

SPECIAL BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

JUNE 10, 1996

7:30 P.M.

OLD BRUNSWICK HIGH SCHOOL

MCKEEN STREET

(FORMER LIBRARY ROOM)

Chair McCausland called the meeting to order and asked for the Pledge to the Flag.

Councilors Present: Chair Stephen McCausland, Michael Feldman, Eleanor Swanson, Robert Galloupe, Leon Laffely, Clement Wilson, Faith Moll, Ervin Snyder and David Gleason

Others Present: Donald Gerrish, Town Manager; Bonnie Gardner, Admin. Assistant; Jim Ashe, School Superintendent; John Eldridge, Finance Director; Tom Farrell, Dir. Parks and Recreation; Kris Hodgdon, Recreation Commission; Jerry Hinton, Police Chief; Jim McLeod, Marine Resources Committee; and members of the Press

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

120. The Town Council will consider adopting the 1996-97 Budget Resolutions. (Manager)

Manager Gerrish explained that both the Town and School Budget Resolutions have been prepared and reviewed by the Finance Director based upon the decisions the Council made on June 6, 1996. If approved this budget would create a 3.17% tax increase.

Councilor Gleason moved, Councilor Moll seconded to accept the Town of Brunswick's 1996-97 Budget Resolutions and the Brunswick's School Budget Resolutions (including the estimated Federal and State Grants) as presented.

Councilor Laffely commented that he had received a few telephone calls from people who were asking why the Town could not postpone the hiring of a Natural Resource Director for a year and use the money to fix Charles Court sidewalk.

Councilor Gleason noted that there is a capital fund being proposed and funds could be used from that account to do some work on Charles Court.

Councilor Moll added to Councilor Gleason's analysis that she would have preferred to add more money to the budget but will go forward with this budget. She added that she has many pavement needs in the downtown area. She understands that Charles Court is an alternative route for the children. The Downtown does not have an alternative route. Mill Street is in terrible condition and if there are funds designated for sidewalks for Charles Court (an alternative Route) she wants funds designated for major routes for the children passing through her district.

Councilor Wilson is in favor of doing capital improvement work when it improves safety, even in a tight budget year. He also noted that he has reservations about adding the position of Director of Natural Resources. It looks like the Town is trying to increase the Town Administration.

Special Town Council Meeting Minutes June 10, 1996 Page Two

Vote on the motion:

In favor: Gleason, Moll, Galloupe, Swanson, Feldman and McCausland. Opposed: Snyder, Wilson and Laffely. Motion carried 6-3.

Councilor Snyder noted that he feels the Council has done a good job; i.e. the encouragement it has given to the Mid Coast Business Development Council, the work between Bath, Brunswick and Topsham to form a Council of Government; and the effort to initiate a Capital Improvement Fund is a great move forward. However, the postponement of some of the capital improvement items caused by the reduction of the Manager's and Superintendent's budgets was not as good as they could have done in that area and that is the basis for his vote.

Chair McCausland noted that the Council has worked very well together. A budget has been approved that will maintain services for both the Schools and the Municipal side for the coming year, and the Council was able to reduce the proposed tax rate increase by more than half of the initial proposal. He congratulated the Council for a job well done.

Councilor Feldman moved, Councilor Snyder seconded to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Bonnie L. Gardner Administrative Assistant June 11, 1996 _____ Date of Approval

Council Chair

[Back to the Town Council Home Page](#)

[Back to the Brunswick Town Government Home Page](#)

[Back to the Curtis Memorial Library Home Page](#)