

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 4, 2009  
(Subject to Approval)**

**PRESENT:** First Selectman H. William Davis, Jr.  
Selectman Carol Hubert  
Selectman Kenneth Kerin  
Selectman Barbara McLaughlin  
Selectman Stuart Somers  
Selectman John Turk

**ALSO PRESENT:** Town Clerk Ginger Salisbury, Treasurer Bill Sarosky, Police Corporal Brian Hughes, Fire Marshall Henry Stormer, IT Consultants Jack Rutherford and Frank Salamone, Office Manager Noreen Thompson, Interested Citizens, and Members of the Press.

**CALL TO ORDER**

First Sel. Davis called the Regular Meeting of June 4, 2009 to order at 7:30 p.m. in Room 205 of the Town Hall

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. Carol Renza of 799 Peter Road read a letter dated June 1, 2009, which she had written to the Board of Selectman. She thinks an independent police department would need to expand in size and thus cost a lot more money. Mrs. Renza feels Southbury cannot afford an independent police department especially during these hard economic times with high unemployment and empty store fronts. Sel. Kerin said that, contrary to what Mrs. Renza claimed, the Police Chiefs Association Report did not say the Southbury Police Force was undermanned and it did not call for an expansion. Also, Mr. Kerin pointed out that if Southbury needed 8 more police officers as an independent police department, it needed 8 more officers as a trooper town.

2. Lorraine Marcantonio of Heritage Village said she feels the benefit of local control far outweighs the possible cost. She pointed out that the 2005 Report, done in 1998, recommended Southbury have its own police chief.

3. Jon Norris of 145 Hornet Nest Road spoke against an independent police department because of escalating costs. In particular Mr. Norris was worried about a middle age chief and the heart and hypertension law, the liability of holding prisoners overnight, legal costs to enforce the chief's contract, and misbehavior on the midnight shift.

4. Nicholas Patsis of The Courtyard, Heritage Road would like to hear more discussion of the relative costs involved in having an independent police department versus being a trooper town.

5. Henry Stormer, Fire Marshall, a former Newtown police sergeant corrected some of the figures in the flyers that have been passed out around town concerning an independent police department. He said the heart and hypertension law that Mr. Norris was worried about has been abolished.

6. Don Briggs of Heritage Village feels that the middle of a severe economic downturn is the wrong time to increase Southbury's costs.

7. Nancy Tobin of 984 Peter Road is afraid an independent police department would increase her taxes which she says went up 50% last year. She says if it ain't broke don't fix it.

8. Bernard Kokinchak of 197 Strongtown Road mentioned the 2003 bill which proposed ousting towns of over 18,000 population from the state trooper program.

Sel. Kerin said that at worst an independent police department might cost an additional \$20,000 a year, and it might even save money. He said the issue is the quality of police service.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Memo dated May 19, 2009 from the Planning Commission to the Board of Selectmen stating they support the improvements to the Town Beach at Lake Zoar.
2. Copy of letter dated May 20, 2009 to the Police Department from Nancy Greist expressing her appreciation for the tour of the Police offices.
3. Copy of invitation to ceremony honoring those who have served Southbury for 25 years or more.
4. Building Department report for May 2009.
5. Meeting Calendar for June 2009.

**MINUTES**

Upon a motion by Sel. Turk, seconded by Sel. Hubert, the minutes of the May 13, 2009 Informational Meeting of the Board of Selectmen were unanimously approved.

Upon a motion by Sel. Hubert, seconded by Sel. Turk, the minutes of the May 21, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen were unanimously approved.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Upon a motion by Sel. Kerin, seconded by Sel. Somers, the following items on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved:

**1. Resignations and Appointments**

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen hereby acknowledges with regret the resignation of Patricia A. Standish as a Library Assistant, effective June 18, 2009.

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Head Librarian, hereby approves the hiring of Sarah Porell, as a temporary summer employee for the Southbury Library, effective July 1, 2009

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Tax Collector, hereby approves the hiring of Ashley Bedard as a temporary summer employee for the Tax Collector's office, effective June 22, 2009.

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Lake Lillinonah Authority and in accordance with State Statute 15-154a, hereby appoints the following to serve as Lake Lillinonah Marine Officers for the 2009 boating season, subject to DEP and POST certification:

**Tony Augustine  
Kevin A. Brooks  
John G. Puglisi  
Christopher Rosado  
Kevin J. Seeley  
Douglas N. Vane  
Jameson A. Zaloski**

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Director of Parks and Recreation, hereby approves the hiring of the attached as temporary summer camp counselors for the 2009 season, subject to satisfactory records checks, effective on or after June 8, 2009.

