



## Town of Redding, Connecticut

Board of Selectmen  
Meeting Minutes  
October 24, 2005

Present: Ketcham, Miller, Takacs  
Board of Finance members: Cotton, DeSalvo, Guitar, Mullaney, Alvarez, Viscio  
Others: members of the GIS Committee and six others  
Media: Redding Pilot

Mrs. Ketcham called the October 24, 2005 meeting to order at 7:30 pm in the Hearing Room of the Redding Town Office Building. The first part of the meeting was conducted jointly with the Board of Finance.

Mrs. Ketcham recognized Chuck Mullaney recognized and thanked Mr. Mullaney for his over 14 years of combined service on the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.

### PRESENTATION AND REQUEST FOR FUNDS FROM THE GIS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ketcham suggested the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance meet jointly to hear the presentation from the GIS Committee. The Committee will explain what GIS is, where we are, where we are heading and what the costs might be.

Assessor, Melinda Fonda, reviewed the packet of information and the recommendations of the GIS Committee. Fus and O'Neil representatives were to be at the meeting but were in a traffic jam and unable to be present.

The presentation included a budget that would include a survey of the Town's boundaries, support and maintenance, software, hardware, and training. She explained the current status of towns and the importance of surveying the Town's boundaries. She anticipates there will be some cost sharing of the boundaries with the neighboring towns. In additions Mrs. Fonda recommended adding an additional \$2.00 to the permits to offset the cost of the GIS system.

The GIS system is currently in use by the Zoning & Wetlands Officer, Land Use Department, the Assessor, the Planning Department, the Highway Department and the Selectmen's office. In addition, the information would be available to the Zoning, Planning and Conservation Commissions.

Mr. Viscio asked for what the savings would be in terms of dollars. Zoning Enforcement Officer responded that the savings would be considerable, as having good information would

save him a good deal of time. Mr. Viscio stressed the importance requests for spending come forward with supporting financial information.

At this point, the recommendation is a request for \$64,740 in capital and non-recurring and \$10,700 from contingency for recurring expenditures. In future years, each of the departments will include their individual GIS expenditures in a GIS line item.

**Motion:** move that the Redding Board of Finance approve the funding of \$64,740 from Capital and Non-recurring and \$10,700 from Contingency for the GIS system as requested. Mullaney, Alvarez. Approved. 4-1-1. Mr. Viscio voted against the motion and Ms. Guitar recused herself as she is on the GIS Committee.

#### RECESS

The Board of Selectmen recessed their meeting at 8:14 pm. The Board of Finance meeting continued.

#### RECONVENE

The Board of Selectmen reconvened their meeting at 8:23 pm in the Conference Room.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion:** move to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2005 meeting as corrected. Miller, Ketcham. Approved. 2-0-1. Takacs abstained  
Corrections: typographical corrections

**Motion:** move to approve minutes of the September 12, 2005 meeting as submitted. Miller, Takacs. Approved. Unanimous.

**Motion:** move to approve minutes of the October 4, 2005 meeting as submitted . Miller, Takacs. Approved. Unanimous.

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON SMALL CITIES GRANT PROGRAM

The Town of Redding was invited to apply for a Small Cities Block Grant for an amount not to exceed \$600,000 to assist with the remediation and demolition of contamination at the former Gilbert & Bennett site.

**Motion:** that the Redding Board of Selectmen authorize First Selectmen, Natalie T. Ketcham, to sign the resolution, Certified Resolution of the Town of Redding Small Cities Program as presented 10/24/05. Miller, Takacs. Approved. Unanimous.

#### DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON REVISED CL&P EASEMENT

Mrs. Ketcham explained the revision of the 20' easement on Whortleberry. Instead of a 20' easement on one side of the line, there would be 10' on each side of the line. There is no change in the total easement or in the compensation. The revised easement will need approval at a Town Meeting.

## DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON THE ABANDONMENT OF A PORTION OF SMITH STREET

A request to abandon the portion of Smith Street between Redding Road and Church Street South was requested by the neighboring residents and is supported by the Planning Commission and the Assessor. The roadway has been treated as a private drive.

**Motion:** move to set Thursday, November 3, 2005 at 7:30 pm in the Hearing Room of the Redding Town Office Building for a Town Meeting to the Revised CL&P Easement and the abandonment of the portion of Smith Street between Redding Road and Church Street.

## UPDATE ON ATHLETIC FIELDS

Mr. Takacs reported a Fields Committee has met to review the potential use of the Joel Barlow fields. The Committee hopes to improve the overall playability of the fields on the Barlow campus through possible reconfiguration of existing areas, use of artificial turf and lighting. In addition, the group is looking at JRMS for greater use through the use of artificial turf and lighting. The Committee would also like to have an assessment done of the Couch Hill property to determine if fields in that area are feasible and practical.

Mr. Takacs estimates the cost to do a full assessment of the above ideas would cost between \$60,000 and \$70,000. He added that various individual groups continue to look for ways to fund or assist with the funding of the assessment.

Comments from the audience were taken.

Liz Pelzar, Cricklewood Road, stated that she did not believe the Committee has adequate representation from all the user groups, and a plan should be developed to meet all the needs not just the needs of some.

Suzanne Krivit, Barlow Drive, commented that, as an abutting neighbor of the front Barlow field, she is concerned about the negative impact of artificial turf and lighting.

## SPEED HUMP EVALUATION

Mrs. Miller is working on a draft of the regulations. She will have additional information at the next meeting.

## CONSERVATION COMMISSION REPORT BY REDDING FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The Board of Selectmen received the report for review. The report recommended that the Town have a deer warden. Mrs. Ketcham announced that Dave Sanford would serve as the volunteer Deer Warden. Mr. Sanford is a Certified Senior Instructor in Wildlife.

## RECESS

Mrs. Ketcham recessed the meeting at 9 pm to rejoin the Board of Finance.

## RECONVENE

The Board of Selectmen reconvened the meeting at 9:05 pm in the Hearing Room with the Board of Finance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion: move to executive session for a discussion of matters pertaining to negotiations.  
Miller, Takacs. Approved. Unanimous.

RECONVENE

The Board of Selectmen reconvened in public session at 10:30 pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Maday, Recording Secretary