

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

MINUTES

**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 28, 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:

Jim Gardiner, 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

First Selectman John Hodge announced that the new Emergency Radio Communication system was dedicated on Monday, July 25th and noted that the Emergency Radio system is covering just under 100% of the geographic area of the town to a 95% reliability.

First Selectman Hodge thanked all the first responders in town for their fantastic work during the last couple of days with a number of major incidents in town.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2011 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Susan Chapman made a motion to amend the motion to change the heading on the minutes of July 14, 2011 to read "Regular" meeting instead of "Special" meeting.

Vote to amend motion: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on original motion as amended: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 26, 2011 special meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

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

Presentation to Public Works

First Selectman John Hodge thanked many members of the Public Works Dept and presented them with bonuses on behalf of the town. Mr. Hodge especially thanked the Public Works Dept for all their extra hard work during this past winter.

Discuss and vote to approve purchase of fire engine

Mike Gill from Ball Pond Fire Company gave a presentation along with Assistant Chief of Ball Pond Mike O'Toole and Fire Chief Jim Gardner. Mr. Gill explained the company's desire to purchase a new Engine 16 for Ball Pond. Mr. Gill gave an overview of Engine 16 and explained the process for purchasing equipment. The request was to approve the purchase of Engine 16 with a cost not to exceed \$540,000 with using the reserve fund for apparatus replacement in the amount of \$390,000 and Ball Pond contributing the additional \$150,000.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the purchase of a new Engine 16 with no more than \$390,000 to come from Fund 304 Apparatus reserve. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

Budget transfers

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$13,000 from Town Properties Capital Building Repair Reserve fund to Squantz Firehouse exterior upgrade. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

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

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated July 28, 2011 as presented. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to set Town Meeting Date

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following Warning: Notice is hereby given to the electors of the Town of New Fairfield and those qualified to vote at Town Meetings that a Special Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 11, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Community Room at 33 Route 37 for the following purpose to wit:

1. To consider and take action upon an authorization to apply \$275,000 surplus (from the FY ending 6/30/11) as an additional appropriation to Public Works-Works Repair.

Dated at New Fairfield, Connecticut this 28th day of July 2011. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discuss and vote to approve third amendment to communication tower option lease agreement with the new Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC

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

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on policy procedure regarding security checks of employees and volunteers

First Selectman Hodge spoke of a procedure for town employees and volunteers to have a background check especially those that deal with children. Such security check would include questions regarding criminal history and fingerprinting.

John Hodge made a motion to approve security checks of employee and volunteers' procedure as drafted (such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on Drop off Center Rate Fee proposal

Members of the Board of Selectmen went over the fees for the Drop-Off Center and it was unknown as to when the last time the fees were voted on by the BOS. There were also some ordinances regarding the Drop-Off center that need to be voted on as well. Mike Gill from HERRA spoke of recycling fees and charges at the Drop-Off Center. It was decided to table the vote for this proposal until all changes can be made.

John Hodge made a motion to table the vote on Drop-off center fee rate proposal until the next regular BOS meeting. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to approve wage addendum between Teamsters Union and the Town of New Fairfield

First Selectman Hodge spoke of a contract between Teamsters Union and the Town of New Fairfield that was negotiated a couple of years ago until the end of 2012. Traditionally, the salary portion has been opened every year. Mr. Hodge noted that this contract has been reopened and the wages have been agreed upon for the next two years. Mr. Hodge thanked the Teamsters for their willingness to work with the town.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the wage and addendum between the Teamsters Union and the Town of New Fairfield as presented. Monika Thiel seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)