

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Special Meeting**  
**Tuesday, July 29, 2008**  
**7:30 PM**  
**High School Library**

***Members present:***

John Hodge, First Selectman  
Ron Oliveri, Selectman  
Tom Corbett, Selectman

***Other Town Officials Present:***

John Fairchild, PBC Member  
Louis Martirano, PBC Member  
Michael Martirano, PBC Member  
Robert Matarazzo, PBC Member

***PBC Members Not Present:***

Robert Rawlings, PBC Chairman  
Eberhard Lobeck, PBC Member

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

**Discussion of removal of office of Permanent Building Committee members**

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of the timeline of the contract with Architect Robert Aldridge of the firm Aldridge & Burns that was hired to produce drawings for the Senior Center. Mr. Hodge gave a description of problems that incurred with regard to the architect and the drawings. Mr. Hodge read a timeline of the issues with the Senior Center and the architect. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

There was a lengthy discussion regarding going into executive session and whether or not the members of the Permanent Building Committee were given due notice for this meeting. It was noted that the members of the Permanent Building Committee were notified at the BOS meeting on Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup> and then received a hand delivered letter to their home which was also sent via regular mail. Selectman Tom Corbett voiced his objection that the members of the Permanent Building Committee were not duly notified and should have been given more time to process the information.

There was a lengthy discussion as to process with the executive session in the absence of two Permanent Building Committee members. The four members present opted to have their opinions heard in public and waived their right to executive session. The two members not present did not waive their right to executive session and thus it was decided that the executive session would pertain to only the absent members (Mr. Rawlings and Mr. Lobeck). The other members had their case heard in public. It was decided to treat each case individually and not as a whole. Selectman Tom Corbett noted his objection to this executive session and chose not to attend.

### **Executive Session**

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS go into executive session at 7:46pm for the purpose of discussing the dismissal and removal of the Permanent Building Committee and to invite all members of the Permanent Building Committee. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Tom Corbett opposed)  
Tom Corbett chose not to attend the executive session**

John Hodge made a motion to come out of executive session at 8:07pm. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-0-1 (Motion approved- Tom Corbett abstained)**

Selectman John Hodge read the letter that was sent to each member of the Permanent Building Committee. Each member of the PBC that was present at the meeting gave their opinion as to their potential removal from the Permanent Building Committee.

Mr. Robert Matarazzo spoke of the letter that he received regarding this meeting and noted that he was prepared to speak on only the four items addressed in the letter and not that entire timeline that was presented. Mr. Matarazzo noted that he did not feel he had ample time to go over the letter. Mr. Matarazzo noted that the drawings are 100% complete and the only reason they have not been received is because Mr. Aldridge is awaiting the \$2,000 payment. Mr. Matarazzo suggested paying the \$2,000 and letting the project move forward.

Mr. John Fairchild noted that the estimator has been put on hold since July 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Fairchild read the resolution for a Town Meeting held on April 24, 2007 and noted there was no mention of a Community Room.

Mr. Louis Martirano noted that they are a committee of volunteers and have worked in good faith and invested much time in this project. Mr. Martirano spoke of the four specific items outlined in the letter.

Mr. Michael Martirano noted that he suggested going out to another architect several months ago at a PBC meeting and also noted that his name was erroneously put in the Danbury News Times as vice chairman of the Permanent Building Committee.

Selectman Tom Corbett made a motion to take a 30-day recess until the members of the PBC can have ample time to go over the content of the letter for dismissal. This motion was never seconded and thus not voted on.

### **Public Comment**

Many members of the public spoke both in favor and in opposition to the removal of the Permanent Building Committee.

**Removal of office of Permanent Building Committee members**

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the “Notice of Default” sent by town counsel and the failure of the architect to meet any deadlines and his request of the PBC to remove the architect numerous times. Mr. Hodge noted that it would be impossible for the drawings to be 100% complete as the architect claims.

Selectman Tom Corbett spoke of the need for a Permanent Building Committee and objected to the removal of this committee. He reiterated that these gentlemen are volunteers and should be thanked for all their hard work.

Selectman Ron Oliveri noted his concern of having a PBC in place that can work with the new architect.

John Hodge made a motion to terminate Michael Martirano, Louis Martirano, John Fairchild and Robert Matarazzo from the Permanent Building Committee as per charges set forth in a letter dated July 28, 2008. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Tom Corbett opposed)**

John Hodge made a motion to terminate those who were subject to the executive session and they shall be notified via U.S. Postal Service of this decision. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion

**Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Tom Corbett opposed)**

Both First Selectman Hodge and Selectman Oliveri acknowledged that the entire PBC has worked very hard on this project and thanked them for the numerous hours they spent on this project.

**Adjournment**

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**