

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 28, 2022**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Virtual meeting via Zoom**

**Members present:**

Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman  
Lori Ann Beninson, Selectman  
Khris Hall, Selectman

**Other Town Officials Present:**

Olga Melnikov, Finance Director  
Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman  
Mark Beninson, BOF member  
Ed Sbordone, BOE member  
Bruce Taylor, Fire Chief

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

Quintin Flower gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for having a virtual meeting.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**

Sue Huwer asked about the proper venue to ask about the proposed bus lot at Consolidated School. It was noted that her questions would be better answered at the Special Zoning Board meeting on Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> via Zoom.

Jennifer Huron asked about the ARPA funds and specifically how they can be used for the property that is currently Consolidated School.

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Pat Del Monaco announced that the Annual Town Meeting will be held at the Senior Center on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm. She clarified that this meeting is solely to set the date for the referendum.

Pat Del Monaco announced that both the Senate and the House of Representatives have voted to continue to allow town meetings to be held remotely or as a hybrid. This is expected to be signed by the governor.

Khris Hall noted that the vaccination van will be held this Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm at the Senior Center. This is a walk-in clinic with all three types of vaccines available.

**Proclamation for Linda Farinha**

Pat Del Monaco read a Proclamation in honor of the retirement of Linda Farinha. All three Selectmen thanked Linda for her many years of service to the Finance Department and wished her well in her retirement.

### Approval of Minutes

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2022 and the special meeting of April 25, 2022 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### Budget Transfers- None

### Personnel Report

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated April 28, 2022 as presented. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### Appointments

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Tom Quigley to the Water Pollution Control Authority. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Greg Manning to the Economic Development Commission. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Myke Furham to the Economic Development Commission. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to elevate Ernie Dech from an alternate member to a full member of the Inlands/Wetlands Commission. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco noted that this vacancy is due to the resignation of Gerry Schwalbe who is moving out of New Fairfield. The BOS thanked Mr. Schwalbe for all his years of service to the Inlands/Wetlands Commission.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Lori Beninson, Pat Del Monaco and Khris Hall to the local traffic authority. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### OLD BUSINESS

#### COVID update

Pat Del Monaco gave an update on COVID and reported that there are 33.5 cases per 100,000 in New Fairfield. This is a two-week rolling average. New Fairfield is the highest case rate in the area, but all surrounding towns are seeing increased numbers. PCR testing is available Monday through Friday at the Senior Center Community Room. There is no cost to either the town or the resident for the testing.

### New Business

#### Vote to reduce driveway bond for 34 East Lake Road

Pat Del Monaco gave a brief description of the bond for this property and noted that the homeowners have changed their plans for this property and the town engineer has recommended reducing the bond from \$15,000 to \$3,000.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reduce the bond for 34 East Lake Road from \$15,000 to \$3,000 as recommended by the town engineer. Lori Beninson seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Vote to establish Radio Communications Advisory Committee**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of the possibility of establishing a Radio Communications Advisory committee to review and make recommendations for solutions for the communications system. She spoke of this advisory committee made up of people with expertise in this area.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Bruce Taylor (NF Volunteer Fire Dept. Fire Chief), Mitchell Williams (NF Volunteer Fire Dept. Member), John Morelli (NF Volunteer Fire Dept. Member), Mark Beninson (BOF), Maria Evans (Communications Supervisor), Olga Melnikov (Finance Director), Karen Fildes (IT Director) and Nick Ieraci (Resident State Trooper Sergeant) to the Radio Communications Advisory Committee. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Public Comment**

Jennifer Huron asked about ARPA funds and the possible feasibility study for a Community Center at the current Consolidated School location. She encouraged residents to view the Consolidated School area to see the amount of use that this property gets.

First Selectman Del Monaco noted that she proposed a Community Center feasibility study not limited to this location. She spoke of the challenges for building a Community Center and noted that if approved, the bus lot would be limited to one part of the property. She further spoke of the uses for the ARPA funds and the working group for the ARPA funds.

**Sale of 32 Calverton Drive- Executive Session**

**Vote to appoint Ethics Committee- Executive Session**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:12pm to discuss the possible sale of 32 Calverton Drive and to discuss the appointment of an Ethics Committee and to invite Finance Director Olga Melnikov for the discussion of 32 Calverton Drive. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:41pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to proceed with the sale of town owned property located at 32 Calverton Drive and 39 Fulton Drive. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint an Ethics Committee as agreed in Executive Session. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Adjournment**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. Lori Beninson seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos