

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

**MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Meeting
Thursday, December 11, 2008
7:30 PM
High School Library**

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Fire Chief, Ed McCue

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 reminded the public of the referendum vote on Saturday, December 13th from 12:00pm to 8:00pm regarding upgrading the Emergency Radio Communications system.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that the selectmen met and authorized him to sign a grant proposal from the State Department of Environmental Protection which in conjunction with Danbury requested that the town be provided with funding to put Weavels into sections Candlewood Lake. Weavels are a natural predator of Milfoils which is the main invasive species in Candlewood Lake.

First Selectman John Hodge announced that permits for the Town Drop-off center are now available on-line.

First Selectman John Hodge announced that he received a memo from Finance Director Jay Waterman noting that the final audit of 2007-2008 is now complete and the town has a surplus of approximately \$540,000.00 for the fiscal year of 2007-2008. Such surplus was returned to the general fund.

Town Hall will close on Wednesday, December 24th at noon and reopen again on Monday, December 29th.

Public Comment

Many members of the public including Fire Chief Ed McCue and Firefighter Mike Gill spoke in favor of the upgrade to the Emergency Radio Communications System that will be voted on at the referendum on December 13th.

Selectman Ron Oliveri read into the record a letter from Board of Education Chairman Kim Hanson voicing his support of the upgrade to the Emergency Radio Communications System. Mr. Oliveri also read an editorial that appeared in the Danbury News Times that supported the upgrade.

Table of Agenda Items

John Hodge made a motion to table agenda item #5 (Presentation of traffic studies by HVCEO) and agenda item #12 (Discuss and possibly vote on personnel issue) until the next BOS meeting on December 23rd and replace agenda item #5 with Emergency Radio communication discussion. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2008 special meeting as presented. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-1 (Motion approved-Ron Oliveri abstained)

Discussion of Emergency Radio Communications

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the upgrade to the Emergency Radio Communications system. The selectmen each noted that no contract will be signed until the vendor can guarantee coverage. All three of the selectmen noted that they are fully in support of this upgrade. First Selectman Hodge noted that no final payment of the system will be made until they are confident that the system works. Mr. Hodge also noted that this project will not increase taxes as there are debt payments coming off soon.

Selectman Oliveri spoke of opinions expressed in the December 10th Citizen News.

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to accept the Personnel Report dated December 11, 2008 as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on First Light Agreement

There was a discussion among the selectmen regarding the outstanding issues of the Shoreline Management Plan.

Ron Oliveri made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign the agreement with First Light after meeting with First Light and resolving all outstanding Shoreline Management Plan issues. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign application for 2008-2009 Grant application for the Local Alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse prevention council grant

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign the 2008-2009 grant application for the Local Alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse prevention council. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

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	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$22,000.00	4160-250	Unemployment	\$22,000.00	4440-335	Counseling Services
\$22,000.00			\$22,000.00		

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$2,000 from the Building Repair Reserve Fund to PD Camera Replacement also in the amount of \$2,000. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting) Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Many members of the public spoke in favor of the upgrade to the Emergency Radio Communication system.

Permanent Building Committee Chairman Al Mardis noted that the PBC met on Tuesday, December 9th and discussed school projects. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Joseph Castagnola attended the PBC meeting and presented projects to the PBC. Mr. Mardis invited members of the public to attend upcoming meetings.

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

None

Discuss and possibly vote on Personnel Issue- Executive Session Anticipated

Tabled until the next BOS meeting

Adjournment

Ron Oliveri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)