

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

MINUTES
PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5, 2008
7:00 P.M.
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

State Representative Mary Ann Carson
State Representative Jan Giegler
Permanent Building Committee Chairman Bob Rawlings
Permanent Building Committee Member Bob Matarazzo

Call To Order First Selectman John Hodge called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00pm. Approximately 45 members of the public were in attendance.

The purpose of this public hearing was to obtain citizens views on the town's community development and housing needs and review and discuss specific project activities in the areas of housing, economic development or community facilities which could be a part of the town's application for funding.

Discussion of Senior Center Project

Permanent Building Committee Chairman Bob Rawlings gave a presentation regarding the proposed Senior Center and spoke of the floor plan and uses for the Senior Center. Mr. Rawlings went over pictures and diagrams of the proposed Senior Center.

First Selectman Hodge opened the floor to the public for comments and questions. The main questions asked were regarding cost estimates and parking on the site. Many members of the public spoke in favor of the Senior Center and remarked about what a great asset the building would be to the town. No member of the public present spoke in opposition to this project. Many members of the public thanked First Selectman Hodge, the Permanent Building Committee and everyone who worked on this project for their hard work. Senior Center Director Kathy Hull also thanked First Selectman John Hodge and the entire Permanent Building Committee for all their hard work with the project. Ms. Hull remarked that the seniors are anxiously awaiting the project and are very excited about the proposed Senior Center. It was observed that all of the senior citizens present were unanimous in their agreement with Ms. Hull's remarks by their comments made from their seats.

First Selectman Hodge asked the residents in attendance for an informal show of hands as to who was favor of the Senior Center project. The response was overwhelmingly in favor of the proposed revised Senior Center with no one on record as opposing the revised Senior Center project.

Town of New Fairfield Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program

Lisa Low from Lisa Low and Associates spoke of the housing rehabilitation loan program in New Fairfield. This program provides funds for income eligible residential property owners for housing rehabilitation projects that may pose a health and safety violation or need to become code compliant. Ms. Low explained that these funds come from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and are administered at the State level by the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). These funds are offered in the form of deferred loans to the owner at 0% interest until the house is sold or refinanced. Anyone with any questions can contact Lisa Low at lisalowassociates@comcast.net

First Selectman Hodge opened the floor to the public for comments and questions. Residents Maureen Salerno and Tom Dube spoke of the need for supportive elderly housing in New Fairfield.

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)