

Prospect Town Council
Regular Meeting
Unapproved Minutes
10-2-18

Chairman Jeff Slapikas called to order the regular meeting of the Prospect Town Council @ 7:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Prospect Town Hall, 36 Center Street and began with the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was not taped.

Members Present: J. Slapikas, Pat Geary, R. Blanc, S. Pilat, D. Merriman, M. Patchkofsky, C. Perugini-Erickson, T. Graveline and L. Fitzgerald

Members Absent: None

Not in Attendance: Mayor Robert Chatfield

The Public Hearing was canceled until 10/16/18 @ 6:30 p.m.

Mayor's Report: None

J. Slapikas apologized to the public, advising that if they had come for the public hearing it had been canceled due to a mishap with public notification; no newspaper notice nor notice to the Town's website. The notification to the Town's website will be within the next two days and there will be at least two notices to the newspapers. J. Slapikas thanked everyone for coming.

J. Slapikas advised that due to Mayor Chatfield's absence, J. Slapikas requested to table the 'Action on Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board – Resolution' until the next Town Council meeting of 10/16/18. **Motion** made by T. Graveline, seconded by L. Fitzgerald to table the 'Action on Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board – Resolution' until the next Town Council meeting of 10/16/18. **Unanimous.**

Chair's Report:

Future Planning from Town Council: J. Slapikas asked the Council if they had prioritized the requests from the Town Council. C. Perugini-Erickson suggested to wait until all the requests were noted and given to D. Merriman. J. Slapikas advised that he would get the information to D. Merriman once he received the email with the new information.

J. Slapikas advised the Council that they were in receipt of a letter from the Anti-Blight Commission that was passed along to the Council to review at this evening's meeting; RE: 52 Williams Dr. J. Slapikas requested a motion to place this letter into correspondence. **Motion** made by S. Pilat, seconded by R. Blanc to place the Letter from the Anti Blight Commission into correspondence RE: 52 Williams Dr. **Unanimous.**

Motion made by P. Geary, seconded by T. Graveline to table, until the next Town Council meeting of October 16, 2018, the discussion on the next steps from the Town Council to the Anti-Blight Commission from the 'proper steps' provided by the Town's Attorney RE: 52 Williams Dr.

8 Approved/ 1 Opposed, L. Fitzgerald. Motion carries. J. Slapikas commented that the Town's Attorney, Jen Yoxall will be at the next meeting. Members of the Anti-Blight Commission were in the audience. J. Slapikas asked if the Anti-Blight Commission had any information to add at tonight's meeting. Brenda Martin, Chair of the Anti-Blight Commission advised that she would wait until the 10/16/18 Town Council meeting.

Public Participation:

Tom Galvin, 27 Rockridge advised that approximately two meetings ago, he had requested information as to why Mayor Chatfield stated that there 2.2 million in the General Fund, when the Treasurer's Report stated differently;

could any one answer that question. J. Slapikas commented that the MIR is an investment plan that all tax collections go into which gives the Town a little interest; the General Fund Account is a checking account that needs to keep a balance of \$525,000 not to accrue bank fees; the Payroll Account is just that, a Payroll Account that needs to keep a balance of \$125,000 so that no bank fees accrue. Any transfers that is needed would come out of the MIR account. In January when the taxes are received again it will change with the influx of taxes. Discussion. T. Galvin stated that there should be a better accounting system for the Town. P. Geary commented that she appreciated T. Galvin bringing these items to the Council's attention.

