

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

MINUTES
Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, March 28, 2019
7:30 PM
Community Room at 33 Route 37

Members present:

Pat Del Monaco, First Selectman
Khris Hall, Selectman
Kim Hanson, Selectman

Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director
Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman
Pam Dohan, Town Clerk

Call To Order First Selectman Pat Del Monaco called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Mary Ann Carson spoke of concerns regarding the possibility of combining the Town Treasurer and Finance Director positions. She also spoke in support of John Hodge being reappointed to the Candlewood Lake Authority. First Selectman Del Monaco spoke in response of the possibility of combining the Town Treasurer and Finance Director positions and noted that this would require a change to a Town Ordinance and Town Meeting before any changes can be made.

Correspondence and Announcements

Khris Hall introduced the members of the newly formed Economic Development Commission and gave a brief description of their backgrounds.

Pat Del Monaco introduced members of the Community Service Club who presented resident David Sousa with the New Fairfield Town Hero award.

Addition to the Agenda

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to add agenda item #10A "Approval of the Boat Dock Invoice from Race Coastal Engineering". Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Approval of Minutes

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2019 regular meeting as presented. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Budget Transfers

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$26,633.06. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$2,483.06	4210-110-2	Police-Crossing Guard	\$18,183.06	4210-130-1	Police-Overtime
\$5,000.00	4210-110-3	Police-T-days/Vacation	\$7,000.00	4210-130-4	Police-Training Overtime
\$2,700.00	4210-110-6	Police-Specialty Pay			
\$15,000.00	4210-130-5	Police-SRO Overtime			
\$1,000.00	4210-130-3	Police-Dare Overtime	\$1,000.00	4210-810	Police-SRO Programs
\$350.00	4210-430	Police-Equipment Maintenance	\$350.00	4210-290	Police-Uniforms
\$50.00	4155-105	Board of Assessment Appeals-Elected Salaries	\$100.00	4155-610	Board of Assessment Appeals-M&S
\$50.00	4155-110	Board of Assessment Appeals-Salaries			
\$26,633.06			\$26,633.06		

Personnel Report

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated March 28, 2019 as presented. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

The entire BOS thanked Buildings and Grounds Supervisor Bucky Riehl for all his hard work specifically after the May 15th storm and wished him well in his retirement.

Appointments

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco and Selectman Khris Hall thanked John Hodge for all his work with the Candlewood Lake Authority. There was a brief discussion of the best person to appoint to the CLA. Selectman Kim Hanson spoke of John Hodge’s vast experience with the CLA and his concerns with replacing Mr. Hodge especially considering the upcoming changes to the Shoreline Management Plan. Pat Del Monaco gave a brief description of Joan Archer’s background.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Joan Archer to the Candlewood Lake Authority. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Kim Hanson opposed)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to appoint Thomas Kavaliauskas as an alternate member of the Zoning Commission. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and vote to combine Treasurer and Finance Director positions

Pat Del Monaco spoke of the possibility of combining the positions of Treasurer and Finance Director. She noted that currently the Treasurer is an elected position and the Finance Director is an appointed position but according to the town attorney the Treasurer can be changed to an appointed position via a change in the town ordinance. She spoke of the optimal experience for the Town Treasurer. Finance Director Ed Sbordone spoke of the roles and responsibilities of both the Finance Director and Town Treasurer.

There was a discussion of potential issues and possible conflicts of interest with combining positions. It was noticed that many other towns in Connecticut have combined these two positions. It was decided to hold a Public Hearing to get feedback on this issue.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to set a Public Hearing regarding the possibility of combining the Finance Director and Treasurer positions or making the Treasurer an appointed position for Tuesday, April 30th at 7:00 pm in the Community Room at 33 Route 37. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Discuss and vote to increase Drop Off Center fees

Pat Del Monaco spoke of the increase in tipping fees and spoke of ways to offset this increase. There were suggestions of raising the permit fee or raising the rates for demolition. Kim Hanson thanked HERRA for their help in keeping the tipping fees down. He spoke of concerns regarding raising fees for recycling that may in turn decrease the amount that households recycle. Khris Hall spoke of the costs of the drop off center and noted that it should be a self-sustaining operation without being subsidized by the town. It was decided that Pat Del Monaco will do some research and the BOS will discuss further at a future meeting.

Boat Dock Invoice

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the payment of the invoice from Race Coastal Engineering for the boat docks in the amount of \$21,585.80. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

OLD BUSINESS

2019/2020 Budget update

Pat Del Monaco announced that the BOF will do the final mark up for the 2019-2020 budget this Wednesday, April 3rd at 7:30pm at the Community Room at 33 Route 37 and noted that this is the last chance for residents to give their opinion on the budget before the Town Meeting and Referendum.

Public Comment

Al Mardis spoke of his concerns regarding the potential combination of the Finance Director and Treasurer positions.

John McCartney spoke of the following items:

- Suggested giving more details and explanations for the budget transfers.
- Suggested getting an opinion from the auditors regarding the possible combination of the Town Treasurer and Finance Director positions.
- Suggested inviting HERRA to give some suggestions about solutions for the tipping fees.
- Thanked the Community Service Club and all volunteer organizations in town and encouraged residents to get involved.
- Spoke in support of Finance Director Ed Sbordone

Mary Ann Carson corrected a comment made earlier in the meeting and noted that the State Treasurer is an elected position.

Greg Moore asked for a line itemization for the cost of the Blight Ordinance referendum.

Adjournment

Kim Hanson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)