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Democratic Town Committee, hereby:

Moves Eric J. Kipperman from alternate member to regular member of the Board of Finance, for a term to expire on December 5, 2011.

Appoints Edward Edelson of 782 Main Street North as an alternate member of the Board of Finance, for a term to expire on December 5, 2011.

Moves Diantha D. Schull from alternate member to regular member of the Inland Wetlands Commission, for a term to expire on December 7, 2009.

Appoints Thomas W. Hook of 7 Beacon Hill Road as an alternate member of the Inland Wetlands Commission, for a term to expire on December 5, 2011.

## **2. Driveway Bond**

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Highway Department, hereby releases the following driveway bond in the amount of \$1,500, the work having been satisfactorily completed:

<b>PERMIT NO.</b>	<b>PRINCIPAL</b>	<b>SURETY</b>
675	PinnerPartners LLC 41 Country Woods Lane	Webster Bank Town File 07-59

## **3. Referrals from Land Use**

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission, hereby reduces the following bonding:

**PRINCIPAL:** David Dicks  
**SURETY:** People's Bank  
**PROPERTY:** Renaissance Estates Subdivision – Purchase Brook Rd.

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Road & Drainage	\$110,268	\$100,000
Street Trees	\$500	\$500
Soil Erosion	\$28,962	\$5,000
Common Driveway	\$6,000	\$6,000
	<b>\$145,730</b>	<b>\$111,500</b>

(Town File 07-22)

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission hereby reduces/releases the following bonding:

**PRINCIPAL:** Pilot's Mall LLC  
**SURETY:** Fleet National  
**PROPERTY:** Highland Estates Subdivision, Sections 1, 2 & 3 – Strongtown Road

	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Soil Erosion Control Bond (Town File 03-91)	\$4,719	\$0
Soil Erosion Control Bond (Town File 06-46)	\$25,531	\$5,000

#### **STAFF REPORTS**

None

#### **TRANSFERS**

Sel. Hubert asked about Transfer 09-29. Treasurer Sarosky said there had been unexpected additional repairs to the pool this year so more money was needed for the pool start up costs.

Sel. McLaughlin asked about Transfer 09-34. Treasurer Sarosky said the money was for the secretary for the Board of Assessment Appeals.

**Upon a motion by Sel. Turk, seconded by Sel. McLaughlin, it was unanimously**

**RESOLVED, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen hereby approves and refers the following Transfers to the Board of Finance:**

**A. 09-29 DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation**  
**FROM: Activities \$3,000**  
**TO: Pool Maintenance \$3,000**

**To fund projected pool expenses.**

**B. 09-30 DEPARTMENT: Fire Department**  
**FROM: Contingency \$795**  
**TO: Fire Hydrants \$795**

**To pay for increase in rates.**

**C. 09-31 DEPARTMENT: Service Expense**  
**FROM: Contingency \$7,000**  
**TO: Telephones \$7,000**

**To pay for increase in rates and switching of service from the Centrix System.**

**D. 09-32 DEPARTMENT: Board of Selectmen**  
**FROM: Salaries Full time \$4,000**  
**TO: Salaries Part time \$4,000**

**To cover costs of part-time needed due to illness in selectmen office.**

**E. 09-33 DEPARTMENT: Dispatch**  
**FROM: Salaries – Full time \$3,900**  
**TO: Salaries – Part time \$3,900**

**To cover costs of part-time needed due to illness and having only four full time dispatchers.**

**F. 09-34 DEPARTMENT: Board of Assessment Appeals**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Contingency</b>	<b>\$840</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Salaries – Part time</b>	<b>\$840</b>

**To cover for additional hearings for appeals.**

**G. 09-35 DEPARTMENT: Highway**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Material – Drainage</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>
	<b>Base Station</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>
	<b>Salt &amp; Sand</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Fuel</b>	<b>\$6,000</b>

**H. 09-36 DEPARTMENT: Town Properties Outside**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Turf Management</b>	<b>\$625</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Fuel</b>	<b>\$625</b>

**I. 09-37 DEPARTMENT: Parks & Recreation**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Contingency</b>	<b>\$1,580</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Salaries – Full time</b>	<b>\$1,580</b>

**To fund shortage due to payment of comp time.**

**J. 09-38 DEPARTMENT: Transfer Station**

<b>FROM:</b>	<b>Hauling</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>
<b>TO:</b>	<b>Salaries – Part time</b>	<b>\$2,300</b>

Sel. Hubert asked about Transfer 09-31. Treasurer Sarosky said they had to put in an additional phone line when they put in the additional site up at the high school and also they switched from the old Centrix they had had forever.

