

**-- APPROVED --**  
**BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**February 18, 2003**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Municipal Meeting Facility**

**7:30 P.M.** Chair Priest called the meeting to order and asked for the Pledge to the Flag.

**Councilors Present:** Chair Charles R. Priest, W. David Watson, Jacqueline A. Sartoris, Robert A. Galloupe, Douglas A. Rice, Nancy E. Randolph, Forrest Lowe, Thomas E. Crimmins and Stephen H. McCausland.

**Councilors Absent:** None.

**Others Present:** Patricia Harrington, Assistant Town Manager; Fran Smith, Town Clerk; Jerry Hinton, Police Chief; Thomas Farrell, Parks and Recreation Director; Michael Vaughan, State Representative (District 85); several citizens, members of the press, and TV video crew.

**Minutes of Previous Meetings:** **February 3, 2003**

Hearing no objection from the Council, Chair Priest declared the minutes of February 3, 2003, accepted as written.

**Correspondence:**

***Letter from Pem Schaeffer concerning National Security Resolution***

Councilor Crimmins said regarding the first two (2) correspondence items, he felt the Council had enough on its plate dealing with Brunswick issues and should not get involved with state and federal issues. He asked that similar correspondence not be put on the agenda.

Chair Priest stated that since the Council received it, the letters would need to be on the agenda, but the Council can choose not to take any action.

The Council took no action on this item.

*(A copy of Mr. Schaeffer's letter will be attached to the official minutes.)*

***Letter from Casinos NO Committee***

The Council chose to take no action on this item.

*(A copy of Casinos NO Committee's letter will be attached to the official minutes.)*

***Letter from 55 Plus***

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 2**

Pat Harrington, Assistant Town Manager, said this letter from 55+ Center discusses methods that they will need to undertake to make up for lost revenue from beano games since there is no smoking. Included is charging an annual membership of ten dollars (\$10) to each member.

*(A copy of Mr. Knudsen's letter will be attached to the official minutes.)*

***(ADDED) Update on Cable TV Franchise Committee.***

Councilor McCausland said that the Cable TV Franchise Committee has held several meetings and on February 27 they will hold a meeting to get input from nonprofit organizations. In addition, there will be a meeting in March to get public input. He pointed out the Committee has no control over rates.

***(ADDED) Resignation from Maria Woodman from 55+ Center Board of Trustees***

The Council had received a letter of resignation from Maria Woodman. She has served on the 55+ Center Board of Trustees, but as of June she will be resigning. The Chair accepted her resignation and thanked her for her service.

**Manager's Report:**

**1) Review proposed Budget 2003-04 Schedule**

Ms. Harrington discussed the schedule for the Budget 2003-04. On April 28, the budget will be presented to the Council. Public hearings will be held on May 5 and June 5, along with several workshops.

**2) Update on Affordable Housing Forum**

Councilor Sartoris provided this update on the recently held Affordable Housing Forum. There is a good deal of interest in affordable housing, and she added that looking at the question of regionalization work on this issue may be helpful.

Councilor Rice displayed an insert on affordable housing that was in the Times Record. It is available in the Planning Office.

**Adjustments to Agenda:**    None

- 19.      The Town Council will hear public comments on the following requests for Victualer licenses and will take any appropriate action.**

**Julia and Brian Soper d/b/a Gurnet Trading Co.  
602 Gurnet Road**

**Julia and Brian Soper**

**Juanita Greenleaf d/b/a Home Plate Pizza  
393 Bath Road**

**Juanita Greenleaf**

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 3**

**Matthew Blake d/b/a Little Lad's Basket Bakery & Cafe  
25 Mill Street**

**Matthew Blake**

Chair Priest opened the public hearing; hearing no comments, he closed the public hearing.

**Julia and Brian Soper** discussed their new business, Gurnet Trading Company, and how it will be a convenience store with fresh seafood and prepared foods.

**Councilor Lowe moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve Victualer licenses for Gurnet Trading Company, Home Plate Pizza, and Little Lad's Basket Bakery & Café. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the public hearing notice will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**20. The Town Council will receive public comments on proposed amendments to the Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places ordinance, regarding the No Parking Area on the east side of Park Row.**

Chair Priest opened the public hearing.

Chief Hinton explained the need for this change due to the change in the entrance to Park Row from Maine Street.

Chair Priest closed the public hearing.

Councilor Randolph said some residents on Potter Street commented they liked the change.

**Councilor Randolph moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to adopt the proposed changes to the Parking Ordinance regarding a "No Parking" area on the east side of Park Row commencing at Maine Street and extending southerly ninety (90) feet. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the public hearing notice and approved language will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**21. The Town Council will receive public comments on proposed amendments to the Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places Ordinance concerning Merchandising, Advertising and Signs (Chapter 14).**

Chair Priest opened the public hearing.

Tom Farrell, Parks and Recreation Director, explained how the Recreation Commission currently approves food vendors for the town's public parks and recreation areas. This change would clarify the definition of the word "concession" to include not only food, but also the right to display, offer to sell, or sell goods and services for events approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission. The specific issue is for the Rotary to be

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 4**

allowed to have vendors selling goods and services on the Bike Path as part of the Annual Regatta. This will allow for additional revenue to assist with the event.

**Alice Bean Andrenyak**, President Elect of the Brunswick Rotary, spoke in support of this change and the next item. They are looking to make Brunswick more than a “through” town. With Maine Street Celebrates, the Regatta, and Chamberlain Days, there will be a total of ten (10) days worth of events in Brunswick to draw people in. The Topsham Fair will provide additional days. The proposed change will allow them to capture people by allowing vendors to be there so people can buy things, which will generate more funds, part of which will go back to the Town of Brunswick.

Chair Priest closed the public hearing.

**Councilor Randolph moved, Councilor McCausland seconded, to adopt the proposed amendments to the Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places Ordinance, concerning Merchandising, Advertisements and Signs. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the public hearing notice and the adopted language will be attached to the official minutes.)*

- 22. The Town Council will receive public comments on proposed amendments to the Licenses and Business Regulations Ordinance concerning “single day” licenses (Chapter 10).**

Chair Priest opened the public hearing.

Mr. Farrell said this change would allow the Council to approve a one (1) to three (3) day special license for sellers of prepared food on a public way. The current ordinance only allows for a yearly license. This would not apply to the Mall. The initiative behind this proposal is the Maine Street Celebrates event sponsored by the Brunswick Downtown Association. They would like to be able to have additional food vendors available for their event on Saturday, August 9, 2003.

**Mary Jewell**, member of Maine Street Celebrates group, spoke in support of the change. They will not have similar foods as the Mall vendors as not to compete with them. (Councilor Randolph confirmed this.)

Chair Priest closed the public hearing.

**Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Randolph seconded, to adopt the proposed amendments to the Licensing and Business Regulations Ordinance regarding single day licenses and annual licenses for Sellers of Prepared Foods on a public way (Section 10-26). The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

*(A copy of the public hearing notice and adopted language will be attached to the official minutes.)*

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 5**

- 23. The Town Council will receive a report from the Multigenerational Program Committee and will take any appropriate action.**

**Jeffrey Ward**, Multigenerational Program Committee member, made this presentation and introduced the Committee's members. They are recommending the town pursue a plan to create a multigenerational community center. He added that it is unlikely to occur in the old high school building due to cost and its condition. The Committee is asking the Council to take two (2) steps: 1) to create a committee to find partners to help fund the project; and 2) in the CIP process, to fund the request to hire an architect to move to create a specific design and cost (include would be exploring the option of sharing the site with a school.) The Committee also asks that when the community center is completed that there be a fee schedule set up that all can afford. He hopes the Council endorses the Committee's recommendations. The cost to do the architect study would be around one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000).

*(A copy of the Report of the Multi-Generational Program Committee to the Brunswick Town Council will be attached to the official minutes.)*

Mr. Ward said, responding to Councilor Crimmins' question on the connection with the School Board, he hopes to explore that next and is not sure if the School Board knows actually where they are going with the new school. Again responding to Councilor Crimmins' questions, Mr. Ward said that he envisions the Recreation Department overseeing the center once completed. As far as the football fields and the skate park, he hopes that they will not need to be eliminated.

Councilor Sartoris discussed how the Committee had come up with a vision despite the many issues and changes they had to deal with, like the report on the poor condition of the high school and the School Board looking at the site for a possible school. She thanked the Committee for their hard work.

**Councilor Lowe moved, Councilor Galloupe seconded, to receive the report with thanks and gratitude to the Committee and to take the next step of appointing a committee in the near future and looking at funding their recommendation as part of the CIP process.**

Councilor McCausland discussed timing, and with the economy as it is, this may not be the time to be recommending spending large sums of money (project cost estimated at \$20 million.) He was on a previous committee that looked at the old high school and nothing was done with their recommendations in the nine (9) years since then. To have the current proposal take off will take time and the jury is still out on what will happen.

Mr. Ward said that in the last nine (9) years since the earlier report, there has been a great deal of money spent on the old high school. For the new community center to become a reality there will need to be partners and he is asking the Council to appoint a committee to look at finding them.

Councilor Rice said he struggled with the cost. Many of the key elements in the current facility need to be maintained in the community. This is a great site for a new school, but

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 6**

there needs to be site planning as to what fits on the old high school location. He recommended the site planning as be done first since there are square foot numbers for a new school and the community center to work with and see how they fit in this location.

Councilor Crimmins said he is not opposed to the concept of a community center, but looking at the possible cost and limited resources, he feels there is a greater need for a new fire station, which would provide safety for all.

Mr. Ward responded that the cost of the center is not really known and to throw out numbers to stop the process would be a mistake. Instead, he suggested exploring options of cost and partnerships.

Councilor Lowe said under the Open Space Plan, there was a four to five million dollar amount for phase one of this project. He thinks it would more acceptable to go with the smaller project.

Councilor Galloupe said the Council does not know the cost, but many things need to be determined prior to the project, like if a school is going on the old high school site or how to bond the project – in its entirety or by sections. The Council needs to work out these details prior to going forward with the project. He suggested having a workshop to discuss it.

**Councilor Lowe moved, Councilor Galloupe seconded, to receive the report with thanks and gratitude to the Committee and to take the next step of appointing a committee in the near future and looking at funding their recommendation as part of the CIP process. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**24. The Town Council will have a general discussion on Regional Cooperation and will take any appropriate action.**

Councilor Sartoris discussed her support for looking at regionalization to save money and the need to explore the pros/cons of providing services this way.

**Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Galloupe seconded, to form a committee with the Town Manager and one elected person from the communities of Brunswick, Topsham, Bath, West Bath, and Harpswell to discuss regionalization.**

Councilor Randolph said she supports looking at regionalization, but feels that the Mid Coast Business, Development and Planning group could look at it instead of the proposed committee.

Councilor Lowe said that regionalization is the hottest thing in government right now and he supports looking at it in greater detail. Yet, he feels it will be very difficult to achieve. The issue of local control and management makes it very complicated. It is worthwhile to pursue, but the tax rate will not be cut dramatically by regionalization. He suggested talking to the other towns by having a meeting or two to see if there is support. The Mid Coast Business, Development and Planning group has a full plate already.

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 7**

Councilor Galloupe said this had come before the Council in the past by way of a shared dispatch center, which did not work out. There needs to be a vehicle to talk to other towns and build trust first, before regionalization will work.

Councilor McCausland said it was a wonderful idea, but it has been tried in the past. Instead of a committee, he suggested encouraging meetings with other towns to discuss what the proper vehicle to explore regionalization is.

Councilor Sartoris said she would be happy to withdraw her motion (Councilor Galloupe, as the second, agreed.) She asked that the Chair set up an informal session with chairs and town managers of other towns to see if there is interest in discussing this subject further.

Chair Priest said he would work to get the meeting set up.

**25. The Town Council will discuss their 2003 Goals and will take any appropriate action.**

Ms. Harrington discussed the five (5) proposed goals.

Councilor Randolph said she wanted to add two (2) additional goals – prioritizing the open space plan issues and continuing to work on the old high school plan. Councilor Sartoris agreed.

Councilors McCausland and Galloupe did not support having the budget issue as a goal since the Council is going to keep the tax rate at a minimum level anyway and it should not be a Council goal.

Chair Priest felt that the tax goal should be there to show the public the Council is concerned with the issue.

Councilor McCausland said it is going to be a difficult year in Brunswick with the state budget problems and the economy. The old high school issue has been on the goals for years, but funding a one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) study may be difficult to do this year.

Councilor Sartoris agreed about the study, but felt there needed to be a group with a vision to look at other funding methods for the community center project. They may be able to look at site planning.

**Councilor Galloupe moved, Councilor Randolph seconded, to adopt the following six (6) Council Goals for 2003:**

- 1) **Work to develop a new business park and to encourage economic development in Brunswick.**
- 2) **Finalize site for new Fire Station and implement process to complete project.**
- 3) **Continue work on updating Comprehensive Plan.**
- 4) **Continue work on Mere Point Boat Launch facility.**
- 5) **Prioritize the Open Space Plan's issues.**

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 8**

**6) Continue discussion on the Spring Street site.  
The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**26. The Town Council will consider license requests for Beano/Bingo and Games of Chance for St. John the Baptist Church.**

This is for the annual bazaar from June 20 through June 22, 2003.

**Councilor Crimmins moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the request for Beano/Bingo Licenses and Licenses for Games of Chance for St. John the Baptist Church. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

**27. The Town Council will consider appointments to the Town's Boards and/or Committees and will take any appropriate action.**

Appointments to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee were made.

Councilor Sartoris nominated William Morrell as the Developer representative.

**Councilor Randolph moved, Councilor McCausland seconded, to cease nominations and to ask the Chair to cast one vote for Mr. Morrell. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

William Morrell was appointed as the Developer representative to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee.

Councilor Sartoris nominated Steven Tibbets as the business representative.

Councilor Randolph nominated Paul Clark as the business representative

Councilor Crimmins nominated Charles Wiercinski as the business representative.

**Councilor Rice moved, Councilor McCausland seconded, to cease nomination for the Business representative. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

Steven Tibbets received votes from Councilors Sartoris, Rice, Galloupe, Watson, Priest and Lowe.

Since he received the majority of Council votes, Mr. Tibbets was appointed as the Business representative to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee without voting on other nominees.

Councilor Sartoris nominated Christa Cornell and James Ecker as citizen representatives.

Councilor Randolph nominated Constance Lundquist as a citizen representative.

Councilor McCausland nominated Paul Clark as a citizen representative.

**Town Council Minutes**

**February 18, 2003**

**Page 9**

**Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Lowe seconded, to cease nominations for the citizen representatives. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

Ms. Cornell received votes from Councilors Watson, Sartoris, Galloupe, Priest and Lowe.

Mr. Ecker received votes from Councilors Sartoris, Watson, Rice, Priest, and Lowe.

Ms. Lundquist received votes from Councilors Galloupe, Randolph, Crimmins and McCausland.

Mr. Clark received votes from Councilors Rice, Crimmins, and McCausland.

**Since they each received five (5) votes, Christa Cornell and James Ecker were appointed as the two (2) citizen representatives to the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee.**

**Councilor Randolph moved, Councilor Crimmins seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

**PLEASE NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM. A TAPE RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS.**

*Frances M. Smith*

*Town Clerk*

*February 21, 2003*

**March 3, 2003**

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*Date of Approval*

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*Council Chair*