

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 25, 2011
7:30 PM
Community Room at 33 Route 37

Members present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Susan Chapman, Selectman

Members not present:

Monika Thiel, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Director
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 track at the High School has been redone and is reopened.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that Hurricane Irene is on its way and asked anyone that has not given their phone number for Alert Now to please call Dispatch Supervisor at 203-312-5719.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that *Toy Story 3* will be playing at Squantz Pond on Friday, August 26th.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that he received a resignation letter from Board of Finance member Al Mardis. Mr. Hodge thanked Mr. Mardis for all his hard work for the town in many capacities and especially for all the work he did for the Senior Center.

Public Comment

Many residents of Warwick Road expressed their concern over the new 40 mph speed limit.

Approval of Minutes

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2011 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Keith Norton as Tree Warden for the Town of New Fairfield for a term until March 24, 2012. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$14,200.00 from Building Repair Reserve to replace furnace at town hall and installation of a Fresh Air System. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to accept the Year-End Intra Departmental transfers in the amount of \$58,645.51. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Year-End Inter-Departmental transfers in the amount of \$19,992.70. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to accept the Personnel report as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Historic Resources Grant

Faline Schneiderman-Fox from the New Fairfield Historic Properties Commission spoke of a CLG Historic Resources Inventory grant in the amount of \$30,000.00. Ms. Schneiderman-Fox spoke of the uses of this grant. This grant must be approved at a Town Meeting.

Vote to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Homeland Security grant

Jean Flynn noted that the State of Connecticut received just under \$2.5 million from a grant from Homeland Security. The State of Connecticut is split into five homeland security regions. New Fairfield is one of 43 towns in Region 5. Region 5 has been allocated \$856,875.00 for regional projects. In order to receive this money a MOA must be signed.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the Homeland Security grant as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to accept Transfer Station Proposal

John Hodge made a motion to approve transfer station fee proposal for 2011 as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Speed Limit on Warwick Road

Many residents of Warwick Road spoke of the new 40 mph speed limit. Mr. Hodge noted that the state approves the speed limits for the roads. It was noted that it is not advisable to set an unrealistic speed limit.

Mr. Hodge noted that speeding on Warwick Road has become a problem and noted that he would like to hire a traffic engineer to see the exact situation on Warwick Road.

Warwick Road resident Pat Del Monaco spoke of the busiest times of day. There was a discussion of bus routes and it was suggested having students get only get on the bus on certain sides of the road. Selectman Susan Chapman will talk to the Town’s Purchasing Agent Patty Mota regarding the bus schedule.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to obtain a traffic engineer for the purpose of looking at the speed limit at Warwick Road. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to use 2010-2011 surplus for purchase of a plow truck

John Hodge made a motion to make approve the following Additional Appropriation (Town Meeting Required). Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

| \$'s | To Account # | | \$'s | From Account # | |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------|
| \$150,000.00 | 301-4330-742 | C & N PW Trucks & Equip | \$179,000.00 | 2532-001 | General Fund-Unreserved |
| \$29,000.00 | 301-4210-742 | Police Cars & Equipment | | | |
| \$150,000.00 | | | \$179,000.00 | | |

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 a Town Meeting to be held on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Community Room at 33 Route 37 for the following purposes to wit:

1. To consider and accept a CLG Historic Resources Inventory Grant in the amount of \$30,000 and to approve the expenditure thereof.

2. To consider and act upon an additional appropriation in the amount of \$179,000 for the 2010-11 surplus operation funds for the purchase of Trucks and Equipment and Police Cars & Equipment.

Dated at New Fairfield, Connecticut this 25th day of August 2011.

Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on program for Social Services

Selectman Susan Chapman spoke of the Earned Benefits Network for Social Services which is a computer program that will allow Director Cindy White to put in clients names and determine what programs they are eligible for. The term for this program is due to be renewed in January 2012.

Susan Chapman made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the agreement for the Earned Benefits Network. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment- None

General Discussion: Items to be brought up for future agendas

The board will discuss the Plan of Conservation and Development at the next meeting

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)