

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, January 11, 2024
7:30 PM
Via Zoom

Members present:

Melissa Lindsey, First Selectman
Pat Del Monaco, Selectman
Tom Perkins, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Shareen Langdon, Tax Collector
Ed Sbordone, BOE/PBC Member
Anita Brown, Housing Opportunities Chairman
Kathy Hull, Housing Opportunities member
Claudia Willard, BOF Member
Sue Huwer, BOE Member
Don Kellogg, PBC Chairman
Elisa Beckett-Flores, Registrar of Voters

Call To Order First Selectman Melissa Lindsey called the meeting to order at 7:32pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Olivia Micca spoke of concerns with a lack of transparency by some members of the Board of Selectmen and specifically mentioned the recent decision regarding the bus lot and not including certain town officials in the Executive Session. Lastly, she noted concerns that the Town Tribune column is not being used appropriately.

Correspondence and Announcements

First Selectman Melissa Lindsey thanked the Public Works Department and First Responders for their hard work during the recent storms. She further noted that the Selectmen's office received a complimentary note regarding the Social Services Department and thanked them for all their hard work.

Approval of Minutes

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 14, 2023. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Budget Transfers

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfer of \$2,567.00. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$1,067.00	001-4210-0003-000/130.03	Police-DARE Overtime	\$1,067.00	001-4210-0004-000/130.04	Police-Training Overtime
\$1,000.00	001-4210-0000-000/742.00	Police-Vehicle Maintenance	\$1,000.00	001-4210-0004-000/130.04	Police-Training Overtime
\$500.00	001-4210-0000-000/430.07	Police-Equipment Maintenance	\$500.00	001-4210-0004-000/130.04	Police-Training Overtime
\$2,567.00			\$2,567.00		

Approve Tax Refunds recommended by the Tax Collector

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the Tax Collector’s refund requests for January 11, 2024 totaling \$3,931.05 as presented. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Personnel Report

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the Personnel Report for January 11, 2024 as presented. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Appointments

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to table the appointments to the Ball Pond Advisory Committee and to the Candlewood Lake Authority until the next regular BOS meeting. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to appoint Mark Havira as an alternate member of the Permanent Building Committee. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Pat Del Monaco opposed)**

There was a discussion of Mr. Havira’s background and whether it fit in with the other members of the Permanent Building Committee.

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to reappoint Pat Del Monaco as a member of the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA). The term of this reappointment is from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-0-1 (Motion approved- Pat Del Monaco abstained)**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to appoint Melissa Lindsey as an alternate member of the Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA). Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-0-1 (Motion approved- Melissa Lindsey abstained)**

Old Business- None

New Business

Additional Appropriation for the Registrar of Voters

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to make the following Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$14,368.00 for the Registrar of Voters (TOWN MEETING NOT REQUIRED). Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Registrar of Voters Elisa Beckett-Flores explained updates to the voting process including early voting that will cause a shortfall to the salary budget for the Registrar of Voters. She further noted

that the expenses for the third budget vote for the 2023-2024 budget was included in the 2023-2024 budget thus creating a shortfall.

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$14,368.00	001/R3421010	General Fund-Sale of Equipment	\$9,868.00	001-4140-0000-000/110.00	ROV- Salaries
			\$1,500.00	001-4140-0000-000/610.00	ROV -M&S
				001-4140-0000-000/105.00	ROV-Elected Salaries
\$14,368.00			\$14,368.00		

Additional Appropriation for Public Works Truck and Police vehicles

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to make the following Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$330,000.00 (TOWN MEETING REQUIRED). Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$245,000.00	001-E25321	General Fund-Unreserved	\$245,000.00	301-4330-0000-000/742.03	Cap & Non-Public Works Trucks and Equipment
\$8,500.00	001-E25321	General Fund-Unreserved	\$8,500.00	301-4210-0000-000/742.02	Cap & Non-Police
\$330,000.00			\$330,000.00		

Vote on Fiscal Year 2024-2025 BOS budget

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to BOS 2024-2025 proposed budget. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Vote on Housing Opportunities Committee Consultant

Chairman of the Housing Opportunities Committee Anita Brown spoke of the need to extend the contract for the consultant for the Housing Opportunities Committee. She spoke of the role of the consultant and specific guidance and information that the consultant has provided. Members of the BOS asked questions about the consultant.

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to extend the Housing Opportunities Committee Consultant through the end of 2024. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Public Comment

Kathy Hull spoke in support of the Housing Opportunities Committee consultant.

Khris Hall spoke of her disappointment with the BOS not appointing Jeff Main to the Candlewood Lake Authority and encouraged an appointment for Mr. Main in the near future. She also spoke in agreement with Selectman Del Monaco regarding the appointment of Mr. Havira to the Permanent Building Committee and noted that the expertise of the current PBC led to the successful building of two new schools. Finally, Ms. Hall spoke in support of the purchase of new Public Works trucks and equipment and encouraged everyone to support it at the Town Meeting.

Elisa Beckett-Flores spoke of the time sensitivity of ordering new ballots and asked that the transfer be put on the BOF agenda as soon as possible.

Tom Quigley encouraged the BOS to advise the respective chairmen and include them in the interview process when appointing new members to boards and commissions.

Christine Garabo spoke of her frustration with the traffic at the new Meeting House Hill/Consolidated School. She noted that she supports the appointment of Mr. Havira to the Permanent Building Committee.

Adjournment

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Kloos

Received by email on 01/16/2024 @ 10:13 a.m.
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield