

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

MINUTES

**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, December 23, 2008
7:30 PM
High School Library**

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Tim Simpkins, Health Director
Jonathan Chew, HVCEO
Nick Fimengo, Traffic engineer

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 residents that the town is in the middle of revaluation of properties. Personnel from Vision Appraisal will be coming to homes in New Fairfield. First Selectman Hodge asked residents to ask anyone claiming to be from Vision Appraisal for identification before allowing anyone into their home. The town is tracking where Vision Appraisal will be on a daily basis so if anyone has concerns about letting them into their home can call the police station.

First Selectman Hodge noted that the lake is currently going down and suggested that now is a good time for homeowners to rake up in front of their property

First Selectman John Hodge congratulated Boy Scout Dan Schosser for cleaning thirteen acres of New Fairfield Land Trust Property at the entrance of Rock Ridge Court.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that Town Hall will close at noon on Wednesday, December 24th and will reopen on Monday, December 29, 2008.

First Selectman John Hodge acknowledged that he received a letter from resident Ron Graiff offering his services for the radio communications project.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

Ron Oliveri made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2008 regular meeting as presented. Tom Corbett seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discussion of Fees for Health & Erosion

Health Director Tim Simpkins spoke of the fees that the Town of New Fairfield charges for various permits. Mr. Simpkins compared these fees to surrounding towns and requested that they be raised slightly.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS approve increasing fees for the Health Department permits and soil erosion and sediment control permits as per the attached document "Health Department Permit Fees" effective January 1, 2009. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Presentation of Traffic Studies by HVCEO

Jonathan Chew of HVCEO and Traffic Engineer Nick Fimango gave a presentation about possible traffic lights at the entrance to the High School on Gillotti Road and the intersection of Route 37 and Beaver Bog Road. There was a discussion of speed limits and pros and cons of putting a traffic light in. There were suggestions about possibly putting a flashing beacon or a one/way in and out. There was also a suggestion for an active school zone sign. This matter will be further investigated and discussed at a future meeting.

Discussion of Emergency Radio Communications

First Selectman John Hodge noted that the referendum on December 13th for the Emergency Radio System was defeated. To that end, resident Ron Graiff sent a letter to First Selectman Hodge offering his services on a pro bono basis to come up with an alternative plan for emergency radios. Mr. Hodge wrote back to Mr. Graiff asking for a short written synopsis of his plans. Mr. Graiff did send a plan back to the selectman's office. First Selectman Hodge suggested getting a third party consultant to review the plans and compare it to Pier Con's proposal. It is possible that a special BOS meeting will be held in the near future to discuss this option.

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to accept the Personnel Report as presented. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers- None

Public Comment- None

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

There was a discussion of the 3% budget cut imposed by the town. An additional 3% temporary budget freeze will be in effect until revenues from the January Tax Collection are in. First Selectman Hodge thanked the entire Finance Department and also Tax Collector Kerrie Greening and her staff for all their hard work with the budget freeze.

The entire Board of Selectmen wished everyone Happy Holidays and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Adjournment

Tom Corbett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:44 pm. Ron Oliveri seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

