

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, December 8, 2011
7:30 PM
Community Room at 33 Route 37

Members present:

John Hodge, First Selectman
Susan Chapman, Selectman
Mike Gill, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

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 welcomed new Selectman Mike Gill to the Board of Selectmen.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that he received a resignation letter from Greg Porpora from the Planning Commission. Mr. Hodge thanked Mr. Porpora for his service to the Planning Commission.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that CL&P will be giving some refunds to eligible customers due to the power outage in October. Mr. Hodge noted that he is still awaiting further information regarding eligibility requirements and asked residents to stay tuned.

Selectman Mike Gill noted that he called his cable company and cell phone company and received a credit on his bill due to the loss of service during Winter Storm Alfred. It was noted that a phone call from the customer is necessary to receive this.

Selectman Susan Chapman presented the Civil Air Patrol with a Proclamation and declared December 8, 2011 Civil Air Patrol Day in New Fairfield. First Selectman Hodge noted that Ken Chapman started the Civil Air Patrol in New Fairfield in conjunction with the Board of Education. Mr. Hodge thanked the Civil Air Patrol for all their service to the town.

Public Comment- None

Approval of Minutes

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2011 regular meeting as presented. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers- None

Historic Resources Inventory Grant

Stacey Kenny spoke about Phase II of the Historic Resources Inventory Grant and noted that a RFP was put out for a consultant for inventory for houses dating from 1929-1950 for a total of approximately 225 houses. A grant in the amount of \$300,000 was received for this project. Bruce Harvey from Harvey Research was chosen to be contractor for this project.

Mike Gill made a motion to authorize the first selectman to approve the contractor for the Historic Resources Inventory Grant. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Personnel Report

John Hodge made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated December 8, 2011 as presented. Mike Gill seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointment

John Hodge made a motion to appoint Gary Remley to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discussion of a Blight Ordinance and Trash Ordinance

First Selectman Hodge noted that New Fairfield currently has a Trash Ordinance and spoke of the possible need for a Blight Ordinance in town. Mr. Hodge noted that most homeowners in New Fairfield take care of their property but every once in a while there may be a need for a Blight Ordinance. First Selectman Hodge asked Selectman Chapman and Selectman Gill to get together to come up with ideas for a possible Blight Ordinance and report back to the BOS in the near future.

Vote to authorize the first selectman to sign and approve the Public Health Preparedness Grant

First Selectman Hodge spoke of the Public Health Preparedness grant and noted that this total contract is for a three year period and the grant is for \$32,830 per year and needs to be voted on every year.

John Hodge made a motion to resolve that John Hodge, First Selectman is authorized to make, execute and approve on behalf of this corporation, The Contract Log #2012-1106, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Contract or amendments thereof with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Spruce Ridge Estates Bond Reduction

Mike Gill made a motion to approve the reduction of bond for Spruce Ridge Estates from \$884,420 to \$88,442. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Municipal Solid Waste Collector Registration Fees

Selectman Mike Gill spoke of the registration fees for companies that collect municipal solid waste. HRRA (Housatonic Resource Recovery Authority) has the responsibility for handling all the registration fees for the area towns. Mr. Gill spoke of how some of the haulers miss the deadlines and spoke of the possibility of imposing a penalty if the deadline has not been met.

Mike Gill made a motion that New Fairfield approves to double the registration fee set by the town after the annual due date of July 31st and to have New Fairfield approve that HRRA receive the penalty part of the registration fee to cover the additional staff hours required. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Discussion of New Fairfield's intent to stay in HRRA Regional Recycling Group

Selectman Mike Gill spoke of the contract for recycling that expires in 2013 and noted that HRRA is looking for guidance as to whether the participating municipalities wish to stay with HRRA. A RFQ (Request for qualification) will be put out to companies that handle single stream recycling and see what kind of deal can be made. It was noted that New Fairfield would not be locked into this contract. It was decided among the Selectmen that New Fairfield would be looking to stay with HRRA.

Public Comment

First Selectman Hodge noted that his office has received many calls regarding the removal of brush and noted that they are moving as fast as possible.

General Discussion: Items to be brought up by selectman for future agendas- None

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Mike Gill seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)