

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, April 12, 2007
7:30 PM
High School Library

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Fire Chief, Ed McCue
Various Fire Dept. members
Steve Merullo, Parks and Rec Director
Jay Waterman, Finance Dept.
Ed Sbordone, Finance Dept.

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 announced that there will be a Public Hearing on Friday, April 13th at 7:00pm. in the High School library to discuss the Senior Center project

John Hodge announced that the BOF voted on a budget at their April 11th meeting. Such budget has an increase from last year of 1.32%. A Town meeting date will be set at the Board of Selectmen meeting on April 13th.

John Hodge spoke of a request from the Parks and Rec commission for \$150,000 from the Capital and Nonrecurring account for restrooms by the Rebel field. Mr. Hodge announced that he received a letter from a local resident offering to build a concession stand at his expense which will become a town owned building. Such resident would lease it back from the town at no expense until he recoups his initial investment back. Such resident would be the sole and exclusive operator of this concession area.

Selectman Ron Oliveri spoke of the Housatonic Restoration Project grant application. An application was sent on behalf of New Fairfield. This project is to rehabilitate areas that have been impacted by a contamination release from General Electric. Mr. Oliveri noted that the town may receive up to \$650,000 in grant money.

Public Comment None

Approval of Minutes

Ron Oliveri made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2007 and April 5, 2007 meetings as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Amendment to Agenda

John Hodge made a motion to add item #4A, Discuss and vote on approval of purchase of an ambulance from Fire Dept. Apparatus Reserve fund and to discuss tax abatement. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Fire Dept. Apparatus Reserve Fund

Fire Chief Ed McCue read a letter to the Board of Selectmen from the Fire Dept requesting the release of \$93,962.25 for the purchase of an ambulance.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the release from the Apparatus Reserve Fund in the amount of \$93,962.25 for the purchase of an ambulance for Company A Fire Dept. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Fire Dept. Tax abatement

Rich Kalinka from the New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept. spoke of the tax abatement for the Fire Dept. Mr. Kalinka spoke of some changes for the residency clause. He suggested changing the clause from “any eligible resident to any eligible property owner” to accommodate property owners who may not live in town. Mr. Kalinka also suggested a slight change to the ordinance to accommodate two firefighters living in the same house. John Hodge noted that he will forward this information to Town Counsel.

Acceptance of Gifts

John Hodge read a letter from the Pepsi Bottling Company regarding their donation in the amount of \$10,000 for equipment for the drive-in movies at Squantz Pond. Mr. Hodge thanked Parks and Rec Director Steve Merullo for all his work with acquiring this donation.

John Hodge made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting the acceptance of a \$10,000 donation from the Pepsi Bottling Co. to be used for the purpose of buying equipment for the drive-in movies at Squantz Pond. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Generator Replacement for Ball Pond

Peggy Katkocin made a motion to table agenda item #6 (Discuss and possibly vote on Generator Replacement for Ball Pond). Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Sonneborn Estates

John Hodge noted that he received a letter from Town Engineer Tony Iadarola suggesting reducing the bond for Sonneborn Estates.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the reduction of the existing bond for Sonneborn Estates in the amount of \$371,185 to be reduced by \$246,562 to the amount of \$124,623. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Mutual Aid Agreement

John Hodge spoke of the “Mutual Aid Agreement” which provides for mutual aid with surrounding towns if necessary due to a fire. Town Counsel has reviewed this agreement.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Mutual Aid Agreement for additional fire protection for the Town of New Fairfield. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint Richard Stroh as a delegate to the Candlewood Lake Authority. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the personnel report as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget transfers

John Hodge made a motion to make an Inter-Departmental transfer **from** line item# 4161-332-8 (ZBA legal) in the amount of \$155.25 and line item #4150-110 (Finance Salaries) in the amount of \$10,000 **to** line item #4193-110 (ZBA Salaries) in the amount of \$155.25 and line item # 4195-620-5 (Town Properties-Fuel Oil) in the amount of \$10,000 for a total transfer of \$10,155.25. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting) Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to make an Intra-Department transfer **from** line item # 4220-110 (Fire Dept. salaries) in the amount of \$2,000, line item # 4220-740-2 (Fire Dept. Hydrants) in the amount of \$1500, line item # 4220-610 (Fire Dept. supplies) in the amount of \$5,000 and line item # 4161-332-0007 (Legal Zoning) in the amount of \$1,000 **to** line item #4220-430-1 (Fire Dept. maintenance and repairs) in the amount of \$8,500 and line item # 4161-332-006 (Legal Planning) in the amount of \$1,000 for a total transfer of \$9,500.00. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment None

General Discussion: Items brought up by Selectmen for Future Agendas

Ron Oliveri spoke of Governor Rell's budget and the impact to New Fairfield. Ron Oliveri further spoke of the budget that was approved by the Board of Finance the previous evening.

John Hodge thanked Phil Cammarano, Linda Fahrina, Jay Waterman and the entire Finance Department for all their hard work with the budget.

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10m. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)