

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
January 11, 2007
7:30 PM
High School Library

Members present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Peggy Katkocin, Selectman
Ron Oliveri, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed McCue, Fire Chief
Various members of the New Fairfield Fire Dept.
Bob Rawlings, PBC Chairman

Call To Order First Selectman John Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence and Announcements

First Selectman John Hodge wished everyone a "Happy New Year" on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

John Hodge spoke about the milfoil on Candlewood Lake. The Candlewood Lake Authority has asked that residents pull the milfoil themselves now while the lake is still down.

Selectman Ron Oliveri spoke about a grant application for the Housatonic Natural Resource Restoration project. This is in regard to the G.E. settlement for the pollution of the Housatonic River. Mr. Oliveri thanked Bill McCann, Tom Quigley and Ernest Fabrizio Garcia for all their help with this project.

Ron Oliveri thanked all who wished him well during his surgery in December.

Public Comment

Art Azzarito spoke on behalf of the veterans in New Fairfield and proposed raising the Veterans Tax Exemption from \$6,000 to \$10,000.

Joe Moore spoke about "Groovin in New Fairfield". There will be a showcase on Saturday, January 27, 2007 at the Senior Center. For more information go to groovinnewfairfield.com

Greg Moore expressed his concern regarding the timing of the referendum on December 20, 2006.

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2006 Public Hearing and the minutes of the December 14, 2006 Regular meeting as presented. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-1 (Motion approved)-Ron Oliveri abstained

Amendment to the Agenda

John Hodge made a motion to amend the agenda to move item #11 (Acceptance of Gifts) to item #4A, item #13 (Discuss and possibly vote to approve the formation of a sub-committee of the Permanent Building Committee) to item #4B and item #12 (Discuss and Possibly vote on "ALERTNOW") to item #6A. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Acceptance of Gifts

President of the New Fairfield Thrift Shop Linda Wise presented the BOS with two grants. These grants were for the Senior Center and for Groovin in New Fairfield.

John Hodge made a motion to accept the following donations from the New Fairfield Community thrift shop subject to the written agreement between Park & Recreation & Groovin in New Fairfield.

1. A donation of \$4568.25 for the purchase of sound equipment to be used for Groovin in New Fairfield events as well as Park & Recreation events.
2. A donation of \$1500 to be used to purchase computer equipment and software designed for Senior Centers to provide client tracking, billing, events, etc.

Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

John Hodge made a motion to amend the previous motion to end with the final words "approve the expenditures thereof". Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote to amend motion: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on Mr. Hodge's motion after amendment

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

First Selectman Hodge thanked the Thrift Shop for their generous donations.

Formation of subcommittee of the Permanent Building Committee

Permanent Building Committee Chairman Bob Rawlings spoke about the formation of a subcommittee of the Permanent Building Committee. This subcommittee would consist of one member of the BOE, one member of the BOS, one member of the BOF, one member of the PBC and one taxpayer. There was a discussion of the specific role of the subcommittee. It was decided to look into the specific role of the subcommittee and put it on the agenda for the next BOS meeting of January 25th.

Fire Apparatus replacement schedule

Fire Chief Ed McCue made a presentation to the BOS regarding the revised Fire Apparatus Replacement Schedule. This presentation spoke of needed apparatus in the future. Mr. McCue thanked the BOS for their support of the Fire Dept.

John Hodge made a motion that it is the intention of the Board of Selectmen to commit to recommending contributions of not less than \$212,500 per year to the Town's Capital and

Nonrecurring fund (New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept's reserve fund) beginning with the fiscal year 2007-2008 to the fiscal year 2023-2024. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting an appropriation of \$1,175,000 for the purchase of three Fire Vehicles to replace Engine 6, Tanker 5 and Engine 13 and to authorize the issuance of bonds in the same amount, as well as, making the temporary borrowing for such purpose repayment of \$1,175,000 of bonds will be paid solely from the New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept. reserve fund at a rate of not less than \$89,000 per year. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments-

Ron Oliveri made a motion to reappoint Reggie Lambrech to the Youth Commission. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Steve Merullo to the Permanent Building Committee to replace John Arizzi until Mr. Arizzi's term expires on June 30, 2007. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

"ALERT NOW"

John Hodge spoke about a system called "ALERT NOW" that will notify residents in town via telephone in a matter of minutes. This system has the capability to call up to 6,000 telephone numbers per minute. This system could be used in case of an emergency or to notify residents of something going on in town.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the "ALERT NOW" agreement for the Town of New Fairfield as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to make an Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,000 **from** line item #4220-610 (Fire Co. Dept. M&S) **to** line item # 4220-430-1 (Fire Co. Maintenance & Repair) also in the amount of \$5,000 for Pump Testing and to transfer \$3,000 **from** line item #4215-112 (Dispatch P/T Salaries) **to** line item # 4215-660 (ALERT NOW) also in the amount of \$3,000 for a total transfer of \$8,000. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Legal Update

John Hodge noted that the Legal budget is doing well.

Human Resource Personnel Report-

John Hodge made a motion to accept the Human Resource Personnel report dated January 11, 2007 as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Police Update

John Hodge announced that the Police Dept. is still very strong from a monetary standpoint. There will hopefully be another officer starting sometime in April.

Amendment to the Agenda John Hodge made a motion to amend the agenda to move item #15 (Public Comment) to item #13A. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public comment

Cheryl Reedy spoke about the Hauler License One Stop Shopping and asked if anyone had any questions.

Greg Moore wished the men and women of the Armed Forces a very “Happy New Year”

Executive Session John Hodge made a motion to go into executive session at 8:55pm to discuss potential litigation. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Peggy Katkocin made a motion to come out of executive session at 9:10pm. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign a release to resolve pending litigation subject to Town Counsel’s approval. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Peggy Katkocin made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to pay amount discussed in executive session in order to resolve the pending litigation. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

General Discussion: Items brought up by Selectmen for future agendas

None

Adjournment

John Hodge made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:11pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos