

~~Unapproved~~ **APPROVED**
Candia's Selectmen's Public Meeting Minutes
June 24th, 2019

Attendance: Chair Susan Young, Vice-Chair Carleton Robie, Selectman Russ Dann, Selectman Boyd Chivers, Selectman Brien Brock and Administrative Assistant Andria Hansen.

7:01 p.m. Chair Young called the public meeting to order following the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Chair Susan Young, Vice-Chair Carleton Robie, Selectman Russ Dann, Selectman Boyd Chivers, and Selectman Brock.

Approval of Minutes: Public and Non-Public meeting minutes of June 10th, 2019 and the Non-Public meeting minutes of May 29th, 2019. Selectman Dann moved to accept the Selectmen's Meeting minutes of June 10th, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Chivers moved to approve the Selectmen's Non-Public Meeting minutes of June 10th, 2019 (@ 6:45 pm) as presented. Seconded by Selectman Brock. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Chivers moved to approve the Selectmen's Non-Public Meeting minutes of June 10th, 2019 (@ 8:45 pm) as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Chivers moved to approve the Selectmen's Non-Public Meeting minutes of May 29th, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Robie moved to seal the Selectmen's Non-Public Meeting minutes of May 29th, 2019. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Chair Young wanted to allow public comment during their meeting concerning any of these areas the audience might be here for.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Old Business

Amend petty cash policy: Chair Young explained Town Clerk Dupere asked if her petty cash could be increased from \$200 to \$300. Selectman Chivers moved to increase the Town Clerk's petty cash from \$200 to \$300 as requested. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

New Business

Firefighter appointments – Stephen Barnard and John Sartorelli: Fire Chief Young noted both individuals have a history with Candia. Stephen has been an Explorer and has come up through the ranks. He's would like to come on to the department and has a lot of experience already. He felt he would be a great addition. John was on the department 15 years ago. His Stepfather was a Hooksett firefighter and John was on our fire department for a few years. They are both experienced firefighters. Selectman Dann moved to accept the recommendation of Fire Chief Young and appoint Stephan Barnard and John Sartorelli as firefighters to the Candia Volunteer Fire Department. Seconded by Selectman Chivers. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Moore Park field use: Chair Young announced that the infield has been redone at the Moore Park. Once again Severino Trucking has gone above and beyond what was expected. The dilemma we are having now is

the softball field and the cover that should be covering it is 120 feet by 120 feet. There are groups that also use that field for soccer.

Chair Young explained there is not enough room for a full-sized (soccer) field without coming onto that dirt. This does a couple of things. When you come on the dirt with your cleats and have clumps of grass in them, it seeds that dirt which is the one thing they don't want to have happen. The other thing is there should be a tarp on the field after every game or at least the dirt part. People can't run on it because they will slide. There is a dilemma here, because they have people that want to use it for soccer and lacrosse. Part of the reason the redid the softball field was because Candia does not have a softball field. There isn't one at the Moore School or CYAA. In the past the school team has always used Moore Park fields. They did that because it is the only softball field available in the town. This year they couldn't use it because it didn't get repaired. It was supposed to be repaired last November, but it was too rainy. This year they had to bus the girls' softball team everywhere for practices and games. They didn't use the Moore Park at all.

Chair Young said she would like input and advice from the audience and the Board. She has spoken with people who want to continue to use it for lacrosse and soccer, but she doesn't see how that is going to happen. She loves the park being used, but they have spent a lot of time and money getting that field to be a softball field. She asked the Board what they should do with the rest of it. It is not long enough. Selectman Chivers asked if they can play softball at the Moore School and are their fields at the Moore School? Chair Young didn't believe so. She asked if there was anyone in the audience who has any knowledge about that. Selectman Chivers clarified right now that is almost exclusively a softball field. Chair Young said it needs to be now that it is repaired.

Chair Young said to maintain that field it needs to be raked after every game, but she didn't think that was going to be done. The CYAA does use it for their farm team. She is not worried about them; they've helped maintain it prior to it getting fixed.