Yvonne Collette, 20 Maria Hotchkiss, questioned where the Council stood on the previous petition that was received regarding traffic and speed on Maria Hotchkiss. Y. Collette advised that T. Graveline came to her house and noted 172 cars during a 40-minute time frame; only 35.8% of the traffic came to a full stop. Y. Collette stated that this was unacceptable and this is why they are requesting speed humps. J. Slapikas commented that the Council has no answer, but does agree that something needs to be done. J. Slapikas continued that the police have been issuing tickets. Y. Collette advised that the police haven't been there is weeks. Lt. Nelson Abarzua Advised that police have been issuing tickets on Maria Hotchkiss, to mostly residents of the Town. Lt. Abarzua noted that there is a problem with many of the streets in Town, this one being a cut through; he also noted that since the new lanes of the highway are opening, the traffic has slowed somewhat. A general discussion took place on size of speed humps to speed bumps and liability of the town. T. Graveline stated that this street seems to be suited for speed humps. Y. Collette commented that something had to be done. A. Molnar, 22 Maria Hotchkiss commented that her property is at the stop sign; she has two children of 6th and 8th grade age; she is afraid for their lives. Y. Collette commented that it is outrageous that so many vehicles, 150 cars in 40-minutes travel through at such a high rate of speed. Lt. Abarzua agreed and stated that there have been meetings with the STOFCTDOT. A. Molnar commented that something has to be done. T. Galvin commented that he heard the ticket monies goes to the State, to which Lt. Abarzua agreed. D. Merriman commented on his concern for the liability for the Town. Discussion. Y. Collette commented that towns such as Hartford, New Haven and Hamden are putting in speed humps. Fred Bonyai, 18 Woodcrest Dr commented that speed humps do slow drivers down; he uses Maria Hotchkiss as a cut through twice a week going from the car wash to Costco and he does not notice that large amount of traffic here. M. Patchkofsky suggested other options, such as 'rumble' strips. Lt. Abarzua commented that he like this idea and stated that he would have a quote by the next Town Council Meeting. J. Slapikas suggested to Lt. Abarzua to meet on Wednesday, October 3, 2018. P. Geary stated that there is a safety issue on Summit Road that had approval for a street light two years ago from the Council; the street light still has not been installed. L. Fitzgerald stated his concern that the lettering for Do Not Block the Box was still not installed to area of Chandler Dr and questioned if this was a STOFCTDOT issue; comments were made that it should be the Town's. Discussion.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by R. Blanc, to approve the minutes of 9/18/18 & 9/20/18 as submitted. **Unanimous.**

Refunds:

Motion made by L. Fitzgerald, seconded by M. Patchkofsky to approve the Tax Refunds dated 10/2/18 in the amount of \$1,908.27. **Unanimous.**

Correspondence:

Treasurer's Report dated July 2018

Tax Refunds dated 10/2/18 \$1,908.27

Town of Prospect General Fund Expenditures Compared with Budget – July 2018

Tax Collector's Report August 2018

Intergovernmental Agreement between the Municipalities of

Motion made by T. Graveline, seconded by S. Pilat to place correspondence on file. **Unanimous.**

New Business:

Refunds – Previously Acted Upon
Transfers- None
Resignations – None
Appointments – None
Bids/Grants – None

Old Business:

Subcommittee Reports:

Land Use & Acquisition – None

Ordinance: Public Hearing 10/16/18 @ 6:30 p.m. Town’s Attorney Jen Yoxall sent the Town’s Noise Ordinance to DEEP

Salary Review: Met this evening from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. A continued effort for everyone’s salary range – next meeting 10/16/18 @ 6:00 p.m.

Public Works Maintenance: Not met

Sidewalk Task Force: Application submitted – to State

Pension: J. Slapikas spoke to Mayor regarding additional plans – he should have an answer between now and next meeting.

J. Slapikas asked for further comments. C. Perugini-Erickson questioned if a single Council member receives an email from a resident, what is the obligation and responsibility to get that information to the other members of the Council. S. Pilat commented that this should be discouraged and stated that the information should be presented to the other Council members at the next meeting. C. Perugini-Erickson questioned procedure. Discussion. M. Patchkofsky commented that the Chairman or clerk of the Council should be in receipt of this information to be given to the Council the day of the next meeting.

D. Merriman asked for a motion for the next public hearing.

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by R. Blanc to hold the public hearing for (3) ordinances on October 16, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. **Unanimous.**

Adjournment:

Motion made by D. Merriman, seconded by R. Blanc to adjourn the meeting. **Unanimous.** Meeting adjourned @ 7:51 p.m.

Jeff Slapikas, Chairman