

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 23, 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:**

Claudia Willard, BOF member

**Call To Order** First Selectman Melissa Lindsey called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment-** None

**Correspondence and Announcements**

First Selectman Melissa Lindsey announced that New Fairfield Veterans will hold a Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 27 at 11:00 am at the Town Green

**Approval of minutes**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2024 regular meeting and the May 17, 2024 special meeting as presented. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

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

**Budget Transfers**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve Intra-Departmental transfers in the total amount of \$90,577.00. Tom Perkins seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Selectman Pat Del Monaco noted that this is the second consecutive year that a transfer was necessary for Fire Department Maintenance and Repair and suggested that a higher amount be considered in the next budget.

**Approve Tax Collections recommended by the Tax Collector**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the Tax Collector's refund requests for May 23, 2024 totaling \$461.18 as presented. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

## **Personnel Report**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the Personnel Report with the addition of Kyle Thomas as a Waterfront Director and a change of the date from May 16, 2024 to May 23, 2024. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Pat Del Monaco opposed)**

Pat Del Monaco expressed concerns of the change from full-time Fire Marshal to part-time Fire Marshal. She commended Mr. Alward on his qualifications but noted concern with his ability to be available in New Fairfield due to other job commitments.

The BOS noted that they are sorry to see both Cara Hernandez and Olga Melnikov leave New Fairfield and wished them well in their future endeavors.

## **Appointments**

### **Board of Finance Alternate**

Melissa Lindsey noted that she received letters of intent from three applicants for the Board of Finance alternate position. (Jeff Alviti, Patrick Hearty and Rick Regan).

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to appoint Patrick Hearty as an alternate member of the Board of Finance. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Pat Del Monaco opposed)**

There was a discussion of the qualifications of the applicants and their involvement with the Board of Finance. Pat Del Monaco asked that this motion be tabled until more information can be obtained about Mr. Hearty.

## **Old Business**

### **Vote to accept donation for Animal Control Flooring**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to accept the donation of \$1,436.82 from Colonial Carpet and Flooring for the new flooring at the entryway at the Animal Control building. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

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

### **Vote to accept donation for Animal Control Gravel**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to accept the donation of two yards of pea gravel to be used for the dog yard at New Fairfield Animal Control from Firmino and Paula Rodrigues. The cost of the gravel is \$73 per year plus a \$65 delivery fee for a total of \$211.00. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

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

### **Vote to accept donation of Landscaping**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to accept the donation from Apex Horticulture of landscaping around the New Fairfield Town sign at four corners intersection outside the library with a value of \$1,000.

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

### **Vote on Economic Development Commission recommendation on ARPA Small Business grants**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve an ARPA Small Business Grant in the amount of \$5,000 to Integrity Imaging. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Vote to approve the Warning and set the date for the Special Town Meeting**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to approve the following Warning for a Special Town Meeting:

Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Town of New Fairfield and those qualified to vote at Town Meetings that a Town Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 at 7:00 pm at the Senior Center Community Room at 33 Route 37, New Fairfield, CT for the following purposes.

1. To consider and act upon the appropriation of Town Government Expenditures totaling \$14,105,707 from the General Fund, and \$539,455 from the Capital and Non-Recurring Fund, and \$2,499,112 from other Governmental Funds, as recommended by the Board of Finance, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.
2. To consider and act upon the appropriation of Education Expenditures totaling \$54,921,776 from the General Fund, and \$119,577 from the Capital and Non-Recurring Fund, as recommended by the Board of Finance, for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.
3. To consider and act upon the advisory questions “do you feel the Town Budget is too high or too low” and “do you feel the Education Budget is too high or too low.”

Further notice is hereby given that the Board of Selectmen, acting pursuant to and in reliance on Section 7-7 of the Connecticut General Statutes, has removed Item #1 & #2 & #3 for submission to the voters by machine vote and shall be no earlier than seven (7) days, and no later than fourteen (14) days after May 29, 2024 and further provided that such time shall be no less than the hours of 12:00 Noon to 8:00 pm.

Dated at New Fairfield, Connecticut this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 2024.

Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Public Comment**

John McCartney noted that he was disappointed by the loss of Town employees Cara Hernandez and Olga Melnikov. He further spoke of his concerns with the choice to fill the BOF alternate vacancy and encouraged future appointments to be done in a nonpartisan fashion.

### **Adjournment**

Melissa Lindsey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 pm. Tom Perkins seconded the motion.

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Kloos

Received by email on 05/30/2024 @ 8:30 a.m.  
by Chrystie M. Bontempo, Asst. Town Clerk, New Fairfield