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

#### **MINUTES**

Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting Thursday, September 10, 2020 7:30 PM Virtual meeting via Zoom

#### Members present:

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

#### Other Town Officials Present:

Ed Sbordone, Finance Director and Town Treasurer Wes Marsh, BOF Chairman

Quinton Flowers gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for having a virtual meeting.

<u>Call To Order</u> First Selectman Pat Del Monaco called the meeting to order at 7:35pm.

### Pledge of Allegiance- None

### **Public Comment**

Hollywyle resident Tom Perkins spoke of the noise problems and the lack of ability to enforce problems with noise. He noted that he would be in favor of a noise ordinance.

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco noted that the Candlewood Lake Authority is putting together an Ad Hoc committee to look into noise issues and specifically enforcement.

#### **Correspondence and Announcements**

First Selectman Pat Del Monaco announced that the September 11 Ceremony will be held on Friday, September 11 at 6:30 pm at Memorial Park by the Senior Center.

Pat Del Monaco announced that the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be on Saturday, September 12 from 9am to 2pm at Brookfield High School. Information on what is permissible to bring is on the New Fairfield Town's website.

Selectman Kim Hanson noted that he attended the DEEP virtual meeting that was called to come up with ways to increase recycling and reduce waste. He noted that it was a good meeting and that he plans to attend future meetings.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend the agenda to include the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of August 27, 2020. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)** 

#### **Budget Transfers**

Kim Hanson made a motion to move agenda item #6 "Budget Transfers" to after agenda item #10 "Noise Ordinance Discussion". 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 September 10, 2020 as presented. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0** (**Motion approved**)

### **Appointments**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Jeff Main to the Candlewood Lake Authority. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0** (**Motion approved**)

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Shane Cosentino to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)** 

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reappoint Chris Van Steen to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)** 

Selectman Kim Hanson thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for all the athletic events that they sponsor and encouraged them to look into sponsoring more events related to the arts.

# **OLD BUSINESS**

## **COVID 19 update**

Pat Del Monaco noted that there has been a slight uptick in COVID 19 cases in both the State and New Fairfield mostly in the 18-40 age category. She asked that everyone be patient and flexible and continue to practice social distancing, wear masks and avoid large gatherings. The basketball courts have been closed at the high school due to the uptick. It was noted that contact tracing is done for all cases in town.

## **Noise Ordinance discussion**

Selectman Khris Hall presented her first draft of a possible noise ordinance. She noted that decibel based noise ordinances were hard to enforce. She spoke instead of qualitative ordinances that describe types of activities that a reasonable person would consider to be a disturbance. This disturbance would be anything beyond 15 minutes. She noted that State Statute allows for the creation of a noise ordinance. Specific complaints received are loud music, barking and animal noise, repeated motor vehicles noises, landscaping and gardening equipment and commercial operations. It was noted that noise is particularly problematic around the lake.

Pat Del Monaco spoke of a discussion with the police as to what can be enforced under current laws. She noted that the challenge of the current laws is that it would require a written complaint which

many residents are reluctant to do. It was noted that it would be helpful to get feedback from lawn, construction and garbage companies about the timing of their work and how a change in schedule would affect their business. It was decided to discuss this more at the next regular meeting.

### **Budget Transfers**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion approve the transfer of the following Intra-Departmental transfer for fiscal year 2019-2020 end of year true ups in the amount of \$19,913.47. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0** (Motion approved)- Such document to be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion approve the transfer of the following Inter-Departmental transfer for fiscal year 2019-2020 in the amount of \$4,984.82. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

**Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)** 

\$	Transfer		\$	Transfer	
	From			То	
\$4,984.82	4195/626.00	Utilities-Gasoline &	\$1,735.82	4162/421.00	Intergov. Agency- Household
		Diesel			Hazardous Waste
			\$2,199.00	4163/520.01	General Insurance-Property and
					Casualty
			\$1,050.00	4710/001.01	Debt Service-Town-Bond
					Registration Fees
\$4,984.82			\$4,984.82		

### Fiscal year 2019-2020 surplus

Finance Director Ed Sbordone spoke of preliminary surplus numbers for both the BOE and the Town. The expenditure surplus for the Town is \$599,222.21. The revenue surplus for the Town is \$25,199.47 and all other revenue surplus is \$301,338.06. There was a discussion of items that were removed from the 2020-2021 budget that could be good uses for the expenditure surplus. These include replacement of a plow truck, tax revaluation expenses, Zoning regulations review expenses and road repair for a total of \$328,750.00. Money needed for the boat dock replacement is approximately \$215,000. There was a brief discussion of the replacement of the building at the Town Beach. It was noted that the surplus will be discussed further at next week's Board of Finance meeting.

#### **Public Comment**

Tom Perkins spoke of noise around Hollywyle from many boats and large gatherings with most people not wearing masks. He spoke of his background as a recording engineer and gave his opinion on quantitative and qualitative approach to measuring noise.

Pat Del Monaco responded to Mr. Perkins comments and noted that the surrounding towns share the concerns regarding large parties and COVID risk. She noted that First Light has closed the islands in Candlewood Lake and Danbury has closed the boat launches.

Hollywyle resident Sandra Vonniessen Applebee noted that problems with noise around the lake are much worse this year and noted that sound carries on water. It was noted that the Town of Brookfield has a very detailed noise ordinance.

Linda Singagliese spoke of noise around the lake and noted that it can be heard from Bear Mountain Road. She spoke of her concerns regarding health issues with many people congregating on the islands in the lake. She offered to volunteer to help the town with this problem if possible.

Hollywyle resident Don Gustavson spoke of his concerns with noise and public gatherings on the lake and thanked the Board of Selectmen for addressing this issue. He asked how residents can play a role in helping to solve this issue.

Pat Del Monaco thanked everyone for their comments and concerns regarding this issue and encouraged them to attend a Candlewood Lake Authority meeting to see what are the most effective ways for residents to get involved.

## **Adjournment**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)** 

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos

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853.88	4153 / 610.00	Assessor - Materials & Supplies	853.88	4153 / 110.00	Assessor - Salaries
0.89	4154 / 610.00	Tax Collector - Materials & Supplies	0.45	4154 / 105.00	Tax Collector - Elected Salaries
			0.44	4154 / 110.00	Tax Collector - Salaries
55.92	4160 / 140.00	Unclass. P&B - Salary Adjustments	55.92	4160/250.00	Unclass. P&B - Unemployment
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383.62	4220-1 / 430.09	Fire Companies - Maintenance & Repairs	2,714.61	4220 / 610.02	Fire Companies - Dept. Materials & Supplies
222.38	4220-5 / 610.01	Fire Companies - Portable Equipment			
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339.24	4225 / 610.00	Fire Marshall - Materials & Supplies	339.24	4225 / 110.00	Fire Marshall - Salaries
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7,937.63	4310 / 130.00	Public Works - Overtime	5,294.11	4310 / 110.00	Public Works - Salaries
125.24	4310 / 421.01	Public Works - Disposal of Waste	2,768.76	4310 / 112.01	Public Works - Town Engineer
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