

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 14, 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  
Dr. Karen Fildes, Director of Technology  
Ed Sbordone, BOE/PBC member

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

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment-** None

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Selectman Khris Hall announced that the COVID vaccination clinic will be held at the High School Cafeteria on Saturday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 4pm. Anyone over the age of 6 months is eligible for the vaccine.

Selectman Lori Beninson thanked her fellow Selectmen for the Proclamation that she received in honor of the recognition that she received for her work as District Governor of the Lions Club.

**Proclamation for Ralph Langham**

Pat Del Monaco presented Ralph Langham with a Proclamation for his military service and thanked him for all his volunteer hours to the Town of New Fairfield. Selectman Khris Hall and Selectman Lori Beninson thanked Mr. Langham for all his hard work on behalf of the town. Mr. Langham thanked the entire BOS for this honor.

**Approval of Minutes**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of June 23, 2022 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Budget Transfers**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfers in the amount of \$3,520.00. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

| \$                | Transfer From            |                                  | \$                | Transfer To              |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| \$2,050.00        | 001-4161-0000-001/332.01 | Professional Services-Legal Land | \$2050.00         | 001-4161-0000-000/334.01 | Professional Services-Consulting     |
| \$660.00          | 001-4161-0000-001/332.01 | Professional Services-Legal Land | \$660.00          | 001-4161-0000-006/332.01 | Professional Services-Planning Legal |
| \$810.00          | 001-4161-0000-001/332.01 | Professional Services-Legal Land | \$810.00          | 001-4161-0000-007/332.01 | Professional Services-Zoning Legal   |
|                   |                          |                                  |                   |                          |                                      |
| <b>\$3,520.00</b> |                          |                                  | <b>\$3,520.00</b> |                          |                                      |

**Personnel Report**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated July 14, 2022 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Appointments**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Tom Edwards to the Parks and Rec Commission. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**New Business**

**Executive Session to discuss using 2021-2022 surplus for Cyber Security updates**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:46pm to discuss Cyber Security and to invite Dr. Karen Fildes, Paul Gouveia and Olga Melnikov into the Executive Session. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:25 pm. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Vote to amend the Hahlawah Rifle and Pistol club Use Agreement to include training exercises**

Hahlawah Rifle and Pistol Club President Anthony Yorio spoke of a possible amendment to the Hahlawah Rifle and Pistol club Use Agreement to add training classes for the Rifle Club. Currently, the permitted hours for the club are 10-12:30 on Sundays. The club is looking to amend the agreement so that the hours can be expanded so that safe firearm classes can be held. These classes would be approximately 8-9 hours long and would run on two consecutive days. The club is looking to expand the use permit by six days per calendar year. No more than 16 participants would be permitted for these classes.

Members of the BOS asked questions of Mr. Yorio regarding the type of firearms and the hours that the classes would take place. There was a discussion of possibly getting more information regarding these classes and the possibility of opening the classes to non-residents of New Fairfield. Eric Kuck invited anyone interested in touring the facility to contact him to make arrangements.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to table the consideration of the amendment to the Hahlawah Rifle and Pistol Club agreement until the next regular BOS meeting. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

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

**Vote to accept donations to the Police Department**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to accept a donation of \$500 to the Police Department from the Lisi family in memory of their daughter, Danielle and a donation of \$275 from the New Fairfield Lions Club to the Police Department. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

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

The entire BOS thanked both the Lisi family and the New Fairfield Lions Club for their support of the Police Department.

**Vote to amend ordinance Ch. 14, Solid Waste Management, Sec. 14-37 Voting procedures**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of an ordinance that allows the Town to be a member of HRRRA. This ordinance mirrors the HRRRA ordinance. This amendment changes the voting procedures to a “one town/one vote” structure instead of the current voting based on population of the town.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend ordinance Ch. 14, Solid Waste Management, Sec. 14-37 Voting procedures to reflect “one town/one vote” and to remove Section A which prorates the voting by population. Lori Beninson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Vote to appropriate \$22,500 from the 2021-2022 surplus to fund paramedic/ambulance service and \$5,000 for Police Department Vehicle**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of an increase from Nuvance Health for paramedic/ambulance service and the need to appropriate an additional \$5,000 for the Police Department Vehicle.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to recommend to the BOF an appropriation of \$22,500 from the 2021-2022 surplus to fund paramedic/ambulance services and an additional \$5,000 for Police Department Vehicle. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend the previous motion to include either from the 2021-2022 surplus or the unassigned fund balance. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

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

**Vote on motion as amended: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Communications Center Staffing**

There was a discussion of staffing for the Communications Center including response times, moving the dispatch to Newtown and the hours of the dispatch workers. An advisory committee was put together to research the options for the dispatch center and they recommended keeping the dispatch center in town. The BOS noted that they would be willing to keep the dispatch center in town as long as there is more than one person at a time at the center and the length of the shifts are shortened. The additional cost of these staffing changes would be approximately \$60,000 per year.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to maintain the Communications Center in New Fairfield and recommend an appropriation of \$58,000 to fund additional Communications Center staffing from the 2021-2022 surplus or the unassigned fund balance to the BOF. Lori Beninson seconded the motion.

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

It was decided that the BOS will review call response times and part-time staffing levels for the Communications Center in six months.

#### **Vote to prioritize ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Projects**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of ARPA funds and the unique opportunity that they provide to invest in the town's future. She thanked everyone involved in the ARPA working group and their ideas for the best uses of these funds. She noted that her top priority of these funds would be the Business/Commercial Sewers for the town and the cost of the replacement of the current septic systems in necessary. The ARPA funds would provide the money for the design, easements and permits for the sewers. She also spoke of the importance of the Company A Firehouse renovation.

Pat Del Monaco suggested removing the upgrade of the vault for the Town Clerk's office from the ARPA list and considering applying for a STEAP grant for this project.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to include the following projects for consideration for ARPA funding: Business/Commercial Sewer, Ball Pond Drainage, Company A Firehouse Renovation, Police/Town Building Security, Beach House Renovation, Emergency Housing Fund, Community Center Feasibility Study, Small Business Grants, Hazard Pay for Public Health and Safety employees, Fire Marshal vehicle and Communications Center Equipment. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

#### **Vote on potential sale of property at 32 Calverton Drive- Executive Session**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to go into Executive Session at 9:37pm to discuss the potential sale of the property at 32 Calverton Drive and to invite Olga Melnikov into the Executive Session. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 9:39 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to set the date of August 3, 2022 at 7:15 pm for a Public Hearing regarding the sale of the property located at 32 Calverton Drive to Brandon Turco and Christy Gotto. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

#### **Public Comment**

Terra Volpe spoke in support of using the ARPA funds for the sewer study and rebuilding the Beach House.

#### **Adjournment**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos

*BOS- Minutes*  
07/14/22

Received by email on 07/18/2022 @ 9:08 a.m.  
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield