

Town of New Fairfield
Board of Selectmen
4 Brush Hill Road
New Fairfield, CT 06812

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, April 22, 2021
7:30 PM
Virtual meeting via Zoom

Members present:

Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman
Khris Hall, Selectman
Kim Hanson, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director and Town Treasurer
Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman
Anthony Yorio, BOF member

Paul Gouveia gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for having a virtual meeting.

Call To Order First Selectman Pat Del Monaco called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Residents spoke of their concerns about restrictions included in the proposed noise ordinance. This will be discussed later in this meeting.

There was a question about the cost of the boiler at Company A Fire House. First Selectman Del Monaco will look into this.

Correspondence and Announcements- None

Approval of Minutes

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 8, 2021. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Budget Transfers

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to transfer \$6,089.02 from Building Repair Reserve to replace HVAC items for Senior Center and Annex. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

There was a brief discussion of whether or not the heat exchanger could be reimbursed as a COVID expense.

Personnel Report

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated April 22, 2021 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

The entire BOS thanked Dispatcher Gisele Russano for all her work and wished her well in her retirement.

Appointments

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Tomas Kavaliauskas as the Assistant Animal Control Officer. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

OLD BUSINESS

COVID 19 update

Pat Del Monaco gave an update regarding COVID-19. She noted that the case positivity is currently 25 per 100,000. Approximately 48% of New Fairfield residents have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

Khris Hall spoke of a clinic for New Fairfield High School students age 16 and over and their families. These clinics will be held Saturday, April 24th and Saturday, May 1st at Danbury Fair Mall. All students are encouraged to get vaccinated. The New Fairfield clinic will no longer give first dose vaccinations as of tonight. Second doses will be given through May 20th. Since there will be some extra doses at the New Fairfield clinic, anyone that has a second dose scheduled somewhere else and would like to have it done closer to home, should call the Senior Center at (203) 312-5665 to be put on the stand by list. It was noted that this would be only for the Moderna vaccine.

Pat Del Monaco noted that Governor's Executive Order regarding COVID expires on May 20th. It is expected that legislation will allow for hybrid town meetings. Many restrictions regarding businesses will be lifted on May 1st and the rest will be lifted on May 19th.

Discussion of the BOS 2021/2022 budget

Pat Del Monaco noted there is no new information or changes to the 2021-2022 budget.

Noise Ordinance

Khris Hall spoke of some amendments to the proposed noise ordinance following the Public Hearing held for this purpose on April 20th. These amendments include:

- Change of time to be sunset or 7:30 pm (whichever is later).
- Clarified that the duration for the noise of 15 minutes would be 15 minutes once in 24 hours.
- Amended the distance for plainly audible to be 100 feet from edge of property instead of 100 feet from edge of source.
- Added language that variances should not be unreasonably denied and a denial of a variance is appealable to the BOS.
- Added the permission for playing of music at commercial establishments and increased the time limit.

- Will address provisions for ATVs
- Discussion of noise from domestic animals

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco spoke of the origins for proposed ordinance and noted that the Selectmen's office receives numerous complaints regarding excessive noise. It is model after the ordinance in Rocky Hill, CT which is enforceable and has been drafted with the help of many law enforcements organizations.

NEW BUSINESS

Request for subordination

Pat Del Monaco spoke of a request for subordination and noted that there is not enough equity to pay for the mortgage and small cities loan but noted that there is a large cash payment in the refinance. She noted that the Finance Director and Grants Administrator have both recommended against the subordination.

Finance Director Ed Sbordone spoke of the criteria for subordination.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the subordination for the Small Cities Loan at 21 Inglenook Drive. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 0-3-0 (Motion denied)**

Approval of Boat Dock invoices

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve two Boat Dock invoices in the amount of \$1,531.25 and \$177,887.50. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Public Comment

Many members of the public spoke of their concerns regarding the proposed noise ordinance. Specifics concerns included the difficulty of enforcement, the objectiveness of the ordinance, the ways that noise levels are enforced. The times for the noise ordinance were discussed as well as the idea that the police already have enforcement measures in place for excessive noise and disturbing the peace.

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco gave a brief history of how the proposed ordinance came to be and the types of complaints that come into her office.

Discussion of 13 and 15 Route 37- None

Adjournment

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Suzanne Kloos

**Received by Email on 4/26/2021 @ 8:30 am
by Holly Z Smith, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield**