

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, July 12, 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

Correspondence and Announcements

First Selectman John Hodge announced that FERC has approved the Shoreline Management Plan. The Attorney General is looking into legal action on behalf of the residents. Mr. Hodge noted that residents that live on the lake that do not own a dock may want to apply for a dock as quickly as possible as they will soon no longer be able to. Anyone interested in information should contact the Selectmen's office.

John Hodge spoke of the condition of Sunswept Road and the process of nova chipping. Many residents of Sunswept have asked that the town not do nova chipping, but to wait until the road could be completely redone. Mr. Hodge noted that nova chipping works well and the town will go ahead with the nova chipping.

John Hodge spoke of the drowning at Squantz Pond on Tuesday, July 10th. Mr. Hodge stressed that his comments regarding the DEP in the paper had nothing to do with the Squantz Pond workers and the rescue workers. Mr. Hodge thanked the lifeguards, fire rescue workers and all the staff at Squantz Pond for a tremendous job done.

Change to Agenda

John Hodge made a motion to move item #6 (Discuss and possibly vote on approving consent order for a Town Center Water system) to item #11A and to have an executive session for the purpose of discussing the consent order and legal issues surrounding Squantz Pond. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Recognitions

John Hodge presented union workers Joe Rzasa, Ken Hall, Bucky Riehl and Russ Laden with recognitions for their hard work with the Public Works Department.

Public Comment

Bucky Riehl asked about the proposed “monument” at Squantz Pond.

Approval of Minutes

Ron Oliveri made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2007 regular meeting and the July 5, 2007 special meeting presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the personnel report as submitted. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Mr. Hodge announced that extra lifeguards have been hired for the Town Beach this year. Two saves have already happened this year. Mr. Hodge thanked the lifeguards for all their hard work.

Budget Transfers

None

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint William Tripp to the Parks and Rec commission. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint Janet Loya as an alternate to the Commission on the Aging. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public comment

None

General Discussion: Items to be brought up by Selectmen for future agendas

None

Executive Session

John Hodge made a motion to go into executive session at 7:55pm to discuss the proposed Town Center Water consent order and to discuss legal issues surrounding Squantz Pond. John Hodge invited Lee Sharp from the law firm of Halloran & Sage into executive session. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:50pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to explore all legal avenues with regard to Squantz Pond for the purpose of protecting our volunteer and hired emergency service workers due to the numerous emergencies at Squantz Pond some of which probably could have been avoided and protecting the safety of the visitors to the park. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

A discussion ensued about the safety measures at Squantz Pond and the DEP. Mr. Hodge once again thanked the staff at Squantz Pond and the emergency personnel that were on duty on Tuesday.

Mr. Hodge reminded residents of the “drive-in” movie “Madagascar” tomorrow night, July 13th at Squantz Pond.

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:59 pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)