

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, November 10, 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

Call To Order First Selectman John Hodge called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Correspondence & Announcements

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of Winter Storm Alfred that occurred on Saturday, October 29th and the ensuing power outage and clean up. Mr. Hodge thanked the following people for their tremendous effort:

- The New Fairfield Volunteer Fire Dept.
- The BOE and the administration especially Superintendent of Schools Dr. Alicia Roy
- The custodial staff from the high school and middle school
- The cafeteria staff
- Civil Air Patrol and especially Ken Chapman
- Director of Emergency Management Jean Flynn
- Incoming Selectman Mike Gill
- Public Works Dept. especially Public Works Director Bobby Rzasz
- Boy Scouts
- Kathy Hull and the entire Senior Center staff
- Everyday citizens that stepped up to help including Scott Akam and Gail and Ernie Lehman
- National Guard
- Dispatchers
- Police Department
- Sarah Aldrich from Sarah's Gift and Ship for providing crafts for the children.

Mr. Hodge noted that there will be an Alert Now call tomorrow to notify residents that brush will be picked up starting Monday, November 14th. Residents should put the brush out to the street about five feet from the street. The trucks will only go through each neighborhood once.

Public Comment

Scott Akam thanked everyone who helped with the aftermath of Winter Storm Alfred especially First Selectman John Hodge and Selectman Susan Chapman.

Approval of Minutes

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2011 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to transfer \$11,250 from the Building Repair Reserve Fund to the Library Furnace Replacement fund also in the amount of \$11,250. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

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 release bond for Warwick Farms

First Selectman Hodge noted that he received a letter from Town Engineer Tony Iadarola and the Planning Commission endorsing the release of bond for Warwick Farms.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the release of bond for Warwick Farms in the amount of \$86,450 as recommended by the Town Engineer and the Planning Commission. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign an application for a grant for Alcohol and Tobacco prevention

First Selectman Hodge noted that the town receives this grant every year. Possible uses for this grant are a billboard on Route 37 and to help with the Post Graduation Party.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign the application for the grant for Alcohol and Tobacco and other drug abuse prevention. Susan Chapman seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Vote to recommend to a Town Meeting to consider accepting Spruce Ridge Drive as a Town Road

Mr. Hodge noted that the Planning Commission has not yet seen the documents from the Town Engineer regarding Spruce Ridge Drive.

John Hodge made a motion to table the vote about accepting Spruce Ridge Drive as a Town Road until the next meeting. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign an application for Saw Mill Bridge over Ball Pond Brook

Mr. Hodge noted that the bridge on Saw Mill Road will need to be replaced soon and noted that the state has approved a grant of \$1,396,582.50. A commitment letter needs to be signed as the first step for this grant.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the first selectman to sign a commitment letter for Saw Mill Bridge over Ball Pond Brook. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign and approve contracts and amendments with Department of Health for Emergency Preparedness

John Hodge made a motion to table the approval of contracts and amendments with the DOH for Emergency Preparedness until the next meeting. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Addition to agenda

John Hodge made a motion to add agenda item #13A “Discuss and recommend to a Town Meeting an appropriation not to exceed \$400,000 from the General Fund balance for Winter Storm Alfred expenses and to consider and take action upon a resolution accepting grant funding in the amount of \$300,000 for housing rehabilitation.” Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discuss and recommend to a Town Meeting

First Selectman Hodge noted that the town received a grant in the amount of \$300,000 for housing rehabilitation. This program provides loans for low-income families in order to make repairs for their homes.

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the expenses related to Winter Storm Alfred and noted an approximate total of \$400,000. It is possible that FEMA will reimburse approximately 75% of eligible expenses. Mr. Hodge suggested recommending taking \$400,000 out of the General Fund and putting back any reimbursement that the town receives. There was a preliminary Emergency Meeting with the BOF last week and this will be discussed with them further.

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following “Warning”:
Special Town Meeting- Town of New Fairfield. 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 Tuesday, November 22, 2011 at 7pm in the Community Room at 33 Route 37 for the following purposes to wit:

1. To consider and appropriate \$400,000 from the General Fund for Winter Storm Alfred expenses.
2. To consider and take action upon a resolution accepting grant funding in the amount of \$300,000 for housing rehabilitation and the expenditure thereof.

Dated at New Fairfield, Connecticut this the 10th day of November 2011. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment – None

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

Selectman Susan Chapman thanked everyone who helped with the storm.

First Selectman John Hodge welcomed Selectman-elect Mike Gill. The swearing-in ceremony will be held on Sunday, November 20th.

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55pm. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-0-0 (Motion approved)

Stephanie

TOWN PROPERTIES CAPITAL BUDGET

	Building Repair Reserve	Library Furnace Replacement	PW Furnace Repl. & A/C Install w/Elect	Squantz FH Exterior Upgrade	Paint PD	Town Hall Office Renovations	Tech Upgrade Fin/HR	Library- Update Phones	Total
Carryover	1,600.46				150.00	2,122.22	26,893.51	3,219.00	33,985.19
Current Year	75,000.00								75,000.00
Transfers									
BOS Meeting 7/28/11	(13,000.00)			13,000.00					
BOS Meeting 8/25/11	(14,200.00)		14,200.00						
Squantz Insurance Claim Rec'd 10/4/11				7,360.88					7,360.88
BOS Meeting 11/10/11	(11,250.00)	11,250.00							
Expenditures									
PO #23387 - David Taylor Sr.						(1,250.00)			(1,250.00)
PO #23438 - News Times				(201.05)					(201.05)
PO #23486 - Botticelli Electric, LLC						(313.00)			(313.00)
Encumbered									
PO #17669 - Sungard Pent.							(20,432.36)		(20,432.36)
PO #22954 - Dave Mahoney					(150.00)				(150.00)
PO #23451 - Summit HVAC			(14,200.00)						(14,200.00)
Balance	38,150.46	11,250.00	-	20,159.83	-	559.22	6,461.15	3,219.00	79,799.66