

**Board of Selectmen  
Regular Meeting  
Wednesday, February 10, 2016  
5:00PM  
Court Room**

**1. Call to order**

Meeting brought to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 5:00PM. Present were Selectmen Denise Dembinski and Cheryl Blanchard.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by C. Osten.

**3. Review of minutes of January 13, 2016**

Motion made by C. Blanchard, seconded by D. Dembinski to approve the minute of 1/13/16, unanimously voted.

**4. Act on request for tax refund of overpayment of taxes**

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Blanchard to approve the tax refund of overpayment of taxes for William Schneiter for \$123.10 unanimously voted.

Motion mad by C. Blanchard, seconded by D. Dembinski to approve the tax refund of overpayment of taxes for Thomas Hagist for \$87.17 unanimously voted.

**5. Baltic Fire Department tax abatement – requesting \$9,000.00**

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 31<sup>st</sup> of each year;

Motion made by C. Blanchard, seconded by D. Dembinski to forward to the Board of Finance for final approval, unanimously voted.

**6. Act on appointment to the Economic Development Commission – Carl Holte**

Motion made by C. Blanchard, seconded by D. Dembinski to appoint Carl Holte to the Economic Development Commission, unanimously voted.

**7. Discuss Town Hall hours**

Board reviewed the list of surrounding towns and the hours of operation. Norwich, New London and Montville having the largest population open at 8:30 and closes at 4:00 and 4:30; with no late hours. The other smaller surrounding towns: Lisbon opens at 9:00–3:00 M, T, W, Thurs. Wed 6:00–8:00. Bozrah opens 9:00–4:00 M–Thurs. and Thurs 6:00–8:00. Voluntown opens 9:00–4:00 M–Fr. Tues. 6:00–8:00, Franklin 8:30–3:00 M–Thurs., Tues. 6:00–8:00 and Scotland 9:00–3:00 M thru Thurs., Wed. 11:00–7:00. C. Osten states she has had no complaints regarding the hours for Sprague. Town Clerk has people coming in who are satisfied with the Town opening earlier to do business. Land Use Clerk has been trained to fill in when Tax Collector is not in to accommodate tax payers. C. Blanchard asking to push back one hour to 6:30 for Sprague.

**8. Discuss benefits for part-time employees**

Benefits would be for the part-timers: Bookkeeper, Grant Writer, Senior Center Staff and Library staff. Money is already calculated into the budget and at no extra cost; would not change the overall budget. Part-timers would be compensated for holidays on their regular scheduled days of

work only. School part-time Luncheon Monitors and Public Works part-time workers do receive this benefit. Board would like more time to review and bring back to the next meeting. Tabled.

**9. Discuss grant opportunities for cleanup process of the Baltic Mill site.**

The Economic Development Commission has sent a request to the Board of Selectmen to search for any grant opportunities for the final cleanup process of the Baltic Mill Site. By consensus the Board accepts their recommendation.

**10. Discuss Baltic Village Plan**

Table.

Motion made by C. Blanchard, seconded by D. Dembinski to add 10a to the agenda, unanimously voted.

**10a. Act on appointment to the Sprague Library Board.**

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Blanchard to appoint Contessa Big-Crow Jenkins to the Sprague Library Board, unanimously voted.

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Blanchard to add 10b to the agenda, unanimously voted.

**10b. Act on resolution- Connecticut Department of Housing \$111,000.00**

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Osten to approve the resolution for the Connecticut Department of Housing. Discussion: Money to be used for interior renovations at 41a-3 West Main St., Baltic, CT. C. Blanchard opposed to spending any more money. D. Dembinski and C. Osten approved, C. Blanchard opposed.

**RESOLUTION ATTACHED**

**11. Selectman's report**

- West Main St. Demolition is finished
- No outstanding projects
- Have not had any visits from the Facility Manager
- Water & Sewer – Uranium issue has been solved.
- Plowing is going well with the two storms that we have had.

**12. Public comment**

none

**13. Adjournment**

Motion made by D. Dembinski, seconded by C. Blanchard to adjourn at 6:00PM, unanimously voted.

Respectfully submitted by

Catherine A. Osten  
First Selectman

**RESOLUTION**  
**CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §§ 4-66aa, 4-8 and 8-206,  
(State Statutory Reference)

The Connecticut Department of Housing is authorized to extend financial assistance for economic development projects; and **WHEREAS**, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town of Sprague make an application to

(Applicant)

the State for \$ 111,000.00 in order to undertake Interior Renovations at 41a-e West Main Street, Baltic, CT  
(Name and Phase of Project)

and to execute an Assistance Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE

Board of Selectmen - Town of Sprague  
(Governing Body)

1. That it is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for the state financial assistance imposed by Connecticut General Statutes §§ 4-66aa, 4-8 and 8-206  
(State Statutory Reference)

2. That the filing of an application for State financial assistance by

Town of Sprague

(Applicant)

in an amount not to exceed \$ 111,000.00 is hereby approved and that

Catherine A. Osten - First Selectman, Town of Sprague

(Title and Name of Authorized Official)

is directed to execute and file such application with the Connecticut Department of Housing, to provide such additional information, to execute such other documents as may be required, to execute an Assistance Agreement with the State of Connecticut for State financial assistance if such an agreement is offered, to execute any amendments, decisions, and revisions thereto, and to act as the authorized representative of

Town of Sprague

(Name of Applicant)

These minutes are subject to approval at the March 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.