Sel. Somers asked Treasurer Sarosky about costs of the police department being in other parts of the town budget thus making it hard to compare Southbury's cost with the police costs in other towns. Treasurer Sarosky said the police budget did not include the police benefits, utilities, or pensions.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **1. Charter Revision**

**Upon a motion by Sel. Turk, seconded by Sel. Hubert, it was unanimously agreed to table the matter of the Charter Revision until the June 18, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.**

### **2. IT Committee Up-Date**

Sel. Kerin reported that the Board will see the new Town Website at the next Board of Selectmen meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sel. Kerin reported that the IT Committee is still dealing with updating IT applications and still wrestling with the GIS. He said they might have to move to another GIS provider.

Sel. Kerin spoke of the need to support the staff with e-mail and internet access, and with technical expertise. He said that hopefully the new website will continue to grow and improve, but someone is needed to help the staff explore the capabilities of the website. First Sel. Davis suggested extending the IT consultants' contract for another month. Sel. Kerin said what was needed is a webmaster and a tech person to do upgrades of the town applications which keep changing and getting old. First Sel. Davis suggested taking a look at the town's needs once the website is up. Sel. Hubert brought up the projected FY08/09 surplus. In answer to a question, First Sel. Davis said the town would not hear until November about the COPS grant which the town applied for to pay the salary of a police officer.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Request to Purchase Town Property – Knapp**

Sel. Somers emphasized that the property deed should make clear that the lot being sold to the Knapps should be attached to the Knapps' property such that the property cannot be used to create any additional building lots.

**Upon a motion by Sel. Turk, seconded by Sel. Somers, it was unanimously**

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission and in accordance with Section 8-24 of the Connecticut General Statutes, hereby approves the request of Ted and Kathleen Knapp to purchase property as shown on Map 20B, Block 3, Lot 2 from the Town of Southbury, subject to the following:

1. That this lot becomes a part of their current property (Map 20B, Block 5, Lot 4B) as a whole and remains as one parcel, without consideration of subdivision;
2. That the purchase price for this lot is the assessed value;
3. That the deed of conveyance be acceptable to the Town Attorney;
4. That the buyers are responsible for any and all fees associated with the sale of this property.

**AND FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission, hereby denies the request of Ted and Kathleen Knapp to purchase town owned property as shown on Map 20B, Block 4, Lot 1 as they feel that because of the location of the road way on and/or close to this .07 of an acre it would be in the Town's best interest to retain ownership of this lot.

## **2. Tuition Reimbursement Request**

Upon a motion by Sel. Turk, seconded by Sel. Hubert, it was unanimously

**RESOLVED**, that the Southbury Board of Selectmen, upon the recommendation of the Resident Trooper Sergeant, hereby denies the request of Officer Kevin Burns for tuition aid reimbursement for four credit hours for the term starting on June 8, 2009 and running through July 31, 2009 (Concepts of Chemistry).

## **REPORTS FROM SELECTMEN SERVING AS LIAISONS**

Sel. Hubert reported that the Parks & Recreation Subcommittee met at Hidden Pond Park and decided that they want to keep Hidden Pond Park as part of Parks & Recreation. She added that neither the Parks & Recreation Commission nor the Subcommittee were going to meet over

the summer. First Sel. Davis added that the Parks & Recreation staff did an excellent job on the Family Day Picnic after the Memorial Day Parade. Sel. Kerin mentioned the library Donor Reception at which an exhibit was unveiled of 63 Georgia Sheron photos of John Ludorf and his farm. These photos were a gift to the library. Sel. Kerin reported that Head Librarian Shirley Thorson has celebrated 30 years of service with the town. Sel. Kerin reported 119 new people in the circuit breaker program, bringing the owner participation up to 811 senior households (a 27% increase). Sel. Kerin praised the promotion of the circuit breaker program.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT MAY PROPERLY COME BEFORE THE MEETING**

Sel. Hubert brought up the need to discuss the employee evaluations and merit raises before the end of the fiscal year. First Sel. Davis said they were getting figures together. Sel. McLaughlin would like to see how many people got appraised as 5s, how many as 4s, etc.

**Sel. Turk moved, seconded by Sel. McLaughlin, to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. All were in favor.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jocelyn Bagger