

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

**MINUTES**  
**Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 13, 2008**  
**7:30 PM**  
**High School Library**

***Members present:***

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

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Sergeant Adam Wagnblas  
Officer Doug Lang  
Officer Chris Pimental

**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 the next regular meeting of the Board of Selectman will be held on Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup> instead of Thursday, November 27<sup>th</sup> due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Selectman Tom Corbett will present awards to Eagle Scouts John Schanahan and Jeff Hern on Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comment**

None

**Approval of Minutes**

Tom Corbett made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

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

**Recognition of Town Personnel**

First Selectman John Hodge presented Police Officers Chris Pimental and Doug Lang with awards for outstanding arrests that they made recently. First Selectman Hodge, as well as, Selectman Corbett and Selectman Oliveri thanked the police officers and also Police Sergeant Adam Wagnblas for all their hard work.

Police Officer Doug Lang spoke of the emergency communication system in town and specifically during the aforementioned arrest and spoke of the difficulty of hearing other personnel with the current radio communication system and the need for an upgrade for the system.

### **Historic House project update by Preserve New Fairfield, Inc.**

Susan Monshaw from Preserve New Fairfield, Inc. spoke of the accomplishments of Preserve New Fairfield, Inc. this year and the plans for the Historic Houses in New Fairfield. Preserve New Fairfield, Inc. presented the town with a check for \$25,000 towards the painting of the Historic Houses. The entire Board of Selectman thanked Preserve New Fairfield, Inc. for all their hard work.

First Selectman John Hodge spoke about a possible meeting with DEP regarding the bridge at the Senior Center. Mr. Hodge noted that the town may possibly receive a grant for the bridge. The architect for the Senior Center has offered to design a foot bridge for the property.

### **Senior Center Update**

First Selectman John Hodge gave an update on the new Senior Center. The total cost of the project including the site work is \$1,920,000. It is hopeful that a structure will be up in the middle of January and the keys will be given to the town by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Personnel Report**

Ron Oliveri made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated November 13, 2008 as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

### **Discuss and possibly vote on final audit of Gillotti Road project for Department of Transportation**

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of an invoice that he received from the Department of Transportation of \$16,897 regarding a contract of approximately 16 years ago regarding an audit for Gillotti Road. There was a discussion of what should be done with this invoice. It was discussed that the BOS should require proof of compliance with the contract on the part of the DOT. It was decided to forward this invoice to town counsel for his opinion.

### **Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign an agreement for Federal Fiscal Homeland Security and PSIC grant funds**

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of a federal grant that the region receives through the state for homeland security. The region will decide what is done with this grant and each town in the region must sign off on the grant.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign the MOA for the Emergency Management Homeland Grant as per the attached resolution. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

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

## **Public Comment**

None

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

Selectman Tom Corbett asked about a traffic light at Gillotti Road at the entrance of the high school and also on Beaver Bog Road. HVCEO has done a traffic study regarding the traffic lights. It was decided to invite people from HVCEO to the first BOS meeting in December to give a presentation regarding the traffic light.

Selectman Ron Oliveri spoke about budget overruns and funding from the state. Mr. Oliveri asked if the money promised to the town from the state will still be available regardless of the economic situation. First Selectman Hodge noted that for this fiscal year everything promised should be the same, but there may be enormous cuts in future years. Mr. Oliveri asked if the Finance Director Jay Waterman could put together a listing of all monies that come to the town and to the Board of Education from the state.

John Hodge will ask the finance director to do a “revenue round-up” for the BOS. A freeze has already been put on each department’s budget totaling approximately \$200,000. It is likely that this “freeze” will be a straight cut to the budget.

John Hodge noted that the Board of Finance has asked him to provide a priority list of capital projects. A tentative list of capital projects include:

- Rebel Turf concession stand and restrooms (to be funded by donations)
- Improvements to the library (potential for \$1 million grant)
- Senior Center Project
- Construction of new water system (STEAP Grant)
- Construction of additional towers for emergency communications
- Resolution of Town Hall space needs

Mr. Hodge noted that the top priority for capital projects is the Emergency Communications Radio system.

## **Adjournment**

Tom Corbett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

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