

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

MINUTES

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 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
Tom Garben, BOF Alternate
Dr. Pat Cosentino, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Rich Sanzo, Director of Business and Operations
Peggy Katkocin, BOE Chairman
Kimberly LaTourette, BOE member
Samantha Mannion, BOE member
Rick Regan, BOE member
Stephanie Strazza, BOE member
Phil Ross, BOE Director of Buildings and Grounds
Pete Viola, PBC Chairman
Diane Giardina, Co-President of Preserve New Fairfield
Faline Schneiderman, Preserve New Fairfield
Rusty Malik, Architect (QA & M)

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Proclamation

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco presented a Proclamation to Director of Buildings and Grounds Bucky Riehl and wished him well in his retirement. Selectmen Khris Hall and Kim Hanson also thanked Mr. Riehl and wished him well.

Public Comment

Michael Oliva asked about the building projects and specifically the number of firms that did evaluations on the buildings. Director of Business and Operations Dr. Rich Sanzo responded to Mr. Oliva's questions and spoke of the RFQ and the process for the facilities studies.

BOE Chairman Peggy Katkocin spoke of the timeline for the buildings projects as well as prior proposals for building projects. She spoke specifically of a proposal for the high school from 2008 and noted that it was decided at the time to redo Meeting House Hill School instead. She encouraged the Board of Selectman to support the recommendation to send this project to the voters in a referendum. BOE member Rick Regan encouraged the Board of Selectmen to support this project.

Wes Marsh spoke as a resident of New Fairfield and not the BOF Chairman and encouraged the BOS to support the recommendation to send this project to the voters in a referendum. He noted that he has taken two tours of the buildings and encouraged residents to take a tour. He spoke of the cost of the projects and specifically the fact that it would be cheaper to building a new building instead of renovating the old buildings.

BOF alternate member Tom Garben spoke in support of the project and noted that capital improvements would cost the tax payers a lot more in the long run.

Gary Mummert spoke in support of the building project and encouraged everyone to take care of the community. He also asked about the possibility of charging a nominal fee for the electric charging stations at Town Hall.

Correspondence and Announcements

Pat Del Monaco thanked the Parks and Recreation Department and everyone involved in the success of the Sip and Stroll that was held on Saturday, May 18th. She noted that it was a sold out event with over 350 glasses sold.

Selectman Khris Hall thanked the Public Works Department and everyone involved in the Candlewood Clean up day that was held on May 18th.

Approval of Minutes

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 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 Intra Departmental transfer in the amount of \$35,865.00. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$1,000.00	4470-110	Commission on Aging-Salaries	\$1,000.00	4470-610	Commission on the Aging-Materials and Supplies
\$5,000.00	4220-290	Fire Company-Physicals	\$18,360.00	4220-230	Fire Companies-Length of Service
\$5,000.00	4220-430-1	Fire Company-Maint & Repairs			
\$5,000.00	4220-610-5	Fire Company-Portable Equipment			
\$2,500.00	4220-110	Fire Company-Salaries			
\$860.00	4220-322	Fire Company-Education and Training			
\$9,000.00	4310-610-3	Public Works-Snow Materials and Supplies	\$16,505.00	4310-423	Public Works-Contracted Service
\$2,700.00	4310-421	Public Works-Disposal of Waste			
\$2255.00	4310-291	Public Works-Uniforms			
\$2250.00	4310-441	Public Works-Equipment Lease			
\$300.00	4310-610-4	Public Works-Safety Committee			
\$35,865.00			\$35,865.00		

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Inter- Departmental transfer in the amount of \$40,000.00. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$20,000.00	4160-140	Unclass P & B-Salary Adjustments	\$40,000.00	4310-451	Public Works-Road Repair
\$15,000.00	4160-230	Unclass P & B-Pension			
\$4,000.00	4160-250	Unclass P & B-Unemployment			
\$1,000.00	4160-260	Unclass P & B-Workers Compensation			
\$40,000.00			\$40,000.00		

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the transfer in the amount of \$4,820.00 from Building Repair Reserve Fund to the Town Hall Lower Level renovation project. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Personnel Report

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Personnel Report dated May 23, 2019 as presented. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend the previous motion to approve the Personnel Report dated May 23, 2019 with the exception of item #5. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote on amendment: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)
Vote on motion as amended: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Appointments

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Linda Fox as the Town of New Fairfield Historian. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

NEW BUSINESS

Consider and Act upon resolutions

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco spoke of the purpose of the resolutions regarding the buildings projects and noted that it is to authorize the BOE to apply for and accept or reject the grant for new construction for both Consolidated School and New Fairfield High School. The resolutions will establish the Permanent Building Committee (PBC) as the building committee for these projects. The resolutions will also authorize the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for both schools and permit the BOS to Warn a Town Meeting and prepare for a referendum to be held in the Fall of 2019.

