

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, June 14, 2007
7:30 PM
High School Library

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

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

Pledge of Allegiance

“State of the Town address”

First Selectman John Hodge gave a “State of the Town” address where he described many accomplishments, milestones and improvements made to the town over the last eighteen months. Mr. Hodge thanked many residents for all their hard work and volunteer hours with for the town. Citations were given to Dom’s Garden Center, Claire and Melissa Luks and Civil Engineer Ralph Gallagher. A Proclamation was given to Boy Scout Neil Craven for saving his friend’s life that was choking.

Correspondence and Announcements

John Hodge spoke of some bear sightings in town. Mr. Hodge encouraged residents to go to the DEP website to learn the basic dos and don’ts for spotting a bear.

John Hodge thanked Dr. Castagnola and the school administration and teachers for such a smooth evacuation on Tuesday, June 12th.

John Hodge spoke of the “water meal” on Williams Pond and announced that the town is working to resolve this issue.

John Hodge spoke about the FEMA assistance due to the Nor’easter of April 15th. FEMA will consider personal property damage and it is not too late to report damage. Anyone wishing to report damage should call the Selectman’s office at 312-5600.

John Hodge spoke of the new Town Hall hours effective July 1, 2007. Town Hall will be open from Monday thru Thursday from 8:30am to 5:00pm and on Friday’s from 8:30am to noon. Town Hall

will no longer be open on Saturdays. Mr. Hodge noted that he is hopeful that many town forms and information will be available through the town website.

Selectman Ron Olivieri spoke of a Driver's safety refresher course for residents 62 and over at the Senior Center. This course is a four hour class and will be held on two days for two hours each. Residents who take this class may be entitled to up to a 5% discount on car insurance. The date for this class is Tuesday, June 19th and Thursday, June 21st. Anyone wishing additional information can call Kathy Hull at the Senior Center.

John Hodge announced that Friday, June 15th will be the first drive-in movie of the summer. The movie will be "Grease" and will start at dusk with the park opening at 6:30pm.

Public comment

None

Amendment to Agenda

Ron Oliveri made a motion to amend the agenda to move item #7(Discuss and Possibly vote to approve the First Selectman to sign the Library Grant Application) to item #4A. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Library Grant Application

Linda Fox and Bob Rawlings (PBC Chairman) spoke of construction and improvements to the library.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign a resolution that resolves that the duly elected First Selectman of the Town of New Fairfield is empowered to apply for state public library construction grant and to execute and deliver the contract subject to Town meeting approval with the Connecticut State library, State of Connecticut for a state public library construction grant. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2007 meeting as presented. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

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

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2007 meeting as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Housatonic River Grant Application

Selectman Ron Oliveri spoke of a potential settlement of up to \$650,000 from the DEP (State of Connecticut) regarding a lawsuit from GE from pollution to the Housatonic River. Mr. Oliveri thanked Tom Quigley, Ernest Fabio-Garcia, Jeff Main, Bill McCain, John Hodge, Mary Ann Carson, Jan Giegler, David Cappiello, Phil Nelson and Steve Merullo Billy Shep and Kathy Hull.

Mr. Oliveri further thanked the many organizations in town that sent letters on behalf of this project. These organizations include Preserve New Fairfield, Inc., the Youth Commission (Reggie Lambrech), New Fairfield Land Trust, Dom's Garden Center and the New Fairfield Lions Club.

First Selectman Hodge thanked the entire team that is working on this project.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Housatonic River Grant Application. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint Bob Rawlings and Bob Mattarazzo as regular members of the Permanent Building Committee. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to the following increases for non union employees and elected officials effective July 1, 2007. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Legal Update

John Hodge made a motion to table this item until the next meeting. 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 \$5,100 **from** line item# 4220-610 (Fire Dept. materials and Supplies) **to** line item #4220-430-1 (Fire Co. maintenance and repairs) also in the amount of \$5,100 and **from** line item # 4210-110 (Police salaries) in the amount of \$49,000 **to** line item# 4210-317-3 (State trooper OT) also in the amount of \$49,000 and **from** line item #4160-140 (Salary adjustments) in the amount of \$9,600 **to** line item # 4215-110 (Comm.Center salaries) also in the amount of \$9,600 for a total transfer of \$63,700 (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 get approval to authorize an expenditure as a Town properties capital building reserve fund in the amount of \$6,500 to replace and repair the defective compressor at the Police Station. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment- None

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

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29 pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)