



Town of Redding, Connecticut
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2003

Present: Ketcham, Cotton, Miller
Media: Redding Pilot

Mrs. Ketcham called the September 15, 2003 meeting to order at 7:37 pm

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: That the Board of Selectmen approve the minutes of the August 11, 2003 meeting as corrected. Cotton, Miller. Approved. Unanimous.

Corrections: page 2, SweetHart bus page 3, #5, Bob Sitkowski

Motion: That the Redding Board of Selectmen accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 4, 2003 meeting as submitted. Miller, Cotton. Approved. Unanimous.

Motion: That the Redding Board of Selectmen accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of September 8, 2003 as submitted. Cotton, Ketcham. Approved. 2-0-1. Mrs. Miller abstained.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RAILROAD PARKING RATES

Mr. Newsome recommended an increase in parking fees and fines for the West Redding Railroad Parking lot. He presented information on what neighboring towns are charging for their facilities.

Motion: That the Redding Board of Selectmen approve an increase in daily parking fees from \$2.00 to \$5.00 and a annual fee from \$125 to \$150, and an increase in the illegal parking fine from \$5.00 to \$15.00, for the West Redding Railroad Parking facility, effective January 1, 2004. Cotton, Miller. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON RECOMMENDATION REGARDING INTERSECTION OF ROUTE 58 & NEWTOWN TURNPIKE

Chief Fuchs reported on the safety issues of the intersection of Route 58 & Newtown Turnpike. He asked the State to evaluate the intersection, but the did not meet requirements for improvement. As an alternate, Chief Fuchs suggested the limiting of access to Route 58 from Newtown Turnpike. Traffic would be allowed to turn off Route 58 onto Newtown Turnpike. Chief Fuchs contacted the local residents by mail with an explanation of the proposed change. He received responses from 22 individuals, with 20 of those in support of the change.

Motion: That the Redding Board of Selectmen accept the change to the intersection of Route 58 and Newtown Turnpike as proposed by Chief of Police Fuchs. Miller, Cotton. Approved. Unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF GEORGETOWN SPECIAL TAX DISTRICT

A meeting has been scheduled for September 25, 2003 to discuss a petition to create a Georgetown Special Tax District. Tax Collector, Patricia Moisio, and Attorney Sheila Denton of Pullman Comley, were present to answer questions of the Board of Selectmen concerning the creation of a special tax district. Stephen Soler and his attorney, Tom Walsh, were also present. Mr. Walsh explained the tax district would be limited to the Gilbert & Bennett property and the lagoon site. This discussion was informational in advance of the September 25, 2003 meeting.

DISCUSSION WITH DEPUTY TREE WARDEN

Deputy Sean McNamara, applied for and received a \$3,000 America the Beautiful Grant to be used to create and maintain an inventory of large, unique & historic trees in Redding. The grant will purchase equipment and software for the inventory. The program, Heritage Tree Project, will be set up as a separate fund and will accept donations.

Motion: That the First Selectman, Natalie Ketcham, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of the Town of Redding, a certain contract with the Department of Environmental Protection of the State of Connecticut for the fulfillment of the America the Beautiful Grant, and is authorized to affix the Town seal. Miller, Cotton. Approved. Unanimous.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Landmark Committee: The Board of Selectmen received a letter from Gene Connelly regarding landmarks, and Charlie Couch was present to discuss the need for an oversight committee with regard to landmarks. Both men are concerned with the Georgetown landmarks. Mr. Couch noted that Gilbert & Bennett is a historic district and the individual buildings should be assessed with regard to their historic value. No action was taken, but the Board of Selectmen will discuss the matter in the future.
2. Representative to Connecticut Northwestern Regional Tourism District: the consolidation of tourism districts has resulted more distant meeting location for the current representative. Should Jane McKee decide not to continue to represent Redding for the District, the Board of Selectmen will need to appoint another representative.
3. Emergency Management: Doug Hartline is the new Emergency Management Director. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2003 to review emergency plans for Redding.
4. Website: Mrs. Miller reported that Susan Kulowiec, the webmaster, has re-worked the website to make it more user friendly.

ADJOURNMENT

The chair adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Maday, Recording Secretary