

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

MINUTES  
(REVISED)

**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, July 14, 2011**  
**7:30 PM**  
**Community Room at 33 Route 37**

***Members present:***

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

***Other Town Officials Present:***

Finance Director, Jay Waterman  
Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager

**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 town has received a check for a matching grant from the state in the amount of \$180,000 for the property that the town acquired on Pine Hill Road.

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the shuttle service to the Southeast Train station and noted that ridership is up. This service is available at no cost to the town and anyone looking for more information can call the Selectmen's office.

First Selectman Hodge noted that the Town of Brookfield has contributed \$5,000 for the weevil project for Candlewood Lake.

Selectman Susan Chapman reminded residents that *MegaMind* will be playing at the drive-in movie at Squantz Pond this Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Presentation to Public Works employees**

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

**Public Comment**- None

**Approval of Minutes**

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2011 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

### **Budget transfers**

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$4,650 from Town Properties Capital for Painting at the Police Station (\$2,650) and Town Hall Renovations (\$2,000). Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

### **Appointments**

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Steven Hanrahan as an alternate to the Zoning Commission. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint Melissa Luks Fianza to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

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

John Hodge made a motion to reappoint Cynthia Stevens, Brian Bosley, George Buck, Helen Gallagher and Terry Lent to the Ball Pond Advisory Commission. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

### **Personnel Report**

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9 & 10 as presented. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

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

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report items #1 and 8 as presented with the provision that the commission be no more than the rate set by the Park and Recreation Commission. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

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

### **Vote on policy procedure regarding security checks of employees and volunteers**

John Hodge made a motion to table this item until the next regular BOS meeting. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

**Vote: 2-0-1 (Monika Thiel abstained)**

### **Discussion and vote to approve a resolution regarding the authorization as approved by the BOS on March 10, 2011 authorizing the First Selectman to sign an application for the Town Clerk to apply for a Historic Preservation Grant application in the amount of \$3500**

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following: Resolve that John E. Hodge, First Selectman is empowered to execute and deliver in the name on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for a Historic Document Preservation grant. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

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

**Vote to authorize the First Selectman to issue a subordination for a Small Cities Loan client**

First Selectman Hodge spoke of a situation where a family that already has a subordination Small Cities loan is looking to refinance. Normally the Small Cities loan needs to be repaid after a refinance. Mr. Hodge spoke of extenuating circumstances in this situation and noted that the family has quite a bit of equity in the home and thus would support the subordination of this loan.

John Hodge made a motion that the Board of Selectmen authorize and endorse the subordination of this loan at the address listed on the paperwork. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

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

**Discussion and vote to authorize the First Selectman to adopt a Municipal Resolution for Solid Waste Collector Registration for HRRRA**

Selectman Susan Chapman noted that HRRRA has been collecting fees on behalf of the town for registration and fees for trash haulers. Recently a trash hauler questioned HRRRA's qualifications for acting on behalf of the towns. As a result, a resolution has been presented in order to give HRRRA authority to collect fees on behalf of the towns. Danbury, Sherman and Kent have already signed on to this resolution.

Susan Chapman made a motion that the BOS approve the resolution as presented for the Municipal Solid Waste Collector registration for HRRRA (Such resolution to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). John Hodge seconded the motion.

John Hodge made a motion to call the question after a discussion. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

**Vote to call question: 2-1-0 (Motion approved-Monika Thiel opposed)**

**Vote on original motion: 2-0-1 (Motion approved-Monika Thiel abstained)**

**Discussion and vote to apply 2010-2011 surplus towards additional road work**

Finance Director Jay Waterman noted that the town has over \$275,000 in surplus from the 2010-2011 budget. Mr. Waterman and First Selectman Hodge spoke of using this surplus to pave roads in town and discussed a road schedule. It was noted that this paving could be done in late September or early October. The decision to use this surplus must go to the Board of Finance and then to a Town Meeting.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS recommend to the Board of Finance that surplus from the 2010-2011 fiscal year in the amount of \$275,000 be recommended to a Town Meeting for the purpose of completing the road schedule as attached to the minutes of this meeting. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

### **FirstLight Power and Shoreline Management Plan**

First Selectman John Hodge noted that he received information that FirstLight was no longer providing their annual contribution to the Candlewood Lake Authority. Traditionally, FirstLight and their predecessor have contributed 1/6 of the cost for operating Candlewood Lake Authority. The amount of this contribution would be \$60,500 but FirstLight decided to make a \$15,000 contribution instead. First Selectman Hodge sent a letter to FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) noting that the Town of New Fairfield was withdrawing its support of the Shoreline Management Plan until funding is restored.

Mr. Hodge noted that Brookfield has also withdrawn support and that HVCEO and CLA will meet to discuss this.

There was a lengthy discussion among the Selectmen regarding FirstLight and the Shoreline Management Plan.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS endorse the Town of New Fairfield's withdrawal of support to the revised Shoreline Management Plan of 2009 until such time as funding is restored by FirstLight Power. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

### **Public Comment**

Kim Hanson spoke about the Shoreline Management Plan

Tom Corbett asked about the assessment of Candlewood Lake

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

Selectman Monika Thiel asked for a breakdown of what is being done with the Radio Communications project.

Ball Pond Fire Dept. new firetruck will be on the next agenda

First Selectman Hodge noted that the Radio System will be dedicated on July 25<sup>th</sup>

### **Adjournment**

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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