

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 28, 2010
7:30 PM
Community Room

Members present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Susan Chapman, Selectman (arrived 8:20)
Monika Thiel, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager
Jim Gardner, Fire Chief
Various members of the Fire Dept.

Call To Order First Selectman John Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence and Announcements

John Hodge announced that the town has reached an agreement and signed a contract with Motorola to install the Emergency Radio equipment for the Emergency Communications system. The radio system will be ready to be tested by April 25, 2011 and will provide at least 95% reliability. Selectman Thiel asked that it be noted that she did not get a chance to see this contract in advance of the signing.

Public Comment

Tom Corbett asked about the agenda item for this meeting to discuss and possibly vote to pay \$2000 for the original pavilion architect.

Approval of Minutes

Monika Thiel made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2010 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Susan Chapman arrived at 8:20 and did not vote on this item)

Agenda Items

John Hodge made a motion to move agenda item #6 (Fire Dept Reserve Fund) to item #12A. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Susan Chapman arrived at 8:20 and did not vote on this item)

Lake Draw Down Study

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the milfoil problem in Candlewood Lake and spoke of the effects of deep drawn downs to the lake. Alex Messerle gave a Power Point presentation that showed the impacts of the drawn downs. Mr. Messerle noted that a deep drawn down is usually down every

other year and spoke of how there is a significant amount of milfoil in the summers after the shallow draw downs. He noted that two deep draw downs in a row would harm the ecology of the lake. First Selectman Hodge noted that the Board of Selectmen will have a meeting in the very near future to discuss and possibly vote to retain a consultant for the purposes of studying the effects of the draw downs. First Selectman Hodge thanked both Alex Messerle and Jim McAllister for all their hard work with the lake.

Discuss and possibly vote to pay \$2,000 for the original pavilion architect

First Selectman Hodge noted that the pavilion bathroom project at Rebel Turf was completed and the final cost of the project was \$225,980.72 out of a total budget of \$226,000 leaving a surplus of \$19.28. Mr. Hodge noted that the New Fairfield Community Foundation had hired an original architect to draw some conceptual drawings. A different architect was subsequently hired for this project. This original architect was never paid but claimed that at least a portion of designs were used and is asking the New Fairfield Community Foundation for \$4,000. New Fairfield Community Foundation approached the town and asked to help out with this expense. Mr. Hodge noted that he would like to help out the New Fairfield Community Foundation as they have given so much to the town and proposed splitting the expense with the New Fairfield Community Foundation. This was voted on under "Budget Transfers".

Vote to accept gift of piano and bench

John Hodge made a motion to accept the donation of a piano and bench valued at approximately \$3690. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Susan Chapman arrived at 8:20 and did not vote on this item)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated October 28, 2010 as presented. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

(Susan Chapman arrived at 8:20 and did not vote on this item)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$10,000 from the Building Repair Reserve fund for a Mobile Generator. Monika Thiel seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Monika Thiel opposed)

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$1980.72 from the Building Repair Reserve fund to pay for the Pavilion Grant reduction. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Monika Thiel opposed)

Appointment

It was decided to table this item until the next regular BOS meeting

Vote on approval to draw funds from the Fire Dept Reserve fund for replacement vehicle

Fire Chief Jim Gardner and Assistant Fire Chief Pete Benzinger spoke of the proposed replacement of a Brush Rapid Attack truck for the Fire Dept. Chief Gardner noted that the cost of the vehicle is \$125,000 with 75% (\$93,750) coming from the New Fairfield Fire Dept. Apparatus Replacement Fund and with 25% (\$31,250) to be paid from Squantz Engine Co. Any overage to the cost will be paid by Squantz Engine Co. Assistant Chief Benzinger spoke of the vehicle and its potential uses.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS approve the purchase of Brush Truck #14 for a price not to exceed \$125,000 with \$93,750 to come from the New Fairfield Fire Dept. Apparatus Replacement Fund. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Monika Thiel opposed)

Public Comment

None

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

It was decided to get a list of Town Boards and Commissions with vacancies.

Selectman Thiel asked about the water lines on Route 37 by the Senior Center.

Selectman Thiel asked for an update on the school building project. There was a discussion as to the role of the BOS with the school building project and it was suggested that anyone looking for information regarding this project should go to either a Permanent Building Committee meeting or to Board of Education meeting.

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos