

**Board Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Wednesday February 8, 2012
Court Room
5:00PM**

1. Call to order

Meeting called to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 5:00PM. Present were Selectmen Denise Dembinski and Dennison Allen. Also present: Noah Enslow and Edward Meadows

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Led by D. Dembinski

3. Review and act on minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2012 and of the Special Meeting of January 25, 2012.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to approve the minutes of 1/11/12 and 1/25/12, unanimously voted.

4. Act on request(s) for tax refund of overpayment of taxes

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to accept the tax refund for Jane Weeman for \$46.74, unanimously voted.

5. Act on resolution: allowing for an opt into STEAP from 2012-2016

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to accept the resolution allowing the Town of Sprague to opt-IN TO STEAP from 2012-2016, unanimously voted.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED: That the Town of Sprague, through it's governing body the Board of Selectmen, do hereby resolve to renew its Opt-In to STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) for an additional period of four years pursuant to Public Act 05-194. This would extend the Town of Sprague's current STEAP eligibility to September of 2016.

6. Discuss and possibly act on an ordinance for a local option for a Veterans Tax Exemption and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to accept the ordinance for a local option for a Veterans Tax Exemption and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate, unanimously voted.

7. Discuss and possibly act on the an ordinance for a Waiver of Property Tax Interest for Certain U.S. Armed Forces Members called to Active Service and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to accept the ordinance for a Waiver of Property Tax Interest for Certain U.S. Armed Forces Members called to Active Service and authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate, unanimously voted.

8. Review the previously approved Ordinance for Establishing Local Bid Preference, which will be scheduled for a Special Town Meeting, which was also previously approved.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate, unanimously voted.

9. Review the previously approved ordinance for Regulation of Dogs & Other Animals

After review and changes to the ordinance, the Board agreed to go to a Town Meeting for approval.

10. Discuss and possibly act on an Ordinance for Littering Prohibited.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to accept the Ordinance for Littering Prohibited allowing the First Selectman and her designee the right to enforce the ordinance and allow the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting when appropriate, unanimously voted.

11. Establish a set amount for fines related to littering, assign the enforcement mechanism of the littering ordinance.

Board agreed to assign \$219.00 for fines related to littering.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to assign a fine amount of \$219.00 related to littering, enforcement mechanism will be made by the First Selectman or the Board of Selectmen, unanimously voted.

12. Discussion and possibly act on establishing a Town wide speed limit of 25 miles per hour on Town Roads.

Discussion: C. Osten spoke with the State Traffic Commission and was told that the town does not have full authority to change speed limits on state roads in Sprague; need to submit letter of request. D. Allen not opposed of the change but states enforcing the existing speed limit would be more effective.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Osten to write to the State Traffic Commission to change the speed limit to 25 on all roads in Sprague. D. Dembinski and C. Osten voted yes. D. Allen abstained.

13. Discuss and possibly act on waiving the Grist Mill rental fee to support a fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen not for profit event 3-day for a cure (Breast Cancer).

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to accept Stephanie Gromko's request to waiver the Grist Mill rental fee for the Susan G. Komen not for profit event 3-day for a cure (Breast Cancer), unanimously voted.

14. Discuss and possibly act on amending or repealing the following Ordinances and allowing the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting to accomplish that end:

- #1962-1 Dump Ordinance (repeal as it is no longer necessary) town meeting to repeal, no longer applicable
- #1971-1 Pension Town Nurse (repeal as it is no longer necessary) town meeting to appeal, no longer applicable
- #1990-1 Refuse Collection and Disposal (discuss) SCRRRA will look at this contract which is coming to an end, tabled
- #2001-2 Removal of Dog Litter (repeal as it is no longer necessary) Town Meeting to repeal

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to authorize the First Selectman to call a Special Town Meeting to repeal the 1962-1 Dump Ordinance, the 1971-1 Pension Town Nurse Ordinance, the 2001-2 Removal of Dog Litter Ordinance, unanimously voted.

15. Act on appointment to the Sprague Library Board for Kathleen Sims as a Regular Member.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to appoint Kathleen Sims as a Regular Member to the Sprague Library Board, unanimously voted.

16. Act on Proclamation for Girl Scout Week March 2012.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to accept the Proclamation for Girl Scout Week March 12, 2012, unanimously voted.

Girl Scout Week Proclamation

WHEREAS, March 12, marks the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouts of the USA, founded by Juliette Gordon Low in 1912 in Savannah, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, throughout its distinguished history, Girl Scouting has inspired millions of girls and women with the highest ideals of courage, confidence, and character; and,

WHEREAS, through the Girl Scout leadership experience girls develop the skills and lessons that will serve them a lifetime so that they may contribute to their communities; and,

WHEREAS, Girl Scouting takes an active role in increasing girls' awareness of the opportunities available to them today in math, science, sports, technology and other fields that can expand their horizons; and,

WHEREAS, more than 3 million current Girl Scout members nationwide will be celebrating 99 years of the American tradition, with nearly 50 million women who are former Girl Scouts and living proof of the impact of this amazing Movement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman, by virtue of the authority vested in me as First Selectman of the Town of Sprague, Connecticut, do hereby applaud the commitment Girl Scouting has made to support the leadership development of America's girls and proudly proclaim the week of March 12, 2012, as Girl Scout Week.

17. Selectman's report

- Working on an Ordinance re: the Skate Board Park – Board will receive a draft copy for review.
- SERAC – Town ordinance on sales of drug paraphernalia – C. Osten to review and inform the Board
- Agriculture Commission made changes re: zoning regulation revisions
- Collected more taxes this year than last year. Plan on collecting 97 percent on the current grand list; of the 97 percent, the Town has currently collected 96.4 percent.
- Kulman property foreclosure - not current with taxes
- West main St. foreclosure – recommend taking it down and making a parking lot.
- Review map of property in Hanover; ½ an acre. Copy of map to be mailed to Lucretia Krodell who is interested in purchasing property.
- Skate Board Park cleanup completed by the Boy Scouts.
- Sent out Anti blight Ordinance to 217/ 219 High Street and 207/ 209 High Street .
- Strategic Plan for Economic Development – plans to start working on this.
- Ride the Shetucket dates for 2012: April 28th, May 26th, June 30th, July 28th, August 25th, September 29th, and October 13th.
- D. Allen – requested a report on the food pantry. C. Osten stated that once all the water from the MME's are moved out of the Garage, she will then move forward.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to add item 14a, unanimously voted.

17A. Baltic Fire Department tax abatement – requesting \$7,447.52 to the Board of Selectmen.

Letter sent by Les Shull Fire Chief for the Baltic Fire Engine Co. re: Ordinance 2001-3 which specifies that the Baltic Fire Dept. make a proposal of the total amount for tax abatement to the Board of Selectmen by March 31st of each year.

Motion made by D. Allen, seconded by D. Dembinski to accept an abatement of \$7,477.52 for fiscal year 2012/2013, unanimously

18. Public comment

E. Meadows –food pantry: paperwork to be processed, garage to be cleaned out before the food pantry opens. Cost \$200.00 per year. For another \$100 the Town could use the food to help feed people in times of disaster. Fusion's yearly donation will cover for this program.

19. Adjournment

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by D. Allen to adjourn the meeting at 6:00PM, unanimously voted.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine A. Osten
First Selectman