

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, November 25, 2008
7:30 PM
High School Library

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager
Ed McCue, Fire Chief
Mike Gill, Fire Department
Sarah Marsh, Library Board Chairman

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 congratulated Selectman Ron Oliveri and his wife Toni on the birth of their new granddaughter, Olivia.

First Selectman Hodge wished everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving!

First Selectman John Hodge announced that David Haber has resigned from the WPCA (Water Pollution Control Authority) and noted that volunteers were needed on the WPCA. Mr. Hodge thanked Mr. Haber for all his work on the WPCA.

Public Comment

Library Board Chairman Sarah Marsh spoke of a state grant in the amount of \$1 million that the town has received for the renovation of the library. It is hopeful that a public hearing will be held in January regarding this renovation.

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Addition to Agenda

John Hodge made a motion to add item #4A "Discussion of 2008-2009 fiscal year to date" to tonight's agenda. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discussion of 2008-2009 fiscal year to date

Finance Director Jay Waterman spoke of the 2008-2009 fiscal year revenues and expenses for the town. There was a discussion of state aid and if there is a possibility of less state aid in the future. Mr. Waterman noted that tax collection is running the same as last year at this time.

Mr. Waterman noted that there was a temporary 3% freeze on spending which amounts to approximately \$200,000. This temporary cut has been turned into a permanent cut and the department heads will be asked for another 3% freeze until the January tax collection. There was a discussion of the drop in fuel prices since the summer.

The budget process meetings will begin on January 10, 2009. The Finance Department will be asking the department heads for a 0% increase over last year's approved budget.

The entire Board of Selectman thanked Jay Waterman and the entire Finance Department for all their hard work especially in such hard economic times.

Radio Communication update

First Selectman John Hodge announced that the Board of Finance has voted to send the question of the emergency communication radio update to a referendum. A town meeting for discussion purposes only of the project will be held on Wednesday, December 3rd at 7:30 in the Senior Center. A referendum will be held at Meeting House Hill School on Saturday, December 13th from 12:00pm to 8:00pm.

Fire Chief Ed McCue spoke in support of the emergency communication radio update. Chief McCue thanked the Board of Selectman and the Board of Finance for their hard work with this issue. Chief McCue noted that this system will help the fire department, EMS and the police department. Chief McCue asked the public for their support and noted that anyone with questions can call him at 312-5732 or e-mail him at nfchief@newfairfield.org

Calendar for 2009

Tom Corbett made a motion to approve the calendar for Board of Selectmen meetings for 2009 as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$3,031 from the Selectman's Building Repair Reserve to Town Hall Furnace Replacement. Tom Corbett seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting).

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Intra-Departmental transfer. Tom Corbett seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	Account #		\$'s	Account #	
\$10,000.00	4215-130	Comm.Center Overtime	\$10,000.00	4215-110	Comm. Center-Salaries
\$10,000.00			\$10,000.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Inter-Departmental transfer. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	Account #		\$'s	Account #	
\$20,000.00	4161-332-3	Legal Labor	\$5,000.00	4151-336	Town Audit
			\$5,000.00	4160-260	Workers Compensation
			\$3,200.00	4450-441	Senior Center Lease
			\$3,000.00	4310-110	Public Works Salaries
			\$2,500.00	4215-110	Comm. Center Salaries
			\$1,300.00	4164-615	Postage
\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00		

Appointments

First Selectman John Hodge announced that he received a resignation letter from Ray Lubus from the Permanent Building Committee. Mr. Hodge thanked Mr. Lubus for stepping up and being on the Permanent Building Committee and for all his hard work.

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Pete Viola as a permanent member to the Permanent Building Committee. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Paul Bruno and Tom Edwards as alternates to the Permanent Building Committee. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Fire Department member Mike Gill thanked the Board of Selectman for their support of the Emergency Radio Communication system.

General Discussion :Items brought up by selectmen for future agendas

First Selectman Hodge noted that a traffic engineer from HVCEO will be at the next BOS meeting on December 11th to discuss possible traffic lights on Gillotti Road and Beaver Bog Road.

First Selectman Hodge will bring the Town Department Heads' suggestions for a 3% budget freeze.

Adjournment

Tom Corbett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)