

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen/Board of Finance Joint Meeting
Thursday, April 5, 2007
6:30 PM
High School Library

Board of Selectmen members present:

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

Also present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Dept.

Board of Finance members present:

Joe Hart, Chairman
Bob Burke
Lucy DiRocco (left 7:15)
Ron Graiff
Wes Marsh
Art Azzarito (Alternate)
Roger Wise (Alternate)

Not present:

Mike Cockburn
Bob Carbone

Call to Order

Board of Finance Chairman Joe Hart called the Board of Finance portion to order at 6:30pm.
First Selectman John Hodge called the Board of Selectman portion to order at 6:31pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Presentation of Senior Center Design and Construction Costs

First Selectman Hodge gave a presentation and showed floor plans for the proposed Senior Center. Such floor plans include a great room/multi purpose room and storage areas. The great room could also be used for Town meetings, etc.

Request for an appropriation of \$900,000 for Senior Center Construction

Funds needed from the town for the Senior Center are approximately \$900,000. Mr. Hodge explained the costs savings of what the town is currently paying in rent vs. buying and gave a 20-year projection of savings. Over a twenty year period, the town can expect to save approximately \$1 million in buying vs. renting a Senior Center.

Mr. Hodge opened the meeting to his fellow Selectmen to ask questions regarding the presentation.

The meeting was then opened to the members of the Board of Finance to ask questions regarding the presentation and the appropriation for the Senior Center costs. There was a discussion regarding whether or not the Board of Finance was prepared to vote on this issue at this meeting. Many members of the Board of Finance expressed their desire to have some time to come with questions regarding the costs of the Senior Center. It was decided to allow the Board of Finance members to have until 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 11th to submit questions to the First Selectmen regarding the Senior Center. The Board of Finance members will be copied on the questions that are submitted. There will be a Board of Finance meeting on Friday, April 13th at 7:00pm to go over the questions submitted by the Board of Finance.

There was a discussion as to the timing of the meetings and Public Hearing. It is desired to have the Senior Center vote with the same referendum with the 2007/2008 budget referendum.

Public Comment

Many members of the public spoke in support of the Senior Center.

Adjournment

Joe Hart made a motion to adjourn the Board of Finance portion of the meeting at 8:21pm. Bob Burke seconded the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0 (In favor: Joe Hart, Bob Burke, Wes Marsh and Ron Graiff)

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectman portion of the meeting at 8:27pm. Peggy Katkocin seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (In favor: John Hodge, Peggy Katkocin and Ron Oliveri)