

**MINUTES
SPECIAL TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
STANDISH MUNICIPAL CENTER
JUNE 23, 2015
7:00 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Olson and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Councilors present: Blanck, Higgins, Olson, Ordway, Pomerleau and Sargent.

NEW BUSINESS

55-15 Town Council Appointment to the Town Council At Large Seat and Planning Board Area 3 Seat [Olson]

The Order was introduced by Chair Olson.

Moved by Blanck seconded by Sargent and voted to add the following names to the order:

Steve Nesbit to the Town Council At Large Seat

Cynthia Beckwith to the Planning Board Area 3 Seat

(5 Yeas – 1 Nay, Higgins)

Council Chair Olson called for public comment.

Mr. Kasprzyk read the sections of the Charter that gives the Council the authority to fill vacancies for a one year period by appointment and the section that also authorizes the Council to call for a Special Election. He advocated for an election noting there were two other applicants present who had applied, Linda Newbegin and William Orr.

Chair Olson replied that it was resource intensive to call for a Special Election.

Councilor Higgins said a Special Election allows for everyone's vote to count.

Councilor Sargent said that it is important to have a full Council to avoid a three to three deadlock vote and that it was important to have Councilor Nesbitt back on the Council for his expertise on the beach project and ordinances.

Councilor Blanck indicated it was important to have continuity for ongoing projects and that Mr. Nesbitt's knowledge is invaluable.

VOTE ON ORDER AS AMENDED: 5 Yeas – 1 Nay, Higgins

Dedimus Justice, Gordon Billington called Mr. Nesbitt and Mrs. Kasprzyk (Budget Committee elect) to the podium and administered the oath of office.

PUBLIC ITEMS

Mr. Kasprzyk notified all that his Standish Watchdog Group was a gold sponsor of the Standish Summer Spectacular.

Mr. Billington commented that the Standish Watch Dog Group's web site recently implied that the Town had improperly notified the public of this evening's meeting. He said that implication was a disservice to Mrs. Chapman, the Town Clerk, who made all notifications as required by Charter and law. And that Mrs. Olson had announced the process for filling the vacant Council seat at the annual Town Meeting in response to a question from Mr. Orr. So adequate public notice had been given.

Mr. Kasprzyk asked if he could rebut.

Council Chair Olson ruled no that Mr. Kasprzyk had already had the opportunity to speak during the public comment period (in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure).

Mr. Hill said that when one speaks a mistruth that is slander but when one prints a mistruth that is libel and can be challenged in a court of law. He offered to pay for such a lawsuit.

Mr. Pomerleau complained about the numerous signs around the Town from the Standish Watch Dog group announcing this meeting and listing Mrs. Chapman's direct telephone number.

Mr. Billington commented that the signs were not political signs which can be displayed 6 weeks prior to one week after an election. All signs displayed in the Town of Standish require a permit from the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO). These signs did not have a permit. As such these particular signs were illegal signs and if displayed again could be subject to confiscation and destruction by the CEO.

Mrs. Kasprzyk commented that Mrs. Chapman is indeed held in high regard.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (S)

An Executive Session was not needed at this meeting.

ADJOURN

Moved seconded and voted to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM by unanimous consent.

Submitted by: 
Clerk/Secretary Gordon Billington