

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, August 28, 2008
7:30 PM
Town Hall Conference Room

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager

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 he received a resignation letter from Parks and Recreation Commission Secretary Lyn Schaefer. Mr. Hodge thanked Ms. Schaefer for all her hard work and announced that they will be looking for someone to fill her spot.

First Selectman Hodge announced that there will be a Public Hearing on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 7:30 regarding the Emergency Communications Systems.

Mr. Hodge announced that there will be a Public Hearing sometime in the near future regarding a traffic study on Gillotti Road and Beaver Bog Road.

Public Comment

Resident Eileen Horgan spoke about the minutes of the July 29, 2008 Board of Selectman's meeting.

Approval of minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Board of Selectman's minutes from the regular meeting of July 24, 2008 and the special meetings of July 25, 2008, July 29, 2008, August 4, 2008 and August 20, 2008 as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

John Hodge made a motion to amend the previous motion to exclude the approval of the minutes of the special meeting of July 29, 2008. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote to amend motion: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on motion as amended: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2008 special meeting as presented. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 0-0-3 (Motion opposed)

2007-2008 Budget Update

Finance Director Jay Waterman spoke of the approximately \$335,000 budget surplus consisting of approximately \$143,000 in excess revenues and \$191,000 expense savings. All three selectman thanked Mr. Waterman, the entire finance department, all the department heads and Town Treasurer Phil Cammarano for all their hard work in obtaining this surplus.

Budget transfers- None

Set town meeting date

John Hodge made a motion to set a town meeting date of September 9, 2008 to accept Open Space Parcel at Rock Ridge resubdivision and for the purchase of 15 acres of Open Space at 32 Beaver Bog Road. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to approve the warning of the town meeting set for September 9, 2008. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Senior Center Update

First Selectman Hodge announced that a new Permanent Building Committee has been formed and a new architectural firm (Lazarus and Sargeant) has been hired for the Senior Center. Mr. Hodge noted that the plan is to have about 7,000 square feet of new construction and will use the existing ranch house. The new construction would be in the form of a modular construction. The next Permanent Building Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd.

Dunham Pond Discussion

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the Dunham Pond Condominiums. The Board of Selectman voted on July 10th to authorize the first selectman to draw down on their letter of credit at any time. Mr. Hodge read a letter from Planning Commission Chairman Susan Chapman. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.) The Planning Commission met on Monday, August 25th and endorsed the first selectman drawing down the letter of credit.

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Tom Edwards to the Parks and Recreation Commission and to reappoint Faline Schneiderman Fox to the Historic Properties Commission. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report of August 28, 2008 subject to a positive background check for applicants #1 and #2. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment- None

Executive Session

John Hodge made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:23pm to discuss a litigation settlement of Midland Building Services. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:36pm. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to accept a settlement of \$550,000 from the Midland Building Services, Inc. lawsuit as it relates to the Police Dept. oil spill of October 2004. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

First Selectman Hodge gave a background of the lawsuit against Midland Building Services and explained that it was related to a major oil spill in October 2004 at the Police Station. Selectman Ron Oliveri thanked First Selectman Hodge for all his hard work and diligence with this matter.

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

Selectman Oliveri spoke of a letter published in the Citizen News of August 27th from the former Permanent Building Committee members. Mr. Oliveri noted that the former PBC members were given a choice about having the meeting concerning their dismissal in executive session or in a public meeting and they chose to have it in a public meeting.

First Selectman Hodge announced that there will be a tribute on Thursday, September 11th to mark the seventh anniversary of the September 11th attacks. Details will be announced shortly and asked that residents check the Citizen News for more information.

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:46 pm. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)