

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 10, 2011
7:30 PM
Community Room

Members present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Susan Chapman, Selectman
Monika Thiel, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager
Linda Fox, Library Director
Jim Gardner, Fire Chief

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 there will be Town Meeting at 6:00pm on Thursday, February 17th to discuss the proposed Library project.

First Selectman John Hodge thanked the Public Works Department for all their hard work during the recent snow storms.

Public Comment

Library Director Linda Fox reminded the public about the Town Meeting regarding the proposed Library project. Anyone who can't make the meeting but still wants information can see Linda Fox at the library.

Steve Roe asked questions regarding the Radio Communications projects and attorney fees.

Michael Iadarola, Bill O'Keefe and Adrian Bing-Zaremba spoke about the proposed restaurant at the Town Beach.

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2011 regular meeting and the January 18, 2011 special meeting as presented. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2011 special meeting as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,000. 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)

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$5,000.00	4161-332-2	Prof Serv. Legal Tax	\$5,000.00	4161-332-4	Prof. Serv-Legal General
\$5,000.00			\$5,000.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make a transfer in the amount of \$2902.20 from Town Properties Capital to Town Hall Lighting & Additional Items in the amount of \$2,600.00 and to Mobile Generator in the amount of \$302.20. 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)

Radio Communications Update

First Selectman John Hodge gave an update on the Radio Communications project as of February 10, 2011. Construction of the Dispatch Center will start next week. Update of electrical and flooring will be put in, the skylights will come out and new communications equipment will be installed. Motorola has manufactured all the radio equipment for all four sites. The site work for Bogus Hill is going out to bid now. A shelter and a generator will be at that site. The target date to have the system up and ready to be tested is April 25th. The towers at Ball Pond Firehouse, 302 Ball Pond Road and Bogus Hill are already up.

This is a four site system, but there have been opposition to the site at Great Hollow. Mr. Hodge noted that there is a Plan B that could possibly circumvent the Great Hollow site. The town has signed a contract and has sent it back with a deposit to purchase a tower. If this Plan B goes through, there will be no need for the Haviland Hollow site. Mr. Hodge showed propagation maps of the sites and noted that the coverage must have 95/95 reliability. The new site would have the necessary coverage.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the contract for the new site as well as a discussion regarding the Attorney General and the Walter G. Merritt will.

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Susan Chapman to be the delegate from the Town of New Fairfield to the Western Connecticut Tourism District. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to execute and approve contracts and amendments with the State of Connecticut Health Department

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following: “RESOLVED that John Hodge, First Selectman is authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of this corporation, The Contract Log #2011-1106, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Contract or amendments thereof with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health”. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to accept a sub-grant award for Emergency Management Performance Grant in the amount of \$14,060

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign the Emergency Management Performance Grant as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Many members of the public spoke of the Haviland Hollow site and the Radio Communications project. The residents that spoke were primarily against the Haviland Hollow location for a tower. There were some comments regarding the contract for a new site and the lack of communication between the selectmen.

Addition to agenda

John Hodge made a motion to add agenda item #11A “discuss and possibly vote on 2011/2012 budget for the Town of New Fairfield” to the agenda. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

Recess

John Hodge made a motion to take a five minute recess at 8:57pm. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

The board came back from recess at 9:01pm.

Vote on 2011-2012 budget for the Town of New Fairfield

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of the proposed budget for the Town of New Fairfield for the fiscal year 2011-2012. There was a discussion about whether or not to vote on this matter at this meeting.

John Hodge made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve a town budget in the amount of \$8,336,337.00 for total municipal operations, \$137,934.00 for municipal debt service, \$25,000.00 for GASB 45 contributions, municipal medical insurance of \$753,103.00 for a total municipal budget of \$9,252,374.00 which represents a .17% decrease in the budget over last year with an additional \$121,000 for Capital and Nonrecurring to be coming from a rebate of surplus funds for the Emergency Radio Communications project. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

General Discussion: Items to be brought up by selectmen for future agendas- None

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:05pm. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

