

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 9, 2013
7:30 PM
Community Room at 33 Route 37

Members present:

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

Other Town Officials Present:

Jay Waterman, Finance Director
Scott Akam, BOE Member
Don Blackwell, BOF Member
Ken Chapman, BOE Member

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 noted that the budget passed on April 27th. Mr. Hodge noted that he was quoted in the paper for thanking the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Education but erroneously forgot to mention the Board of Finance. Mr. Hodge noted that it was all three boards working together successfully that caused the budget to be passed on the first try eight years in a row.

First Selectman John Hodge read a prepared statement in which he tendered his resignation as First Selectman due to his increasing demands and involvement as Director of Operations for the Steven Siller Foundation. This resignation is effective May 25, 2013. Mr. Hodge explained the process of choosing a new First Selectman and noted that he hopes to remain on the board as a Selectman for the immediate future.

Selectman Susan Chapman and Selectman Mike Gill both thanked First Selectman Hodge for all his hard work and commitment to the town over the last eight years.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Susan Chapman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 25th regular meeting and the May 2nd special meeting as presented. Mike Gill seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Transfers

John Hodge made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$500.00. Mike Gill seconded the motion. (Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting)

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

\$	Transfer To		\$	Transfer From	
500.00	4161-332-9	Prof. Services-Legal Inlands/Wetlands	500.00	4161-332-8	Prof. Services-Legal ZBA
500.00			500.00		

Addition to Agenda

John Hodge made a motion to add Agenda Item 6A "Budget Update- 2012-2013". Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Budget Update 2012-2013

Finance Director Jay Waterman noted that the town will finish the fiscal year in the black and spoke of situations that affect revenues and expenditures for the town. To date, no commitment has been received from FEMA for reimbursement for Super Storm Sandy and Winter Storm Nemo.

First Selectman John Hodge spoke of the cell tower and noted that T-Mobil was merging with Metro PCS. In the process of going over the lease for T-Mobil to see how this merger would affect their rent on the cell tower, it was realized that T-Mobil did a fiber optic upgrade which increases the rent. As a result, the town will receive more rent from T-Mobil for the cell tower.

Mr. Hodge noted that the budget freeze implemented by the town has been lifted and thanked the Department Heads for all their hard work and patience in dealing with the budget.

Personnel Report

Mike Gill made a motion approve the Personnel Report dated May 9, 2013 subject to a successful background check for employees. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Authorize the First Selectman to sign adoption agreement of E-Waste Collection and Recycling

Selectman Mike Gill spoke of the E-Waste Collection and Recycling agreement with ECO International. Selectman Gill noted that the town previously had a very similar agreement with We Recycle Inc. but they did not make the cut with the DEEP guidelines. As a result, HRRA did an RFP and selected ECO International. Each individual town that is a member of HRRA will need to approve ECO International.

First Selectman John Hodge noted that residents can dispose of electronics at the Town Drop Off Center without a permit and at no charge.

Mike Gill made a motion that the BOS authorize the First Selectman to sign the adoption of the E-Waste Collection and Recycling agreement between the Town of New Fairfield and ECO International. John Hodge seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Community Garden

Resident Gary Mummert from the New Fairfield Community Garden Committee presented the BOS with a proposal to build a demonstration organic garden in the backyard of 31 Route 37 next to the Senior Center. Mr. Mummert spoke of the New Fairfield Community Garden Committee and should plans and provided a budget for this garden. This group is comprised of approximately 20 volunteers and it proposed that this group will fall under the auspices of the Parks and Rec Commission. The group plans to go before the Parks and Rec Commission on Monday, May 13th to discuss plans for the garden.

John Hodge made a motion to authorize the installation of a demonstration organic garden with a fenced in area of 14 feet by 28 feet at the backyard of 31 Route 37 subject to the Park and Rec Commission accepting the Community Garden as a program under them. This garden will be removed no later than November 15, 2013. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Public Comment

BOE Member Scott Akam and BOF member Don Blackwell both thanked First Selectman Hodge for all his service to the town during the past eight years.

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

None

Executive Session

John Hodge made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:03pm to discuss two personnel issues and to invite Finance Director Jay Waterman into the first session. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 8:27pm. Mike Gill seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

John Hodge made a motion that the BOS approve a settlement subject to the Workman's Compensation Commissioner approving this settlement as outlined in a letter discussed in Executive Session and provided by our attorney Scott Williams. Susan Chapman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Adjournment

Susan Chapman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:29pm. Mike Gill seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Suzanne Kloos

