

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, May 10, 2007
7:30 PM
High School Library

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Steve Merullo, Parks and Rec Director
Dana Wells, New Fairfield Community Foundation

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence and Announcements

Selectman Peggy Katkocin spoke of a POD (Point of Distribution) exercise that was held on Saturday, May 5th. This was a drill that was done in conjunction with the Town of Sherman to practice what to do in the event of a pandemic. Selectman Katkocin thanked the many volunteers that helped on Saturday and encouraged residents to volunteer in the future. First Selectman Hodge also thanked the volunteers from Saturday.

First Selectman John Hodge announced that Town Hall will have a tabletop exercise on Friday, May 11th.

John Hodge announced that “Alert Now” was used twice in the last couple of weeks and has proven to be very valuable. Mr. Hodge encouraged residents to call the dispatch office at 312-5719 to sign up for “Alert Now”.

Mr. Hodge announced that the budget passed on all four agenda items at the referendum on Saturday, May 5th.

Mr. Hodge announced that there will be a “Household Hazardous” waste day on Saturday, May 19th from 9am to 2pm at the Newtown Public Works Garage. A complete list of eligible items will be in listed in the Citizen News.

John Hodge spoke of a meeting with the DEP regarding Squantz Pond. Mr. Hodge thanked Mary Ann Carson, David Cappiello and Jan Giegler for their work with Squantz Pond. Two full time officers will be hired in the park and extra lifeguards will be hired for the summer.

John Hodge announced that approximately 100 phone calls were received from residents regarding damage in their homes due to the April 15th Nor’easter. The Town is still waiting to hear from FEMA regarding the Nor’easter.

John Hodge announced that he attended the “Friends of the Senior Center” breakfast on May 10th. Jeanette Sweeney was awarded the “Senior Citizen of the year” award at the breakfast.

Selectman Ron Oliveri thanked the voters for their support with the budget. Selectman Oliveri thanked Selectman Katkocin for all her hard work with the Emergency Pandemic drill.

Selectman Oliveri thanked First Selectman John Hodge for all his hard work with the Senior Center.

Public Comment- Parks and Rec Director Steve Merullo spoke of the summer programs and day camps offered through Parks and Rec. Mr. Merullo announced that the Parks and Rec Dept and Social Services Director Cindy White would like to help out families that may need financial assistance in paying for the programs.

Approval of Minutes

Ron Oliveri made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2007 meeting as presented. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to recommend to a Town Meeting acceptance of a grant from New Fairfield Community Foundation

Dana Wells read a letter from the New Fairfield Community Foundation giving a grant to the Parks and Recreation Department for the purchase of movie equipment.

John Hodge made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting a gift to the Parks and Recreation movie program from the New Fairfield Community Foundation in the amount of \$21,500. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

First Selectman Hodge thanked Dana Wells and the New Fairfield Community Foundation for this generous donation. The first movie will be "Grease" on Friday, June 15th.

Vote to recommend to a Town Meeting proposed amendments to Code of Ordinances regarding Tax Abatement for NFVFD.

First Selectman Hodge spoke of proposed changes to the Tax Abatement Ordinances for Firefighters. These changes would give a tax abatement to New Fairfield property owners that don't necessarily live in Town and also give an equal Tax Abatement to firefighters that live in the same household.

John Hodge made a motion to recommend to a Town Meeting to adopt a proposed amendment to the Code of Ordinances regarding tax abatement for the New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the First Selectman to sign the "memo of understanding" for participation in the FY 2007 Emergency Management Performance Grant program

John Hodge spoke of grants that will allow the Town to recoup money for stipends, office supplies and phones for Emergency Management.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the "Memo of Understanding" for participation in the 2007 Emergency Management Performance Grant program. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Historic Document Preservation Grant

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute a contract regarding a Historic Documents Preservation Grant. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Police Dept. Oil Spill remediation

John Hodge spoke of "LFR" that was hired to represent the Town on the Oil spill at the Police Station. DEP would like some more investigating, but now are willing to allow the town through "LFR" to go into a volunteer remediation program.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to execute an agreement on the remediation of environmental conditions of Fire Dept. and the Police Station as a result of the oil spill and/or oil tank removal subject to Environmental attorney approval. Peggy Katkocin 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 \$489.88 **from** line item #4120-342 (Town Clerk-Ordinance) **to** line item #4120-610 (Town Clerk-Maintenance and supplies) also in the amount of \$489.88 and **from** line item #4450-441 (Senior Center Lease) in the amount of \$2,000 **to** line item #4450-620 (Senior Center Utilities) also in the amount of \$2,000 for a total transfer of \$2,489.88. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to make an Inter-Departmental transfer **from** line item #4193-110 (ZBA legal) in the amount of \$195.75 **to** line item #4193-110 (ZBA Salaries) in the amount of \$195.75 and **from** line item #4160-140 (Salary Adjustments) in the amount of \$500.00 **to** line item #4193-110 (ZBA Salaries) in the amount of \$500.00 and **from** line item #4160-140 (Salary Adjustments) in the amount of \$300.00 **to** line item #4193-610 (ZBA Materials and Supplies) in the amount of \$300.00 and **from** line item #4160-140 (Salary Adjustments) in the amount of \$5,000.00 **to** line item #4220-620-2 (Squantz Utilities) in the amount of \$5,000.00 and **from** line item #4150-110 (Finance Salaries) in the amount of \$5,500.00 **to** line item #4195-620-2 (Fire Company Utilities) in the amount of \$5,500.00 and **from** line item #4150-110 (Finance Salaries) in the amount of \$13,000.00 **to** line item #4195-620-3 (Town Properties-Electric) in the amount of \$13,000.00 for a total transfer of \$24,495.75. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to re-appoint Tom Quigley as a member of the Water Pollution Control Authority. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment- None

General Discussion: Items brought up by Selectmen for future agendas - None

Executive Session

John Hodge made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:25pm to discuss a personnel issue and appointment of an alternate member to the Board of Finance. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Ron Oliveri made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:58pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointment to the Board of Finance

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Jane Landers as an alternate member to the Board of Finance. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Peggy Katkocin opposed)

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:01 pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)