



Redding Board of Selectmen – Meeting Minutes

Date: October 15, 2001

Town of Redding, Connecticut

Regular Meeting
October 15, 2001

Present: N. Ketcham, T. Miller, J. Cotton
Public: About 20 people
Media: Redding Pilot

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The board was in Executive Session from 7:30 pm to 8:00 pm. to discuss Real Estate negotiations.

First Selectman Ketcham called the Oct. 15, 2001 meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 8:06 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board of Selectmen approved the minutes of the September 10, 2001 regular meeting as submitted. Cotton, Miller. Approved Unanimous.

The Board of Selectmen approved the minutes of the September 20, 2001 special meeting as corrected. Ketcham, Miller. Approved. Unanimous. Correction: Tina Miller seconded the motion that Mr. Cotton made about the Code of Ethics.

A motion was made to add to this evening's agenda 3.a. to hear from Bruce Sanford from the Highway Department. Miller, Cotton. Approved. Unanimous.

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT: Mr. Cardillo gave an updated report. December 20, 2001 is the new expected opening date. Things are going well on the inside of the building. The big parking lot has been paved. As of tomorrow the town can bring in someone else to take care of the erosion. Mercede said they will be there to do it. Ms. Ketcham will sit in on the meeting tomorrow with Mr. Cardillo and Mercede at 2:00 pm. Mr. Cardillo suggested the selectmen take a walk-thru. A time will be set up.

DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING LEASE OF MUNICIPAL PROPERTY TO VOICESTREAM:

Options were discussed. Ms. Ketcham favored the flagpole option with a place for three carriers and two flags. One US Flag and one Connecticut Flag. At both firehouses this technology could be used. A discussion ensued about the steps involved with zoning, etc. and how tall the flagpoles would be. Some in the audience wondered whether there was an alternative to the towers. They would like not to necessarily rely on the applicant's advice. Ms. Ketcham is already looking into this so there will hopefully be an answer once and for all. Fred Hanson and Ms. Ketcham will get together to review the lease and what kind of input the town would have in renewing any kind of lease. Public safety issues also need to be resolved. It was recommended that propagation studies be done before doing subsequent towers. Concern was also raised about putting this type of technology so close to RES. Many issues brought up

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will be discussed with Zoning, including burden of proof as to whether these towers are hazardous to health.

A motion was made to begin negotiations with Voicestream and recommending that the Town Garage on Great Oak Lane be used for construction for the flagpole and cellular tower and the height be restricted to meet the minimum requirements. Also that the Police Dept. pole be demolished. Miller, Cotton. Approved. Unanimous.

A motion was also made to approve making a lease with Voicestream for the purpose of building a cellular tower that will look like and function like a flagpole. The height would be up to Zoning. Also to make known to Zoning that the Board of Selectmen would like the lowest height possible with flagpole type minimum requirements to meet Voicestream's absolute needs. Cotton, Miller. Approved. Unanimous

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: A motion was made to approve the transfer of a 1992 bucket truck from Knapp Tree to the Town Garage for \$20,000. Cotton, Miller. Approved. Unanimous. This would allow the town to take care of hanging limbs, etc. when needed ASAP as preventive medicine as well as to be able to get caught up with limb work. There would still be money left in the rental account for other needs. Knapp will still be used also.

POLICE FOUNDATION UPDATE: The report was not ready.

CL&P TRANSMISSION LINE UPGRADE STATUS: There will be a press conference tomorrow with CL&P and selectmen from surrounding towns. The Danbury News Times will also be there. Environmental impacts need to be looked into. This needs to be balanced with reasonable need for additional energy. Conservation concerns will also be discussed.

APPOINTMENT OF A SUB-REGISTRAR: A motion was made to appoint Robert Mastropietro from the Bethel Funeral Home to issue burial and removal permits when necessary. Cotton, Miller. Approved. Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS: Ms. Miller had prepared first version of comments on the Internet policies. It will be read by the selectmen. There will be a meeting with the local emergency planning committee to have up to date plans for emergencies on October 25, 2001. The Georgetown Master Planning Committee will be meeting on October 25, 2001 to review streetscape plans for Georgetown.

Ms. Miller commended Larry Hutvagner for doing such a great job of coordinating the new phone systems and saving money.

Mr. Cotton made a commendation to Ms. Ketcham for being such an excellent First Selectman.

The chair adjourned at 10:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Clark, Recording Secretary