Selectman Robie asked who was going to do the maintenance on that field. If the school softball team is using it, they must have a budget for girls' softball. Chair Young didn't think it included maintaining this field. Selectman Robie said if they needed to maintain a field, they might want to think about budgeting for it. If they knew they didn't have a field to play on last fall, they might have wanted to budget for that and maybe come over and see the town and look at getting the field repaired. Now they have to buy a tarp for it. Chair Young said she had that included in the estimate. Selectman Robie said they don't have a parks and rec department to put the tarp on and off and rake the sand. He didn't know how they are going to alleviate all these problems. The softball, soccer, and lacrosse teams played on that dirt infield for the last two decades. If you don't cover that sand up the weeds will grow. Chair Young said they will cover it, but the softball coach deemed it unsafe this year.

Selectman Dann said they have the field now, last year they didn't. The school was not aware of anything that was happening. So, to blame them because they haven't come forward, they should put it out to them and see how they are going to handle this in the future. They should get them in here to talk. They have the field and it looks great. They have something that is unique to their town and they have to preserve it. What needs to be enlarged to make the soccer field big enough? Do fences have to be moved? They have to do more than sit here and question this. They need to get people involved that are using it. Chair Young said the school did know this was being done. Softball isn't the problem. The maintenance is where she is a little bit worried. She mentioned that Selectman Dann said they should get everyone in. She did call several times for help over at the park. She let the school know, the athletic director, and the softball coach know that they needed help over there. She loves the idea and positivity of that request. She is not worried about the farm team or CYAA raking that field.

Chair Young concerns were being able to accommodate a lacrosse/soccer field. It is not long enough. From what she understood they can't move the fences back, because there is a stream there. She wasn't sure if that was one of the considerations.

Selectman Dann wanted to clarify that some of these things that are coming up now that it's done, there are questions that have arisen from it. He noted that Chair Young has worked very hard to get this done. All he is saying is let people know that there are a couple of little hiccups right now. He asked about the soccer and lacrosse and are there team events or practices. Chair Young thought soccer might have practices. She noted that Jesse Remington doesn't have any fields at all, so they have always used ours. CYAA just built another soccer field maybe it could be accommodated over there. She had discussions with a couple of the CYAA Board members, but not in great detail. She just wanted to run it by this Board. They don't have money in the budget to move back fences. This isn't going to happen for a while. She is worried about the softball field being maintained. She doesn't have money in this year's budget to do any of that.

Selectman Chivers asked why they had to cover the infield with a tarp. Chair Young explained it gets weeded by the seeds even when you mow it.

Selectman Robie explained it is a clay and sand mix that is 6 inches deep. What had happened last time was someone made a softball field and put sand over the loam.

Fire Chief Young said lacrosse, field hockey, soccer, and football play on the same field. If you look at the Memorial Complex in Manchester, you can see that complex and if you go out on the field you can see all the lines on the field for all four things. On the side there is a baseball field and that is all it is used for. You can't use a baseball field for multiple things, if you want it to be a good field. Especially if you want to teach the little kids to play baseball or softball. If you don't have a nice flat field and the kid takes one in the "kisser" they aren't going to play again. When his son played, he spent more time working on that field than he did at his own home. They took tremendous pride in that field and they raked it after every game. In the spring the infield would be grown in with weeds and grass, so they would dig it out again and work on it. Now they put all that money in there, and you need to decide if it is a softball field. He personally would like to see the fence put back up at 220 feet which is what a girls' softball fence is set at. They used to have those sections, and some had advertisements on them. He would like to see this be a baseball/softball field, because they are going to throw their money away if they start playing on top of it. Whoever uses it will need to take care of the field after they are done playing. The coaches have to be willing to do that, if they want to keep it nice.

Selectman Chivers asked if there was enough room at the park for a soccer field and a softball field. Chair Young replied there wasn't. There is a 220-foot minimum for the outfield fence. For a soccer field it is at least 300 feet by 180 feet.

Selectman Robie said they talk about having to bus our kids from the school over to the CYAA to play. If they come to the Moore Park to play, they need to do something about getting them over there too. He didn't know why they didn't build a softball field at the Moore School. When he went to school there, they had a baseball field that was pretty nice. There is room in the back of that school for a baseball field at one end and a girls' softball field on the other end. Then the organizations that want to use Moore Park can play their games at the park like they have for the past two decades. It would be reasonable to do that. Now they have a baseball field and they are saying they don't want anybody else playing on it.

Chair Young said she didn't know if she agreed with that. They have been talking about this for a couple of years now. This is not something that happened yesterday. She has been very upfront since she has taken the park over about what she was going to do. She has always asked their opinion. It was a softball field and it was grown in, so it wasn't being used for a softball field. They can walk across instead of being bused to Moore Park. This was going to be the softball field. She agreed and they have 13 acres at the school, and they could have a football field if they wanted. They brought this softball field back and they made it usable for

Moore School and the CYAA farm team. The problem is the soccer and lacrosse. They have that field back where it needs to be.

Selectman Dann asked if a soccer field could be put at the school. He noted the CYAA has one. Would they CYAA allow soccer and field hockey? Chair Young said they were open to having a conversation about the soccer. She didn't know about the field hockey.

Fire Chief Young said if you go to the old softball field, it used to be by the basketball court. If you go out 225 feet you have kids playing baseball, those outfielders are going to be back to back. It is not safe. They are going to put the girl's outfielders to the back. It's not enough room. He was talking with someone the other day and the soccer field at the CYAA is too long. They do play at the school; the soccer games are played behind the school. They have the land at the CYAA to build another soccer field. They just built another little league field. When they orientated their little league field they forgot about the sun. So, they turned the field and he wasn't sure what they are going to do with the old one. They do have land to build another soccer field, because their soccer field is in trouble, it's too low.

Chair Young said the school could expand their athletic fields if they so choose. The CYAA soccer practiced over here because theirs was so wet. This was fine when that infield wasn't all done. She thought maybe they need a representative from the CYAA next time. She didn't know what Jesse Remington is going to do and she knows that it's not the towns responsibility.

Selectman Brock thought it was late to be discussing that stuff. We got the field done and it is their job to protect it. He agreed with Dean and the fence should go back up. Let's secure our investment. Chair Young said then she will complete the process of getting the tarp and a movable outfield fence so they can hang banners and things like that. There was some discussion about the fence.

Fire Chief Young noted with budget time coming up they are talking about maintenance on that field and it might behoove the person that oversees the park to come up with a little bit of money. The problem is no one is going to take care of it. They are going to come play and leave. They need to maintain it and if they want to have a nice smooth field it can't be abused. After every game it will need to be smoothed off and raked.

Selectman Dann suggested the people that want to use it should put a request in and they should know that they have rules and regulations. They need to leave it the way that they found it. Chair Young said she agreed 100%. She doesn't want to be a downer. Right now, they have a form, you can find it on the website and there is a calendar to see if the date is available. There are still certain groups that she can't get that form from. They've had to call, and they didn't know if certain groups were coming. She thought Selectman Dann's idea was great and maybe they should make it a policy.

Selectman Robie thought before they decide, they were going to put a fence up 220 feet out. If you recall, on the backside of that field there has been a lot of work done to clear that and make that large enough for these other organizations to play soccer and lacrosse on. If you put a fence up at 220 feet, you have almost another 220 feet that is going to be open field down there. It is not big enough for another baseball field or soccer field. Even when he was over the park, he spent time cutting back the weeds. It is growing back in and he didn't think you could see the fence along the back edge anymore. He was concerned that if you shut the park off to other teams that want to play different kind of games for a very small group of one, he didn't know if that was the right thing to do for the park.

Chair Young thought they could put the fence up to delineate the softball areas. She knows the little ones have enough room to go from side to side. There was some further discussion about the fence.

Chair Young thanked everyone for their feedback, and they can go from here.

Class VI Road – discuss application process: Selectman Chivers explained the office received a letter addressed to the Board of Selectmen. The request was to approve a building permit on Class 6 Road. In preparation for this process they looked at the Class 6 Road policy that our Board adopted in 2007. They

looked at the RSA that governs this process. Tonight, they should withhold their judgement on the merits of the application that is before the Board and focus what the process is that they required to follow.

Selectman Chivers explained this is three step process. The first thing is if someone is interested in a building permit on a Class 6 Road, they submit their application to the Board of Selectmen. If it meets the criteria of the standards contained in this policy the Board of Selectmen can schedule a public hearing, consider the application, notify the abutters at which time they can decide to grant any waivers on our standards in this policy. If they decide to not grant the waivers, it stops right there. If they decide to grant waivers, the second step will be to go to the Planning Board for their review and recommendation. At the same time since it will be resulting in a building permit on a Class 6 Road it would have to go to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a variance. If the ZBA declines the variance it's dead right, there. If they approve the variance and once the Planning Board gets done with their recommendation it will come back to this Board for the third step of the process which is to make a final determination. Accept the Planning Board's recommendations, to recognize the ZBA granted a variance and then they would have the final decision at the third meeting. If you read RSA 674:41 you'll find out this is the process they need to follow. Our Class 6 Road policy substantially follows the requirements of the RSA with one exception, there is no mention here of a variance being required from the ZBA. It would be automatically required because our zoning ordinance excludes Class 6 Roads for consideration from required frontage. So, in all cases anyone that wants a building permit on a Class 6 Road in Candia would have to get a variance from the ZBA. At some point they could look at this and amend it to clarify that's the case.

Selectman Robie asked if they were going to do the first step this evening. Chair Young thought they were going to wait on that. Administrative Assistant Hansen noted that the applicant has submitted all the necessary documents.

Building Inspector Murray asked what the Planning Board would be looking at. Is it because of the road? Selectman Chivers said he wasn't sure what they were required to look at, but the RSA requires us to refer to the Planning Board for their review and recommendation. Selectman Brock said he asked the question because he was unsure of what the Planning Board would be reviewing. It's just an approval so they are aware of what is going on. He asked when it changed in the wording that it required the ZBA to be involved with a Class 6 Road. Selectman Chivers said he didn't know, but if it is a requirement in the zoning ordinance. Selectman Brock thought it was just an application that the Board of Selectmen reviewed, and they had a series of conditions to be met and a signature that they would adhere to that. Selectman Robie noted that is what the policy still says.

Selectman Chivers said that is why the policy is deficient. It makes no reference to the ZBA. Selectman Brock said that is what his concern is because from his understanding the ZBA would have no reason to approve any of it. If the applicant doesn't get approval from the ZBA the Selectmen could waive the 600 feet.

Chair Young asked the Board to familiarize themselves with Class 6 Road policy. There are probably some differences of opinion on this Board concerning this, but some people need time to study this. Selectman Brock said this was for a general discussion, so everybody understood. He had never been involved in one and he doesn't think anyone else on the Board has. It doesn't come up often. It was noted the public notice will be mailed out to the abutters and they will have a public hearing on July 22nd.

Fire Chief appointment - discussion: Chair Young explained every three years the Fire Chief is appointed. The last time he was appointed she received a lot of phone calls from people thinking that Dean was quitting. She thought it would be beneficial to consider getting rid of the 3-year appointment and making it until the Chief retires. Unless they are found doing something wrong and there is a problem with the Chief. She also didn't think it was good for the fire department morale. It was just something to discuss and they don't have to take any action.

Selectman Dann thought if there were fire personnel that has some questions and can't get it answered by the Chief, they can come to the liaison or the Board.

Selectman Robie said that he and Fire Chief Young have talked about this for the past nine years. This would have to go to the vote of the people. The people voted for this under RSA 154:1 and it would have to be a vote of the people that the Fire Chief be appointed by the Board of Selectmen. Just like the Chief of Police is appointed by the Board of Selectmen. He recommended wholeheartedly this is how they should have a Fire Chief. As the town took over the fire department from its volunteer status, this article was written and voted on, but they must adhere to it until they change it through a vote. He didn't see why the people of Candia, with a little bit of education, would not understand why the need to appoint a Fire Chief as a permanent fixture in our community until he deems himself ready to retire or through any other way he would have to be removed. This is what they would have to consider.

Chair Young clarified what would be asked no matter who the Fire Chief is, you would be removing the three-year term. The rest is fine. All you're doing is removing the "three-year term". It says, "with no limit to the number of terms". Selectman Robie said they could do it that way also if they still want the association to send over the nominations. Chair Young thought if the association wants someone different that's certainly something the Board should look at. Selectman Robie said they have been through these numerous times in the community over the years. This is a sway of political play when that happens, and it has happened many times. In his opinion this should be an appointed position.

Selectman Brock said this is another reason why they have a liaison for the departments. If there is an issue that is growing within the department, they would become aware it and deal with it. To have the recommendation coming from the association is necessary. He agreed with Carleton and he felt it should be an appointed position by the Board of Selectmen.

Chair Young wanted to be crystal clear to the public there is not a problem and there hasn't been a problem. She explained the process. Whenever Chief Young's name was submitted it was always submitted by the firemen and the Selectmen approved it. So, it is not that there is a problem. They are trying to eliminate doing something every three years that might not be necessary. Selectman Robie confirmed there is no problem but there has been in the past. By appointing a Fire Chief, you could help alleviate that problem considerably.

Chair Young said there are two different things there is a fire association and it is their input that the Selectmen take that she is not opposed to. Fire Chief Young clarified that it was not the association, it is the active firefighters. Most of the same people, but it is two different things. However, they decide to write it out and they do decide to appoint a new Chief that somehow there's involvement from the members. It would be tough to take that away from them. He has talked to them about it and filled them in on what he and Carleton have talked about. They all want to know how it is going to work and they'll give their approval or not. Not that it is up to them, because it will be a vote of the townspeople. He didn't know if it could somehow be written into the policy that there's some members that could sit on that. He didn't know how that works.

Selectman Robie said if they wrote that correctly and the Chief wanted to retire, let the association know that the members are the one who solicits the request for someone's resume. Then they can send a recommendation over to us and they could still follow the rest of the policy. Chair Young said they do that now. She thought it shows respect to the people that are volunteering all that time and effort to listen to their opinion. Whether it is political or not that's going to happen, and she didn't think a bad Chief is going to last and a good Chief is going to get thrown out. A good Chief has the support of the majority of the membership. Selectman Robie said people should be aware if they think a good Chief won't get pushed out. He has been here long enough to see it happen.

Selectman Dann thought they should have firefighters with the Board if they are interviewing a Chief. They are going to look at things differently, it is their profession.

Chair Young thought they should bring this up in March. She asked Fire Chief Young when his term was up. There was some discussion of when Fire Chief Young's term is up and the process. Chair Young asked to keep it in mind when they are doing their warrants if it is something the Board would like to do. Selectman Dann thought they should wait until March and they should have some type of warrant article that Dean can present to the association. Chair Young said either Selectman Dann or Fire Chief Young can present it to them at a meeting. They will work on something to bring to the voters in March.

Other Business

4th of July: Selectman Robie noted Thursday is the 4th of July and would the Board be interested in closing the office on the 5th of July. If the employees wish to use a vacation day on the 5th they could. It would not be a paid holiday. They all have extra vacation time that they can't seem to use because they are always working. He thought it might be good to close on the 5th. Selectman Dann asked if it would affect the closing of the Recycling Center. Chair Young said all the employees (except the Police Department) are interested in doing this and it doesn't affect the Recycling Center. It was noted that the Recycling Center is closed to the public on July 5th. The full time Recycling Center employees will have the option to take a vacation day as well. Selectman Robie moved to close the Town Office on the 5th of July and the employees will use a vacation day. Seconded by Chair Young. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Board to authorize payment of payroll and accounts payable: Deferred to the next meeting.

Calendar

- The Town Offices will be closed July 4th and 5th.
- Selectmen's meeting July 8th, 2019

Public Comment

Fire Chief Young mentioned that Jimmy Wilson, Jake Labbee, and Jesse Daniels put the flags up this weekend. ATS gave them the use of a lift and Fletcher Perkins sold us the flags at cost which was a huge savings. Jimmy and Jake brought this up a year ago that they should do this. If you go through Raymond, Auburn, and Fremont they have the flags. He wanted to give a shout out to ATS, Jimmy, Jake, Jesse, and Fletcher and Sarah Perkins at Ace Hardware. He thought it looked really nice. It was noted the flags will stay up through Labor Day.

Selectman Robie moved to adjourn at 8:12 pm. Seconded by Selectman Dann. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Andria Hansen
Recording Secretary