Consolidated School

There was a discussion of the timeline of this process and whether or not the resolution would require the Town to go forward with the referendum if it is decided not to go forward with the project or if reimbursement is not granted. Dr. Sanzo spoke of the procedure from the State and noted that the process is to make sure that the district intends to bring this project to the taxpayers for a decision.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the following Resolution for Consolidated School:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen authorizes the New Fairfield Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the new construction at the Consolidated Early Learning Academy; and

RESOLVED, that the Permanent Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the new construction at the Consolidated Early Learning Academy; and

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the new construction at the Consolidated Early Learning Academy; and

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectman shall warn a Town Meeting on or about September 24, 2019 for the purpose of authorizing an appropriation and bond authorization for the planning, design, construction, renovation, equipping and furnishing of the Consolidated Early Learning Academy, with the results to be provided to the Office of the School Construction Grants and Review no later than November 15, 2019; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectman shall, not less than five (5) days prior to said Town Meeting, remove the aforesaid matter from such meeting, and shall submit said matter to the voters of the Town of New Fairfield at a referendum to be held not less than seven (7) days nor more than fourteen (14) days thereafter, on a day to be set by said Board of Selectman; the results of which vote shall be provided to the Office of the School Construction Grants and Review no later than November 15, 2019. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

High School

There was a discussion of the size of the new construction for the high school and specifically “right sizing” the building based on projected enrollment. Dr. Sanzo spoke of the “right size” of the high school and noted that schematics will be drawn that will enable to add on if necessary in the future. Dr. Sanzo spoke of the letter received from NEASC and pointed out some key elements.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the following Resolution for New Fairfield High School:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen authorizes the New Fairfield Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the new construction at the New Fairfield High School; and

RESOLVED, that the Permanent Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the new construction at the New Fairfield High School; and

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the new construction at the New Fairfield High School; and

RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectman shall warn a Town Meeting on or about September 24, 2019 for the purpose of authorizing an appropriation and bond authorization for the planning, design, construction, renovation, equipping and furnishing of the New Fairfield High School, with the results to be provided to the Office of the School Construction Grants and Review no later than November 15, 2019; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Selectman shall, not less than five (5) days prior to said Town Meeting, remove the aforesaid matter from such meeting, and shall submit said matter to the voters of the Town of New Fairfield at a referendum to be held not less than seven (7) days nor more than fourteen (14) days thereafter, on a day to be set by said Board of Selectman; the results of which vote shall be provided to the Office of the School Construction Grants and Review no later than November 15,2019. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Preserve New Fairfield proposal to construct a septic system

Faline Schneiderman and Diane Giardina from Preserve New Fairfield spoke of the Town owned Parsonage and Hubbel House located behind the Senior Center. It was noted that Preserve New Fairfield leases these buildings from the Town. Currently, there is no water available in either of these locations. Preserve New Fairfield has been given a private grant to install a septic system and they would like to tap into the water system near the Senior Center. Since the Town owns the property, they would need the permission of the Town to build a septic system and to tap into the Town's water system. This would be for a very small septic system that will allow for bathrooms and a sink.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve Preserve New Fairfield's proposal to construct a septic system on the Town owned property at 33 Route 37 in accordance with all applicable state, federal and local statutes and regulations. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

Boat dock replacement invoice

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the payment of two invoices from RACE Costal Engineering from the Boat Dock Replacement fund. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)

OLD BUSINESS

Vote to amend Fire Zone Ordinance

Pat Del Monaco spoke of a proposed change to the Fire Zone Ordinance that would add the authorization of the fire marshal as a person in authority to remove a vehicle that is parked in a fire zone. Currently, a state trooper, constable or member of the traffic authority are the only ones with this authority. Selectman Kim Hanson spoke of his concerns of having the fire marshal or traffic authority with this responsibility. He noted that he would rather see law enforcement handle the situation and noted this could potentially cause a dangerous situation.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend Section 9-50 of the Fire Zone Ordinance "Removal of vehicle from the zone" to include the fire marshal in the list of those authorized to remove a vehicle from the fire zone. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 2-1-0 (Motion approved- Kim Hanson opposed)

It was noted that would have to be passed by a Town Meeting.

Public Comment

Bob Jano spoke of his concerns regarding giving the Fire Marshal the authority to move vehicles and noted that this should be left up to law enforcement.

Keith Landa spoke of Roberts Rules and noted that he believed there would be a resolution to rescind the referendum for the school projects if necessary. He thanked everyone for supporting the school projects.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Pat Cosentino thanked the BOS as well as the BOF and BOE for supporting the school projects.

Adjournment

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)