

~~Unapproved~~Approved  
**Candia Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 26, 2010**

**Attendance:** Chairman Fred Kelley, Vice-Chair Carleton Robie, Selectman Joe Duarte, Selectman Amanda Soares, Selectman Richard Snow, and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen

**7:00 p.m.** Chairman Kelley called the Public Meeting to order and immediately followed with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Senator Boutin to present Board with flag for the Soldiers Monument.** Senator Boutin presented the Board with a flag for the Soldiers Memorial. He explained the flag was flown over the State Capital. The flag is for the Soldiers Monument located on High Street. Senator Boutin asked the Board for a picture of the historic district map for his office, he thought this would be a good way to represent the district. Senator Boutin told the Board Candia has very bright 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The Moore School 4<sup>th</sup> graders recently visited the State House and knew all the answers to the questions they were asked. The Board thanked Senator Boutin for presenting the flag.

**The Board to open to sealed bids for Town Hall roof and Moore Park fence. Bid for fence:** There was one bid received for the Moore Park fence. Selectman Robie read from quote. The amount quoted for labor and installation of the fence was \$1,575. Selectman Robie motioned to accept the bid from AQ Fence Company and they provide a certificate of insurance before they start the job. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Bid for the roof:** Selectman Robie opened the sealed bids for the roof. The first bid opened was D/ P Construction with a quoted amount of \$4,500. The second bid opened was from Frazier Construction with a quoted amount of \$7,200. The third bid opened was from In-Law Construction with a quoted amount of \$5,040. The last bid opened was from Dave Murray Construction with a quoted amount of \$4,800. Selectman Snow asked if all of the bids were consistent with the RFQ. Selectman Robie stated that he was going to abstain from voting this evening. It was noted that In-Law Construction did the work on the fire department roof. Selectman Duarte thought they did a good job. He considered this a plus, but would like feedback from the Board. Chairman Kelley thought they should narrow it down to two bids. The Board eliminated the highest and the lowest bid. This left Dave Murray Construction and In-Law Construction to decide from. Selectman Soares suggested having the other contactors come in, so they could meet them. Roger Demanche of In-Law Construction noted this is why he attended the meeting. Selectman Snow questioned if they are all qualified why not go with the lowest bid. Isn't that the purpose of the bidding process? Chairman Kelley replied he is not familiar with the lowest bidder or the work he does. Selectman Snow questioned if they were going to have someone supervising the job. Chairman Kelley commented that this is hard when

four of the Selectmen are not in this line of work. Selectman Soares stated she wouldn't have a problem with In-Law Construction doing the work. She would have liked to have met the other contractors, but Mr. Demanche is at the meeting. *Selectman Snow moved to accept the lowest bid which is D/P Construction. Seconded by Selectman Soares. Motion failed due to a tied vote. Selectman Snow and Selectman Soares were in favor, Selectman Duarte and Chairman Kelley were not and Selectman Robie abstained.* Selectman Duarte felt that the gentleman from In-Law Construction is here and his work is good, so he would like to award him the bid. Fire Chief Young asked if the contractors were told to be here. Chairman Kelley replied most people will show up if they put in a bid. Citizen Mary Girard commented that Mr. Murray has done work for her and he is an excellent carpenter. Selectman Duarte asked if she was happy with Mr. Murray's work. Citizen Mary Girard replied he is a good worker. Selectman Soares felt whoever they pick would do good work. *Chairman Kelley motioned to accept the bid from Dave Murray's Construction for the quoted amount of \$4,800. Seconded by Selectman Soares. Selectman Snow, Selectman Soares, Selectman Duarte and Chairman Kelley were in favor and Selectman Robie abstained. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1.*

**The Board to consider Fire Chief Young's recommendation to appoint Jason Hall and Keith Blevens as firefighters.** It was noted that Jason Hall and Keith Blevens are both Candia residents. Fire Chief Young explained to the Board that Mr. Hall is a full time firefighter in Derry and he has a lot of credentials. He felt they were both very good candidates. Selectman Robie motioned to appoint Jason Hall and Keith Blevens as firefighters based on Fire Chief Young's recommendation. Seconded by Selectman Duarte. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Swap Shop and burn pit location:** Fire Chief Young noted there was a proposal to change the configuration of the burn pits at the recycling center to make room for the new swap shop. The proposal is to take the two horseshoes (burn pits) and make a bigger one, then put the swap shop beside it. He didn't like the idea of losing the two pits, because it works well. In addition, he felt there wasn't enough distance between the burn pits and where they wanted to put the swap shop. Those burn pits need a permit filled out by the Forest Ranger and himself. This is a commercial permit that allows them to burn in the day. This is a yearly permit. Neil Bilodeau is the district ranger. It's his opinion that the swap shop would be too close to the burn pits. He used the flame height times 3 or 4 of the distance. You can get a flame height of forty or fifty feet out of those pits. He would want a minimum of 100 feet for the distance. There's not enough distance between the two with what is being proposed. There are no rules or laws, but it was the Forest Ranger's opinion. Selectman Soares noted it is definitely a safety concern. She agreed with the Forest Ranger's opinion. She didn't want to get rid of the two burn pits, because it works well. Chairman Kelley stated if they go with the proposed design it would kill the traffic flow. He thought they were going to need some fill and make a spot. Fire Chief Young reiterated that having two pits is a good idea. Chairman Kelley mentioned they were going up one more cement block on the burn pits. They have some concerns about the flames. Chairman Kelley thanked Fire Chief Young.

**The Board to discuss eight abatement requests received. Gerald & Raquel Spaulding:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to deny Gerald & Raquel Spaulding's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jameson's recommendation. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Tony & Andrea Cresta:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to grant Tony and Andrea Cresta's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jameson's recommendation for the amount of \$92,600. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Kathryn Tierney:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to grant Kathryn Tierney's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jameson's recommendation for the amount of \$26,400. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Peter & Marilyn Butt:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to deny Peter and Marilyn Butt's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jamison's recommendation. Selectman Soares asked if they would be abating the amounts for 2007 and 2008. Selectman Robie replied the applications weren't filed by March 1<sup>st</sup> for both of those years. He noted if we start doing this for one we do it for everyone. He felt they shouldn't abate the amounts for 2007 and 2008. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Michael & Kristen Davis:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned grant Michael and Kristen Davis' abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jamison's recommendation for the amount of \$17,500. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Judson Haight:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to deny Judson Haight's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Tammy Jamison's recommendation. Seconded by Selectman Duarte. Selectman Snow noted this resident would like to be taxed as residential, even though he is in a commercial area. This has been done before for some people in town. He felt they should ensure that next year Mr. Judson's property is taxed as residential not as commercial. They should accept his application for 2010 to be taxed as residential. Selectman Snow noted there is a statute that says if you have a house in the commercial zone you can request to be taxed as residential. Selectman Snow suggested they make this part of the motion and have Assessor Tammy Jamison assess him as residential. Chairman Kelley asked if everyone on the street was assessed this way. Selectman Snow replied yes if they ask for it and they met the criteria. Chairman Kelley noted they would put in a recommendation for Assessor Tammy Jamison to do this next year. Citizen Gary York clarified if Mr. Haight purchased the land after it was zoned commercial and he wants it taxed as residential; when he goes to sell the property he will gain the status of the commercial zone. He questioned where is the equity as far as the tax payers are concerned. Selectman Snow reiterated there is a statute that says you can do it. Citizen Gary York asked if Mr. Haight based his request on the statute. He added in all fairness you need to find out when the property was purchased. Selectman Robie agreed with Selectman Snow. Selectman Duarte asked how we handle it if he sells the property. Selectman

