

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 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:

Ed Sbordone, Accounting Manager

Kim Hanson, BOE Chairman

Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman

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 thanked the following people and organizations for all their help with the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene: New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept., the Board of Education and Administration, the custodial staff at the High School and Middle School, the cafeteria staff at the High School and Middle School, the Civil Air Patrol, Director of Emergency Management Jean Flynn, the New Fairfield Public Works Dept and Selectman Susan Chapman.

First Selectman John Hodge thanked the following for all their help with the September 11th ceremony: New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept., the High School Band and Chamber Ensemble, Buildings and Grounds Dept., Civil Air Patrol and Mary Ann Carson.

Selectman Susan Chapman thanked First Selectman Hodge

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

John Hodge made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2011 regular meeting and the September 20, 2011 special meeting as presented. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote on appeal of dog violation

First Selectman Hodge noted that tickets from the Regional Animal Control can be appealed to the Board of Selectmen. Kelli Baker spoke of the background and the reason for the ticket issued to Noreen Kohler of Brewster for a dog violation. Ms. Baker noted that this was not the first offense for Ms. Kohler.

Noreen Kohler of Brewster explained her side of the story and noted that her previous violation pertained to another dog that she owns and that this is the first offense for this particular dog. It was noted that the written warning pertains to the owner and not each individual dog.

John Hodge made a motion to uphold the ticket for the dog violation as issued with the fines as imposed. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Report from the Animal Control Officer to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Additional Appropriation (Town Meeting NOT required) in the amount of \$19,900. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting). Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$19,900.00	4210-130-2	Police-Private Duty OT	\$19,900.00	3400-6	Police-Private Duty Revenue
\$19,900.00			\$19,900.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Year-End Inter-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$980.00. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$980.00	4161-332-7	Prof. Services-Legal Zoning	\$980.00	4160-230	Unclass-P & B-Pension
\$980.00			\$980.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$1,000.00.

Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting) **Vote: 2-**

0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$1,000.00	4110-610	BOS-Materials and Supplies	\$1,000.00	4110-110	BOS-Salaries
\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$20,000.00. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$20,000.00	4310-742	PW-Truck & Equip. M & R	\$20,000.00	4310-451	PW-Road Repair
\$20,000.00			\$20,000.00		

John Hodge made a motion to make the following Additional Appropriation in the amount of \$185,633.74. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved) It was noted that this Additional Appropriation is subject to adjustment based on the final audit results and will be submitted to the BOF for approval at their 10/19/11 meeting.

\$'s	To Account #		\$'s	From Account #	
\$56,000.00	601-2530-1	Medical Reserve Fund	\$185,633.74	2532-001	General Fund-Unreserved
\$129,633.74					
\$185,633.74			\$185,633.74		

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 to be held on Thursday, October 27, 2011 at 7:00pm in the Community Room @ 33 Route 37 for the following purpose to wit:

1. To consider and take action upon a proposed resolution to transfer the remaining FY10-11 surplus from the General Fund as follows: \$56,000 to the Medical Reserve Fund and the remainder of approximately \$129,633.74 to the Unappropriated Cap & Non as approved by the Board of Finance.

Dated at New Fairfield, Connecticut this 13th day of October 2011.

Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discussion of construction of a new baseball field at New Fairfield High School

Scott Roberti from New Fairfield Baseball spoke of the shortage of fields in New Fairfield and the league's desire to build a new baseball field at New Fairfield High School.

First Selectman Hodge asked that this issue go back to the Board of Education for clarification and a further look at field fees agreements and noted that this will have to go to a Town Meeting. Mr. Hodge noted that this agreement will need to be revisited every ten years and noted that he would like to see something in the agreement that addresses the issue of what would happen if the baseball program is no longer in existence and

an agreement that this field will not be used if either field on the right or left is being used. There was a discussion of field fees for sports in town.

Appointment

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Norma Gyle as a regular member of the Candlewood Lake Authority. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

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

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign communications tower option to lease agreement

First Selectman Hodge spoke of an amendment for the communications tower lease. This amendment is for New Cingular Wireless for \$8400/per year and escalates moving forward. This amendment was sent to the structural engineer for this tower. Mr. Hodge noted that in paragraph #4 of this agreement New Cingular is looking for "right of first refusal". Mr. Hodge noted that he did not agree with this part of the agreement.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the third amendment to the communication tower option to lease and lease agreement with New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC with the proviso that paragraph number 4 of the document be not approved by the Board of Selectmen. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign proposal for Appraisal Litigation support services for Candlewood Lake Causeway

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of a tax appeal case with First Light (owner of Candlewood Lake). The town has made numerous attempts to settle this. At this point a consultant is needed for this issue.

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS approve the proposal from Leary Counseling Evaluation, Inc. as presented in their proposal dated October 5, 2011. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

Kim Hanson spoke of the need for a Town Meeting for the construction of a new baseball field at the high school. It was decided to get clarification of this issue from the Town Attorney.

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

There was a discussion of putting a discussion of the Plan of Conservation and Development on a future agenda. It was decided that this will be discussed after the election in November.

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)