

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 25, 2024**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Community Room at 33 Route 37**

**Members present:**

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

**Other Town Officials Present:**

Shareen Langdon, Tax Collector  
Bruce Taylor, Fire Chief  
Steve Immarigeon, Squantz Fire Department member  
Dan McDermott, Registrar of Voters

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**

Planning Commission Chairman Cynthia Ross-Zweig spoke of concerns possible errors in the building of the new high school and a potential propane issue at the high school. She referred to a discussion at a Permanent Building Committee meeting. She asked to receive copies of all invoices relating to the building project to ensure that the town is not being charged to remediate the errors.

Selectman Pat Del Monaco noted that any errors would be covered by the “Errors and Omissions” clause in the contract.

**Correspondence and Announcements**

First Selectman Melissa Lindsey announced the Budget referendum will be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> from 10am to 8pm at the Senior Center.

The Lions Club will host an Earth Day event at the Senior Center on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.

There is a survey on the Town’s website asking residents for their preference for how they would like to receive information from the town with the options being, email, social media, text, phone call, newspaper, town bulletin board, or in-person meeting. Residents are encouraged to fill out this survey as soon as possible.

**Approval of Minutes**

Tom Perkins made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 11, 2024 and special meetings of April 11, 2024 and April 18, 2024. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion.

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

**Budget Transfers**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$4,500.00. Melissa Lindsey seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$1,500.00	001-4154-0000-000/331.00	Tax Collector-Delinquent Tax Collection Fees	\$1,500.00	001-4154-0000-000/610.00	Tax Collector-M&S
\$3,000.00	001-4161-0000-005/332.01	Legal-Health	\$3,000.00	001-4161-0000-007/332.01	Legal-Zoning
<b>\$4,500.00</b>			<b>\$4,500.00</b>		

**Approve Tax Refunds recommended by the Tax Collector**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Tax Collector’s refund requests for April 25, 2024 totaling \$20,722.13 as presented. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Personnel Report**

Tom Perkins made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated April 25, 2024 as presented. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

The entire BOS thanked Derrek Guertin for his years of service as the Fire Marshal and wished him well in his future endeavors.

**Appointments**- None

**Old Business**- None

**New Business**

**Vote to allow First Selectman to lock in electricity rates**

Melissa Lindsey noted that CCM will go out to bid on behalf of the town to lock in electricity rates.

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to allow the First Selectman to lock in electricity rates. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Squantz Pond Firehouse elevator project**

Melissa Lindsey spoke of an issue with the new elevator at Squantz Pond Firehouse with the path of egress is too small.

Squantz Firehouse President Steve Immarigeon spoke of the issue with the egress and options to fix the problem. It was noted that the cost of repairs would be approximately \$4,500. There was a brief discussion among the BOS about the possibility of getting a waiver from the State or the possibility of using the Building Repair Reserve Fund for this purpose. Melissa Lindsey asked to be kept up to date on this project so that next steps can be decided.

Fire Chief Bruce Taylor asked why the project was signed off multiple times before a problem was discovered.

**HRRR By-laws amendment**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of the voting progress for HRRR and their request to change from a system based on the unit voting to a simple majority. She noted that this system will be a benefit to New Fairfield. The process to change the voting system would be to have the BOS approve the change which they must go to a Town Meeting vote.

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to accept the language change for the HRRR By-laws amendment. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

#### **Vote on authorizing Resolution for 2024 EMPG Grant**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to accept the following authorizing resolution:

CERTIFICATION:

I, Holly Z. Smith, the Town Clerk of the Town of New Fairfield, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Selectmen at its duly called and held meeting on April 25, 2024 at which a quorum was present and acting throughout, and that the resolution has not been modified, rescinded, or revoked and is at present in full force and effect:

RESOLVED, that the Town of New Fairfield may enter with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, any and all documents which deems to be necessary or appropriate; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Melissa Lindsey, as First Selectman of the Town of New Fairfield is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the Town of New Fairfield and to do and perform all acts and things which she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents.

The undersigned further certifies that Melissa Lindsey now holds the office of First Selectman and that she has held the office since November 21, 2023.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF: The undersigned has executed this certificate this 25<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.

Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Melissa Lindsey thanked OEM Director Maria Evans for pursuing this grant on behalf of the town.

#### **Public Comment**

Cynthia Ross-Zweig spoke of the Squantz Firehouse elevator project and noted that the construction company should be held liable for any problems. She further spoke of the need for the Permanent Building Committee to inspect all town buildings on a regular basis.

John McCartney thanked the BOS for supporting the Squantz Fire Department

#### **Adjournment**

Tom Perkins made a motion to accept meeting at 8:01 pm. Melissa Lindsey seconded the motion.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos