Black Rock Road and my house would be closest to the cell tower. I think given the proximity of the tower to my residence and my frontage on Black Rock Road perhaps I am at more risk and affected economically with the tower than anyone else in town. Let me give you a little background on the whole Crestbrook situation, the town acquired Crestbrook in 1975 through a series of state and federal grants, Crestbrook totals 232 acres. Now there was subsequent funding which allowed for the expansion of the golf course from 9 to 18 holes and some other improvements which were made for recreational purposes. Amy referred to the dedication which the town basically entered into a contract with the state and federal government in order to acquire the grant for the purchase. The town gets the property coming from part of the grant money and supposedly for open space and for recreation purposes and then turns around and uses it for something else. What we are talking about here is a very dangerous precedent and I would not limit it to just cell towers, the town shouldn't be considering putting anything else up at Crestbrook either a school or a town garage or any other thing that might come along. This is not free land that the town could do whatever it wants to with. That is an impression I think was sadly not understood very well by a number of people and the town government until it developed recently. Amy went into some detail about the ways in which it's possible with DEP's permission to negotiate something in the way of a land swap. This is designed to be complex process, a costly process and not easily accomplished. Everybody needs to understand going into such an undertaking. Now another aspect to this is that Crestbrook is part of a very large green belt. For those of you not familiar with the area, Crestbrook is 232 acres, it adjoins Black Rock State Park 443 acres, Black Rock State Park joins the Federal Core of Engineers, Black Rock Dam, that not just includes the dam but an expensive water shed, next to the Black Rock dam project is with Waterbury watershed and it various residents. So when you take this in its totality you have a very large green belt on the edge of Watertown and it indeed extends into the surrounding towns. DEP is not going to look kindly on efforts to fragment this green belt. From an ecological standpoint the green belt is the new way of thinking. It is more important to have contiguous properties that adjoin each other with bits and pieces of parcels scattered all over the place where wildlife management and conservation are in place. There is a squeeze play here as I indicated Crestbrook amounts to 232 acres this project is being squeezed down into 1 acre in the very northwest corner of Crestbrook. The tower will be 160 feet high as proposed, the cell towers so close to the adjoining land owners if it falls over, it will be 10 feet on the Dyer property and if it falls in the other direction it will block Black Rock Road temporarily. This is going to be highly visible and highly disruptive to the like to what we have there now. The previous speakers Amy and her father have asked the question why are we doing this it, comes down to money. I would pose to you the thought that we can't necessarily assume that the revenues from the towers they are not going to go on forever, from now until doomsday because technology is changing at alarming rate. Cell phones did not even exist and there is no basis for assuming that we are going to have cell towers as the preferred method of communicating signals from an area to another even assuming that this is necessary. So you need to look very carefully at the cost projections and the cost of applying if you were to proceed further with this. The DEP's requirements under the dedication and don't forget also the federal government has a role in it,

federal funding was part of the whole package to begin with. While the DEP negotiating on behalf of the federal government there is a whole other sets of rules that apply with land swaps and extraction of your cell tower from a dedication agreement In closing I will add one more comment on the P & Z that Dyer referred to the original scheme which was to locate the cell tower on his property at that time the P & Z commission wrote to the citing council and I will quote our zoning regulations encourage placement of these types of communication facilities on existing buildings and structures and the alternative on public property. This proposal is in the R90 residential zoning area one of our community's premier residential areas. Well it is still in R90 residential area the nature of the property could change as a matter of fact the problem get worse because it is now closer to the properties that are in the R90 residential area. So Mr. Chairman and members of the council I would ask you to reconsider this whole concept this is an ill advised idea at best please terminate as soon as possible and save everybody a lot of time and expense and aggravation thank you for your time and consideration.

**Richard Dyer**

I am Richard Dyer's son and Amy Dyer's brother and I live in Northfield right now and I will eventually be a land owner in Watertown as I one day live at 306 Black Rock Road. My comments are brief I am here just to get on the record to show that I too oppose this tower and I completely concur with all the reasons that they provided to you today. I am here to find out more about the actions that I could take to present information to you to hopefully stop this motion. Thank you very much

**Sandra Greenwood 156 Beldan Road**

A couple of weeks ago it was mentioned about the South School there were some issues about trees and what not. I took it upon myself the day after and this took me a little over a week to find out information and I spoke to Ray about this a couple of days ago and he was stunned at the information that I found. I have about 4 pages of information in here and I am going by day.

Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – I first called up Brother Tree Service to find any information as to how much it would cost to have a tree uprooted and replanted. They said no one in this section does anything like this, the equipment is very expensive and he said he couldn't even give me an idea of how much it would cost. The reason why I choose him because this company as done work for us. However he did give me 2 names and they were called Tree Mobile and Tree Arch.

Right after that I called up Reverend Landquist, we do indeed have part of the charter oak tree that came from the original charter oak, and there is no charter oak tree at south school whatsoever, none. In order to have something said like this you have to have proof, we have a certificate, we have a plaque that is in the vault. So right now the charter oak tree is standing in Union Church's yard and that tree was planted June 1976.

The third person I spoke to Mrs. Crowle – she said there was never a memorial tree, charter oak tree nothing at all. It was the same thing that Reveremd Landquist spoke to me about.

Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> I spoke to Karen Baldwin – who she is the Superintendent and I asked if there was any school tree or anything at all. Her comment that this was a lot of work for our secretary to do.

I then called Ms. Crowle again she said to me I can tell who was the Principal of that school is she did and that person was Anthony King.

Thursday, June 9<sup>th</sup> I called him and he also said there was no memorial tree no other tree that was planted there nothing what so ever, nothing.

After that I called the Town Times and spoke to Jim he found out the memorial tree was not at South School it was at Polk School and. I have information about the charter oak tree and the memorial tree at Polk School if someone would like to take a look at it and Jim from the Town Times said he got it from the historical site.

Next day I called Craig Lamphier who is the custodian at Polk school and he was the custodian at South School he mentioned to me that indeed there was a memorial tree at Polk school and he gave me the name of the person and I said is that tree still there he said no inadvertently when they were doing the school it was cut down or destroyed somehow. We do have another tree and they also have a plaque for this girl and the tree was planted in 94. There is also a plaque with 3 other names there and it is not displayed there because the principal does not want the plaque on the wall. He also said to me he knows of a teacher that worked at South School from 1971 to 2000 he gave me the name of the person. She said again there is no memorial tree whatsoever.

I called Jim Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> he found more information Tes Bosham saying that she was instrumental in the deed restriction for the South School project.

I called Bernie Bosham I spoke to him and he said she was involved; there was a tree down there. What it was for he didn't know he would get contact with someone who knew about this.

He called June 15<sup>th</sup> the person he talked Donald Mitchell who was principal of that school and he said that not only was there a tree, the tree was dedicated for Ms. Griffin and he also said theirs is a time capsule buried in the ground. I asked if he knew anything more about it and he said no.

I called Mrs. Crowle again she did say there was a time capsule somewhere they tried to locate last year and was unsuccessful doing this and when they said there was a tree definitely there I called 2 other people tree people who excavate trees, one was CT Tree Co and they quoted a price of \$2,000 to \$20,000 to do the tree. If it was a maple that it could not be replanted if it was oak it was alright. The tree could be planted but the property the tree is planted on the people would be responsible for this. Tree Mountain movers said he was interested and needed more information then he could give a cost.

**Mary Ann Rosa** I might have been able to save you a little bit of effort if you called me; I was there when they planted the tree.

**Sandra Greenwood** Superintendent King mentioned your name, and I said I was at the meeting last night she never mentioned anything.

**Mary Ann Rosa** we did not have the opportunity to address it in that fashion or form, there was a tree.

**Sandra Greenwood** it was dedicated to Mrs. Griffin then.

**Mary Ann Rosa** yes that is my recollection

**Sandra Greenwood** do you know what year we had a couple of ceremonies

**Mary Ann Rosa** I was involved with Tes Bosham in 1976 bicentennial and in the 1980 town bicentennial and the dedication of the naming the building and I believe it was done and I know there was a tree.

**Sandra Greenwood** when I spoke to Mr. Bosham he said he would like to, if you found out about the tree please tell the Town Times to put something in the paper even if you have to put my name in there for a contact if there is anyone who knows anything about this, the time capsule, the tree anything at all.

**Mary Ann Rosa** there was several trees that were being planted around the same time, the charter oak as part of the bicentennial and there were other trees planted in others places around town.

**Sandra Greenwood** do you know whether they were oaks

**Mary Ann Rosa** to my recollection I kept the notes I believe that was the only charter oak.

**Sandra Greenwood** am I correct in my information that I am saying

**Mary Ann Rosa** yes I think the only thing the cost to move the tree we are not paying that.

**Elaine Adams** I don't know if this is going to be helpful or not back in 1991 (inaudible) we did a search to find a tree for the green and we found one fairly close (inaudible) to move that, out literally know where it is going, and they gave us a price \$4,500 to do that so it is not cheap to do it the right way. (inaudible) they dug the tree out and they bring the dirt and fill it in and it is quite an involved project.

**Richard DiFederico** I was involved in that dedication of the time capsule

**Sandra Greenwood** do you know where it is

**Richard DiFederico** where the sandtrap is

**Charles Frigon** FOI does not allow a protracted conversation during public participation.

**4. Minutes**

**a. Special Town Meeting – May 12, 2011**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Elaine Adams) I move to approve the Special Town Meeting minutes dated May 12, 2011.

**b. Special Town Meeting – May 2, 2011**

**c. Regular Meeting – June 6, 2011**

(Raymond Primini sec. Elaine Adams) to postpone all minutes.

Susan King those minutes are in the last packet.

Motion passed unanimously

**5. Chairman's Report**

a. June 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the public hearing for the Charter Revision Commission for 7:00 at Swift Middle School.

1. Resignation from Matthew J. Baker from the Park and Recreation Commission effective June 30, 2011, dated June 7, 2011.
2. Resignation from John Woermer from the Park and Recreation Commission effective June 30, 2011, dated June 7, 2011
3. Resignation from Dr. Joseph Erardi from the Charter Revision Commission, dated June 13, 2011
4. Resignation from Bryan K. Beniot from the Conservation Commission/Inland Wetland Agency effective immediately, dated, June 8, 2011
5. Letter from John Pillis regarding Griffin School, dated 16, 2011

**6. Town Manager's Report**

I was asked to report on the cell towers and the status of their contracts. In order to give you a complete story for those of you who were not around in 2007 on the Town Council. I will start there; the Town Council back in October 2007 approved the lease with Sprint LLC for the construction of cell tower on Crestbrook property. How it got there you heard earlier from some of the statements and the Town Council did approve that lease. At the time we did not know about any deed restrictions on that particular piece of property. What the lease provides for is the tenant to inspect, to measure, to map, to survey without any cost to them. There are no payments made to the town until all approvals are in hand and construction actually starts on the cell tower. So from 2007 we have not been collecting any revenue on that particular lease. In March 2009 Tower

Company is there name purchased Sprints lease and entitlements. So Sprint no longer has the lease entitlements it now belongs to Tower Company Inc and that has been since 2009 very little or no activity as come to that point. In the summer of 2010 Tower Company began mapping and designing the tower construction which raised a lot of concerns with neighbors, there has been no activity for many years. Going back to the deed restrictions Crestbrook was indeed purchased with both state and federal monies. There were actually 3 grants that were given to the town one was for the purchase and the two other grants were improvements. In September 2010 it came to our attention that the tower was in violation of deed restrictions and that we needed to look into that and find out if indeed that was true. Both the Town Attorney and myself called DEP after some research and did find out in fact the lease that we had since 2007 was a lease permitting construction of a cell tower on deed restricted property. We called DEP and DEP was less than encouraging and went through the process what it would take for the town to have those deed restrictions transferred to another piece of property. The first test that we would have to prove is that there are no other sites that all other possibilities for cell tower locations on any other property either public or private have been exhausted. That is a very difficult task for us; the application at the time was originally submitted to be on private property. What they also required is that the town must purchase a replacement site of equal or greater value that was acceptable to both the DEP and the National Park Service. They require both of those agencies to approve a transfer of those deed restrictions. In short what needs to be done to move forward with that for the town to purchase a new piece of property was to have an A2 survey on both pieces of property and then submit an application to DEP who would then if approved forward it to the National Park Service for their approval. DEP was less than enthusiastic they gave neither Attorney Jessell nor I any indication that this could possibility happen but certainly we can submit an application. At that time we looked a the possibility relocating the location of the cell tower to a unrestricted piece of property at Crestbrook. There are some portions of property up there purchased locally through bonding not through grant that we might be able to place the tower on. At that time the tower company did a survey of that property and told us that was unacceptable. So we then asked DEP can we transfer property all ready owned instead of buying new to replace the deed restriction. DEP read chapter and verse exactly what the regulations are and said it must be a new however if we wanted to submit an application we could. With that being said we called the representative from Tower Company we told them the status of their lease and of the property and we asked if they can wait a period of time while we explore whether or not DEP and the National Park Service would consider a land swap. The representative from Tower Company did not get back to us. We heard nothing since then until we called him 2 weeks ago. Again from 2007 to 2 weeks ago there has been little activity up there and I am not sure how quickly to anticipate building a tower. What new has happened AT & T has through North Atlantic Towers submitted another application for another cell, now my understanding that North Atlantic tower was a perspective tenant of Tower Company for their tower located at Crestbrook. They have now submitted in that location to construct the tower at 655 Bassett Road, that application was received in May it was forwarded immediately to the P & Z Commission and I did receive from P & Z a strong

recommendation that we do what we can to relocate the tower to the Crestbrook site. With that said and letter in hand I met with Attorney Jessell and called DEP again and told them we now have a second application that there is interest in locating a tower in that section of town we were up against the same deed restrictions, the same piece of property and we asked if anything had changed in DEP and the National Park Service where we might be able to expedite a transfer of property. They reminded me again of the regulations and read the regulations you must buy new that a transfer although you can submit a different one, it was not ordinarily or ever for that matter considered. So with that in hand we decided in the interest of keeping the revenue stream in the town of Watertown, and remember this gets a little tricky impose a question to DEP that the CT Citing Council strongly encourages that any cell tower be constructed on where and when possible on public property. So I reminded DEP we are looking at completing mandates we have one telling us it really should be on public and the DEP you are not going to get it there so how does this get resolved. What Attorney Jessell and I decided along with DEP who is again not very encouraging that we submit an application is for removing or swapping those deed restrictions to a piece of property that we already own 21 acres at Crestbrook and we would see where that application goes without spending any dollars on. We then called Tower Company and asked if they could wait. They said at the very maximum they could wait another six months. DEP and the National Park Service have both assured us should the application be considered in their favor their process takes about 6 months let alone the title search and surveys and to do a lease and so forth. We then contacted AT&T and asked what their tolerance was for waiting while we go through this process. AT & T basically said it was very low however they would get back to me last Thursday I called them on Friday they still had no answer and I called them again today they still had no answer. That is where we stand and we will submit at this time if the council does not object for a land swap for existing property and see where it goes.

**Richard Fusco** if we decide not to lease to this company, will we get sued.

**Charles Frigon** the lease has a clause in it that terminates the lease should anything of this nature occur.

**Elaine Adams** we are not getting any dollars for it.

**Charles Frigon** no

**Katherine Duplissie** there has been some recent articles from corrosion stand point for not only power lines but also cell towers with accelerated corrosion.

**7. New Business.**

**a. Consider appointments to boards and commissions.**

- 1. Consider the nomination of Sharon Pratt, 100 Steele Brook Road, C-3 as Resident Commission of the Watertown Housing Authority for a term to expire January 31, 2013 to replace the previous Resident Commissioner Sharon Sovia who has resigned.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to nominate Sharon Pratt, 100 Steele Brook Road, C-3 as the Resident Commission of the Watertown Housing Authority for a term to expire January 31, 2013 to replace the previous resident Commissioner Sharon Sovia who resigned.

Discussion: none

Motion passed unanimously

**b. Consider a Memorandum of Understanding for a Contract Extension with the Watertown Education Association.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve the memorandum of understanding for a Contract Extension with Watertown Education Association.

Discussion:

**Richard DiFederico** I want to understand it in 6 months they get 1% and they get their step increases. I read it and I disagree with it.

**Mary Ann Rosa** I would like to speak in support of it, I think we waited a long time to get the concession from the education association and this year a 1% raise and next year gives us some breathing room. Plus they don't move up on their steps until midterm which saves a lot of money. The other part to the contract they are not up for negotiations or change that is attached for our information but it is not anything we can have an impact on the amount for any individual or any position or anything like that. So what we are voting on is to accept that 1% each year and the mid year step according to their years of service.

**Richard DiFederico** what I am trying to understand is 1% so we deferred it for 6 months.

**Raymond Primini** the cost is 1% the step increase is deferred.

**Richard DiFederico** it starts July 1<sup>st</sup> 2011, if I am reading it right there are 40 step increases. How is this saving us money, where is it benefiting us in what way?

**Raymond Primini** it is over two years instead of 1.

**Mary Ann Rosa** well they are getting a percentage of increase that they were entitled to. Once percent for 2011-2012 and 1% 2012–2013. The 6 months is in addition to that 1% they normally move up a step they are not going to move up that step until 6 months.

**Richard DiFederico** in Appendix A years of experience 7111 and add all the step increases.

**Elaine Adams** page 4

**Paul Rinaldi** I think what we have to do is look at the bigger picture, Karen Baldwin pretty much explained all that, I understood she said the steps increases were not included it is just only raises that alone is saving us \$650,000 if I am correct. I think these concessions were to be done if the budget passes. The budget has passed I think at this point just to agree on what we agreed on.

**Mary Ann Rosa** it says in one of the attachments the general wage increase would have gotten 2%, they are getting one and the next year they are getting one. So instead of getting the 2 up front they are getting 1 and 1. The step increase they would have gotten is deferred for six months, so that saves us money.

**Elaine Adams** the council really did not have the right (inaudible) we can only reject it because of monetary issues. We don't have to vote on this and we can get just let it go by, by the budget passing we are tied to this but we can reject.

**Richard DiFederico** the steps increases they took away

**Paul Rinaldi** she was talking about just the raises (inaudible) I know what you are saying it is a lot of money

**Richard Fusco** what we are saying is the budget passed the money is there all we are doing is saying we agree to this not to cut the budget anymore it is done and we have to agree to this agreement that we agreed to prior.

**Paul Rinaldi** stated to move the question.

**Richard Fusco** we are not happy with it but move the question.

Aye: 7 Adams, Duplissie, Fusco, Primini, Rinaldi, Rosa, Winn  
Nay: 1 DiFederico  
Abstain: 0

Motion passes

**c. Consider a Settlement Agreement for AFSCME Local 1303-38 for the Public Works Union.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Elaine Adams) I move to approve the Settlement Agreement for AFSCME Local 1303-38 for the Public Works Union.

Discussion:

**Charles Frigon** the Public Works contract is due to expire at the end of this month. Public Works has come to me and asked of you the Town Council, that they be allowed to keep their contract in force status quo with no increase in salary for one more year. What they are asking for in consideration of no increase or any other changes is that they be allowed to have 8 hours of personal time for their use, which will most likely be used during snow incidents where they want to get out an hour or two earlier than they might normally if they normal worked 12 or 18 hours or 20 hours..

Motion passed unanimously

**d. Consider a Settlement Agreement for the Telecommunications UPSEU Union**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve the Settlement Agreement for the Telecommunications UPSEU Union.

Discussion:

**Charles Frigon** this is a very similar request of our dispatchers, there are 6 full time and several part time dispatchers have come and offered to extend their contract for an additional year and there would be no raise involved, and everything would remain status quo for one additional year.

Motion passed unanimously

**e. Consider a request for an appropriation in the amount of \$2,640.17 from the General Fund for the refund of remaining inspection fees for the Cobb Street-Slade Street Subdivision. Remaining inspection fee funds were deposited into the General Fund.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve a request for an appropriation in the amount of \$2,640.17 from the General Fund for the refund of remaining inspection fees for the Cobb Street-Slade Street Subdivision.

Discussion:

**Richard Fusco** this money is already appropriated.

**Charles Frigon** it is already deposited.

Motion passed unanimously

- f. Consider an appropriation in the amount of \$1,661 from the General Fund for tree replacement in connection with the Ice House Estates. Funds deposited into the General Fund from the developer's tree bond.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$1,661 from the General Fund for tree replacement in connection with the Ice House Estates.

Discussion: none

Motion passed unanimously

- g. Consider setting a public hearing date, time and place on the proposed Building Inspection Fee Schedule Revision.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to set a public hearing to be held on July 18, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Watertown High School Technology Room to consider the proposed Building Inspection Fee Schedule Revisions.

Discussion:

**Raymond Primini** everybody has a copy in their packet.

Motion passed unanimously

- h. Consider a bid waiver for the relocation of Depot Square Offices for licensed electrical services for Heminway Park Building conversion to town offices to be performed by Orsini Electric.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve a bid waiver for the licensed electrical services for the relocation of Depot Square Offices for Heminway Park Building conversion to town offices to be performed by Orsini Electric.

Discussion:

**Elaine Adams** this is only to locate P & Z building and the inspector there, we are not going to continue on into October giving him the work it is just for this specific project.

**Charles Frigon** yes and no. We have also on the first floor space we renovating a permanent office location for the Registrar of Voters if we can and if we have time we would like to continue working that area and relocate them as well and that is another suite that we can empty. I don't believe it will be possible but if we have time and the man power we would continue working and probably engineering next and get as many offices out of Depot Square as quickly as we can. If you want to keep it to just those offices that is certainly your pleasure.

**Elaine Adams** if you give 4 months of work to one contractor, I don't know I am a little troubled by...

**Charles Frigon** what I can assure is we are paying a very competitive rate it is a single individual that does not require a minimum hour or hours of work. We don't have to commit to a half days work or full days work. This individual is available to us almost daily and will work until the project we scheduled for them is done. I don't believe we will do any better should we bid it. I do believe however it is nice to offer to other people we do not have plans or specifications for the building we don't know the building very well, a lot of our day today was in fact just tracing wires down they have a lot of systems in that building. Some of the work will obviously spill into other work moving Depot Square, the Planning & Zoning, the Building Inspector and the Health Department will also require we do some heating and air-conditioning work and that goes into the main service. I would suggest if it going to be isolated to one area that we isolate it to that first floor that is where we are working and one system goes into the next office.

**Elaine Adams** what is the hourly rate

**Charles Frigon** \$65.00 an hour

**Katherine Duplissie** it says in the letter from Carol Roman that Orsini Electric, is to provide professional services to the town for this project until October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Charles Frigon** that is correct, after October 1<sup>st</sup> we have a little breathing room...

**Katherine Duplissie** then it will go out to bid

**Charles Frigon** yes, that is our intention

**Raymond Primini** what is our time clock

**Charles Frigon** September 1st

Motion passed unanimously

- i. Consider a resolution authorizing an appropriation from the General Fund to the Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$450 for the reimbursement of magnet school transportation costs. Funds deposited into the General Fund from an ED-021 Transportation Reimbursement Grant.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve a resolution authorizing an appropriation from the General Fund to the Board of Education Budget in the amount of \$450 for the reimbursement of magnet school transportation costs.

Discussion: none

Motion passed unanimously

- j. Consider authorizing a tax refund to VCS Properties c/o Stebbins for property located at 56 New Wood Road in the amount of \$3,837.43 per a court order. Refund to be applied to July 1, 2011 real estate tax bill.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to authorize a tax refund to VCS Properties c/o Stebbins for property located at 56 New Wood Road in the amount of \$3,837.43 per a court order. Refund to be applied to July 1, 2011 real estate tax bill.

Discussion:

**Frank Nardelli** you see the back up sheet for the certificate of correction, they went to court on that, the original assessment was \$657,500 they reduced it to \$409,000 for a net change of \$167,500 this went through the court systems and that was the court stipulated amount. So they owe them a tax refund which will be applied to the July 2011 bill.

Motion passed unanimously

- k. Consider the establishment for a sick bank for a member of the Highway Union.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to establish a sick bank for a member of the Highway Union.

Discussion:

**Charles Frigon** we have an employee that was injured off the job who is recently undergoing some surgery who needs some additional time more time than he has in his own sick bank to recuperate. This is traditionally done for employees who have been serving the town for many years.

**Katherine Duplissie** how many years

**Charles Frigon** 16 years I believe

Motion passed unanimously

- l. Consider a resolution supporting a request to the State of Connecticut to consider reallocating STEAP Funds awarded to the Town of Watertown for the construction of an indoor recreational facility to a similar project.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve a resolution supporting a request to the State of Connecticut to consider reallocating STEAP Funds awarded to the Town of Watertown for the construction of an indoor recreational facility to a similar project.

Discussion: none

Motion passed unanimously

- m. Consider the sale of low band Minitor 5 pagers to the Redding Fire and Emergency Medical Services at \$50 each for 30 units.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Elaine Adams) I move to authorize the sale of low band Minitor 5 pagers to the Redding Fire and Emergency Medical Services at \$50 each for 30 units.

Discussion:

**Larry Black - Fire Chief**

These are pagers from our old system that we no longer need. It is a low band system and there are very few departments that use low band. Just today we have sent some pagers for our explorer post to be reprogrammed that company offered us \$30.00 for the pagers that we have sent to them. So those are going to be shipped back to us so we can sell them for \$50.00 and they go to a good use rather than sitting in a box to get thrown out in a year or two.

Motion passed unanimously

- n. Consider the sale of low band Minitor 5 pagers at \$50 each for 20 units and the sale of six MT1000 portable radios for \$100 each to the Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Elaine Adams) I move to authorize the sale of low band Minitor 5 pagers at \$50 each for 20 units and the sale of six MT1000 portable radios for \$100 each to the Bethlehem Volunteer Fire Department.

Discussion: none

Motion passed unanimously

- o. Consider the sale of a 1985 FMC pumper, Engine 5 to Kent Fire Department for \$12,500**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to authorize the sale of the Town of Watertown's 1985 FMC Pumper to Kent Fire Department for \$12,500.

Discussion:

**Elaine Adams** as it, we have no liability here

**Larry Black** that is correct it is "as is"

Motion passed unanimously

- p. Consider a resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$8,000,000 refunding bonds.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance of not exceeding \$8,000,000 refunding bonds.

Discussion:

**Frank Nardelli** Berry Bernardi called me from Webster Bank our financial advisor and the interest rates are going really low again so we have a chance to refund some of the bonds issues from 2003, 2004, and 2005 if we were to hit the market right now we probably save \$200,000 the interest rate we get about 3.15% which is historically low for bond issues. The problem is we have to get to the market quickly take advantage of this so if you approve it tonight we can get going with the official statement and move forward with our bond attorney. The other thing we are saying well the interest rate is so low our communications system that was approved we will probably bond that now to we were going to watch the market, so if we were going to do the bond market refunding our bonds we can also do the communications system which is approximately about one million and a half dollars and bond that. Again it is all tied into the market if we can hit it right we might save \$300,000 or it may roll back to 100 it all depends on how it all flows through. So hopefully we can get to the market quickly and take advantage of the lower rates. We refunded in 2005 and we save \$539,000 and in 2009 we saved \$835,000. The savings will not be as great this time but there still is an advantage.

Motion passed unanimously

- q. Consider a resolution authorizing the transfer of funds between line items.**

(Katherine Duplissie sec. Mary Ann Rosa) I move to approve the resolution authorizing the transfer of funds between line items.

Discussion:

**Richard Fusco** we don't have it in funding, you are taking out of legal fees, I understood legal fees were bad we are in good shape

**Charles Frigon** we're okay.

Motion passed unanimously

**8. Adjournment.**

Motion: (Mary Ann Rosa sec. Thomas Winn) to Adjourn the Regular Meeting at time 8:50 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously

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Raymond F. Primini, Chairman  
Watertown Town Council

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Susan King, Clerk