Robie felt that was Mr. Haight's business. Selectman Soares stated if you change the tax map to residential it would be taxed as residential. Selectman Robie explained all they will do is change his tax card. Selectman Snow clarified this would be for 2010 and to deny the 2009 abatement. Selectman Robie motioned to deny Judson Haight's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Tammy Jamison's recommendation. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Selectman Snow moved to accept the 2009 abatement request as a 2010 abatement request from Judson Haight to tax his property as residential even though it is in a commercial zone. Seconded by Selectman Robie. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Louis & Beth Gomez:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to grant Louis and Beth Gomez's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jamison's recommendation for the amount of \$7,700. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried. **Jon Kobel:** Selectman Robie read the abatement recommendation. Selectman Robie motioned to deny Jon Kobel's abatement request based on Vision Appraisals and Assessor Tammy Jamison's recommendation. Seconded by Selectman Snow. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**Superintendent of Cemeteries Jerry Becker to discuss fee increases for the cemetery.** Superintendent of Cemeteries Jerry Becker went over a proposed fee schedule (see attached). He would like to go to \$200 for a gravesite and \$200 per perpetual care for the gravesite. He explained with the current fee for perpetual care it costs as much to cut 4 graves as it does 1 grave and the lots vary from size to size. He mentioned corner markers are currently \$225, he found a place where he can get them for \$140. If they do it this way \$85.00 comes back to the town for us to install the graves and markers. He added a charge to move corner markers. A cremation site would cost \$100 and \$100 for perpetual care. It's less expensive, because it's half the size of grave site. Selectman Duarte asked if he looked at the surrounding communities. Mr. Becker replied yes and there was one town with lower fees and that's Windham. They charge \$100 per grave site and \$100 for perpetual care. He noted some of the places are doing away with the perpetual care and calling it a maintenance fee, because cemeteries are included in the parks and rec departments. Deerfield did away with their perpetual care; they charge \$200 for a grave site which includes the perpetual care. He explained in Candia the towns people pay for most of the work at the cemeteries. He suggested doing away with perpetual care and call it a maintenance fee. They would set it up as a separate account and they could use the money to buy equipment, etc. He explained with perpetual care they can't touch any of the money except for the interest on it. It has to stay in that account for as long as they have the cemeteries. This is something that should be addressed later on. Selectman Soares asked if they could definitely get \$140 for the corner markers. Mr. Becker explained they are charging \$240 right now, but people are paying to have the corner markers put in. The \$225 would be for them to set the corner markers. If you let someone put the corner markers in, you still have to mark it out and make sure they put them in low enough. Chairman Kelley asked what the cremation prices were before. Mr. Becker noted they were the same price as buying a grave site. Mr. Becker explained

that if someone wanted to buy a couple of more graves (near their lot), they would place corner markers near the lot. Selectman Snow added it just increases the number of graves that you have in a specific lot. Selectman Soares noted she didn't have a problem with this. Selectman Snow questioned the procedure for increasing fees, is this a legislative function or a Board function. Chairman Kelley noted this has been addressed in the past and felt the Board could handle it because they are the Cemetery Trustees. Selectman Snow questioned if they should have a public hearing. Selectman Robie stated they are the Cemetery Trustees and they can make a recommendation. He suggested Mr. Becker brings the proposed fee increase to the Cemetery Trustees and then it will go to the Selectmen. Selectman Snow referred to the sale of graves and RSA 80:80. Selectman Robie replied RSA 80:80 states the Selectmen can sell town property. Citizen Gary York thought a public hearing would be appropriate. Selectman Soares mentioned that Raymond had a public hearing when they changed their fees. Selectman Snow thought the prices were very reasonable and this is something they should have done a long time ago. Citizen Joanne Beckwith clarified that increase is up to \$400 for gravesite and maintenance. Mr. Becker explained perpetual care encompassed a lot at \$200 and a person was paying \$200 whether they were paying for one grave or four or more. The grave itself would be \$200 and the perpetual care would be \$200. If you currently buy one grave it would cost \$300. Selectman Robie stated the idea is good, but when you have a family buy four lots, the perpetual care is currently \$200. He thought this was reasonable. He suggested if someone buys one lot they ought to put a \$50 perpetual care fee on it (up to four lots). If you buy six lots it should be \$300. They need to get this to the Trustees of the Cemeteries and then it should go to the Selectmen so they can have a public hearing. He thought everything looked good but it needs some minor adjustments. He felt that \$200 per lot was reasonable and they shouldn't get the cost up too high. Selectman Robie reiterated they should discuss this as Cemetery Trustees. Road Agent Lewis thought the price of lot should include perpetual care. Selectman Soares felt that perpetual care should be changed to a maintenance fee. Citizen Mary Girard asked if there was a set of rules and regulations for cemeteries. She noted when she bought her plot she was told that she couldn't do certain things. People have been planting trees and she thought they couldn't. Selectman Snow noted they were in the process of developing rules and regulations.

**The Board to reconsider the reappointments of Judi Lindsey and Betsy Kruse to the Conservation Commission.** Chairman Kelley motioned to reappoint Judi Lindsey and Betsy Kruse to the Conservation Commission as full members. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**The Board to consider forming a Highway Safety Committee.** Chief McGillen explained that Highway Safety kicked back one of our grants. He noted they needed to form a Highway Safety Committee or they will not be able to apply for any safety grants. He called LGC and they said it's up to the Board to form a committee. There aren't any guidelines. He asked other towns and it's usually someone from the Fire Department, Police Department, a Selectman, and a resident.

Chief McGillen noted they can meet on an as needed basis. Selectman Snow motioned to form a Highway Safety Committee which consists of the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Road Agent, and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Seconded by Selectman Soares. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**The Board to address increase in health insurance deductibles.** Selectman Robie explained this issue was in regards to when the Police Department came to the Board with a list of concerns. This encompasses all of the employees with insurance. Selectman Duarte explained when you look at the deductible from 2009 to 2010 it went from \$250 to \$1,000 and this was a burden for the employees. He would like to recommend that they move the difference in deductibles to what they paid in 2009. He noted there's a \$12,000 difference. Selectman Robie explained they took on a new insurance policy last fall. The employees deductible increased from \$250 to \$1,000, so we could get a cheaper rate. The family plan went from \$750 to \$3,000. The Police Department brought this to the Board's attention and it's a burden on some of the employees. Selectmen's Assistant Eastman put together a list of employees and the plans that they have. When the Insurance Broker came in there was a plan in the same deductible range, but the Board opted not to go that route. The policy was \$20,000 more. Some towns would take the \$20,000 put it in a fund, pay the higher rate and they could draw from it if needed. Selectman Robie stated we have some funds available in our insurance line. He suggested they use some of the funds. The employee will pay the first \$250 and we will use the funds they have in reserve to offset. He felt where the employees didn't get raises this year, this would be a token of appreciation. He noted the maximum they would have to spend would be \$12,000. Selectman Snow asked if we looked at the possibility of going into a bigger pool (i.e. with the school). Selectman Robie thought this was a very good option for our employees this year. Selectman Snow noted they need to look at this every year. He added that he would like a work session with the Insurance Broker next fall. Selectman Duarte motioned to take the 2010 deductibles for the health insurance and revert them back to 2009 to assist employees with their deductibles. Seconded by Selectman Robie. All were in favor. Motion carried. Chief McGillen thanked the Board and noted his employees will be appreciative.

**Approval of Previous Minutes: Public Meeting Minutes of 4/14/10.** The public meeting minutes of April 12<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup> were deferred to the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Other Business:**

**Exit 3 Committee:** Chairman Kelley asked if they are keeping the Committee together or disbanding. Selectman Snow noted they established a Energy and Economic Committee and they appointed a couple of members to it. They should combine it in the Exit 3 Committee. Selectman Duarte thought that people might be losing interest. He sent memo out to committee noting there hasn't been much interest and they've explored every avenue. He suggested

keeping the committee formed and if anything came up the committee would ready be together. Selectman Robie was in favor of keeping the Exit 3 Committee together. He suggested talking with people every couple of months. Selectman Snow noted there are a number of things that could be done to encourage business in town. Selectman Snow reiterated they should make a larger Regional Economic Committee and combine it with the Exit 3 Committee. Chairman Kelley didn't know what was happening with the Regional Economic Committee. Selectman Duarte noted they have two members and their doing more regional things. Selectman Snow thought there were two committees a regional and a local. Chairman Kelley stated he will find out what is going on with the Regional Economic Committee and talk with Scott Komisarek.

**Wood chip pile at the park:** Chairman Kelley asked what was happening with the wood chip pile. Selectman Snow replied that he is taking the big pile and spreading to smaller piles. The smaller piles will be spread out by volunteers.

**Waste Management numbers:** Selectman Duarte noted he went over some of the recycling numbers and it costs a lot to haul that stuff. They had 127 tons this year compared to 98 tons last year. He'll have an update month by month. He felt this was quite an increase in the hauling numbers.

**Recycling Center toilet flower pots:** Selectman Soares noted that everyone has their own opinion on the toilets, but she felt the Board needs to come to a consensus on this. They have to come to a consensus or a decision that everyone agrees on. Selectman Robie replied that Selectmen Duarte and Chairman Kelley were going to talk with Chuck about this. Chairman Kelley asked the residents in attendance if they were fine with the toilet flower pots. The majority of the residents were fine with them. Selectman Robie stated he didn't see people putting them in their front yard. Chairman Kelley added the town paid 1.5 million dollars for a new facility, he didn't want to see toilets there. Selectman Snow asked the Board to take a vote on this. Selectman Soares stated this is not for everyone and there is a conflict, so let's set this straight. Selectman Robie noted there are a lot of conservative people in town who won't say anything. Chairman Kelley motioned to remove the toilets. Selectman Robie and Chairman Kelley were in favor. Selectman Snow and Selectman Soares were opposed. Selectman Duarte abstained. Motion failed due to a tied vote. Selectman Soares called for another vote. Chairman Kelley motioned to remove toilets form recycling center. Selectman Soares, Selectman Robie, and Chairman Kelley were in favor. Selectman Duarte abstained and Selectman Snow was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 3 to 2

**Legal Advice:** Selectman Soares asked if everything goes through the folder regarding legal advice. She questioned if there was anything on Knowlton Rod because she didn't see it. Selectman Snow noted he had a concern on a recent legal document and it didn't come from the Board. This wasn't discussed as a Board. Selectman Robie asked what he was talking about.

Selectman Snow stated he was talking about Currier Road and they never voted on this. Selectman Robie replied there was nothing to discuss. Selectman Soares stated we were notified on this and it was just a notification. Selectman Robie stated it has nothing to do with the town. Selectman Snow replied what if one of us said we were interested in this. Selectman Robie reiterated there was nothing discuss and it has nothing to do with us, we weren't interested. Chairman Kelley noted they will try to keep Selectman Snow better informed on legal issues.

**Comments on papers:** Selectman Soares asked the Board to not put comments on the papers in the sign folder. These documents are permanent record and shouldn't be written on. Chairman Kelley noted we always did it this way. She thought comments could be written on a sticky note.

**Cemetery records:** Superintendent of Cemeteries Jerry Becker asked if he could have a key to the office, so he can get to the file cabinet (with the Cemetery records). Selectman Robie asked if he could get a hold of Selectman Snow and enter that way. If that person is not available then go down the line. Chairman Kelley asked Mr. Becker if he had copies of all of the paperwork. He felt Mr. Becker should be able to keep the paperwork at his house. It shouldn't be in the office. Selectman Snow noted the office is going to make copies and convert them to a PDF file. Mr. Becker commented that he has been the Superintendent for two months and he would like an answer this evening. Chairman Kelley agreed the PDF file is a good idea, but it is time consuming. The files should be at Mr. Becker's house. Mr. Becker asked Selectman Snow why he had the copies at his house, when he's Superintendent of Cemeteries. He questioned if Selectman Snow had a trust issue. Selectman Robie motioned to give Superintendent of Cemeteries Jerry Becker the files and allow him to keep them at his house and make the copies within a year. Seconded by Chairman Kelley. Selectman Soares, Selectman Duarte, Selectman Robie, and Chairman Kelley were in favor. Selectman Snow was opposed. Motion carried on a vote of 4 to 1.

**Letter from Selectmen:** Road Agent Lewis would like the prison trustees to paint salt shed. He requested a letter from the Board to do this. It was the consensus of the Board to write a letter to have the prison trustee's paint the salt shed.

**Signs for the Recycling Center:** Selectman Soares noted she was working on one way signs for the Recycling Center. Chairman Kelley noted they have a traffic problem. Selectman Snow agreed and explained people are going the wrong way. They need signage down there to enforce the rules.

**Brownfield sites:** Selectman Snow stated he was going to take care of this. Chairman Kelley replied he has someone coming to a future meeting to explain this. They have been working at his garage and this is a fantastic deal. Selectman Snow noted he would be attending at meeting this week at SNHPC regarding Brownfield sites.



**Warrant Articles:** Selectman Snow explained he is going to present the Board with some proposed warrant articles and he would like to discuss them. If the Board doesn't agree they will go in as a citizen petition. He will be talking to people as a private citizen about these articles.

**Watershed:** Selectman Snow noted they were going to receive a status report on the Southeast Watershed Association.

**Signs:** Chief McGillen mentioned the "No Trespassing" signs are gone at the Recycling Center. Selectman Soares stated she would take care of it

**Police cruiser:** Chief McGillen would like to get rid of car five. They can't swap over the new gear until they know which cruiser they're getting rid of. He is recommending they get rid of car five. The Building Inspector is interested in car five, since he is having issues with his vehicle. It was the consensus of the Board to move the equipment in car five to the new cruiser.

Selectman Duarte motioned to adjourn at 8:55 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Robie. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Andria Hansen  
Recording Secretary