

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

MINUTES  
**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 12, 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  
Bruce Taylor, Fire Chief  
Joan Archer, Candlewood Lake Authority

Paul Gouveia gave a brief overview of the rules and procedures for having a virtual meeting.

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**- Fire Chief Bruce Taylor spoke of the proposed noise ordinance and asked that fire trucks be included in the exceptions for noise in residential neighborhoods. Selectman Khris Hall noted that emergency vehicles are already exempted from this ordinance.

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Pat Del Monaco noted that the New Fairfield Veterans ceremony video is posted to the town's website. She thanked Selectman Kim Hanson for putting this together and encouraged town residents to view it.

Selectman Khris Hall noted that three New Fairfield veterans are sharing their experiences via StoryCorps. The links for these will be posted to the New Fairfield Veterans Facebook page.

**Approval of Minutes**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2020. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Budget Transfers**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion table this item until after the discussion of the STEAP Grant update. 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 November 12, 2020 as presented. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Appointments**- None

**Candlewood Lake Authority update**

Joan Archer from CLA noted that the CLA had asked towns surrounding the lake to contribute the purchase of patrol boats. In the meantime, First Light has made a donation of \$100,000 for this purpose. The New Fairfield Fire Department has also offered to one of their used boats that may be able to be used as a patrol boat. As a result, the CLA is withdrawing their request for emergency funding for the patrol boats. They will be requesting money for an additional patrol boat with next year’s budget.

The BOS thanked members of the CLA for working to find other funding for these boats.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**COVID 19 update**

Pat Del Monaco noted that New Fairfield is in the red zone regarding COVID 19 cases and explained the metrics for each of the three levels. There are currently 16 active cases in New Fairfield with cases increasing rapidly. She spoke of current restrictions and noted that town fields including the basketball courts, playground and the dog park are currently closed. Restaurants must be empty by 10 pm but take out can be done later. Religious gatherings are limited to 50% capacity. Private gatherings at a commercial establishment are limited to 25 people indoors and 50 outdoors. All residents are encouraged to remain vigilant.

Pat Del Monaco noted that the State of Connecticut is making \$5,000 grants available for small businesses through the CARES Act. Information for this is available on the DECD website.

Khris Hall noting that she is working with Health Director Tim Simpkins for mass vaccination. It is hopeful that the first batch of vaccines will be available by the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021. Distribution will be very limited and will be prioritized based on CDC guidelines. Volunteers will be needed once distribution is ready. This would include people with nursing backgrounds as well as people for data entry.

Kim Hanson spoke of an app that can be downloaded that allows people that test positive to indicate this and will notify others that may have been exposed without releasing names.

**STEAP Grant update**

Pat Del Monaco announced that New Fairfield was granted a STEAP grant in the amount of \$128,205 that will be used for ventilation for both Town Hall and the Annex. Currently, the buildings are running fans and opening windows. The balance of this project would be approximately \$96,000. It was noted that an additional appropriation will be made from the general fund to the Cap and Non- Town Properties Capital for the full amount of the project in order to sign the contract. One the grant is received, the money will go back to the general fund.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to make the following Additional Appropriation from General Fund-Unreserved to Cap & Non- Town Properties Capital in the amount \$225,000. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
\$225,000.00	E25321	General Fund-Unreserved	\$225,000.00	301-4340-0000-000/700.14	Cap & Non-Town Properties Capital
<b>\$225,000.00</b>			<b>\$225,000.00</b>		

### **Noise Ordinance discussion**

Khris Hall spoke of updates made to the proposed noise ordinances. She spoke specifically of distance of measurements and decibel levels.

Kim Hanson introduced resident Peter Hylenski and spoke of his background with sound design. Mr. Hylenski spoke of frequencies and decibels and ways to measure and regulate sound.

There was a suggestion of having a workshop to discuss recommendations for the noise ordinance and to invite Tom Perkins and Peter Hylenski to give their professional advice.

### **Driveway approval for Aberdeen Acres resubdivision**

Pat Del Monaco spoke of a property in Aberdeen Acres that has designed a driveway that is outside the town's requirement for a grade. She noted that Town Engineer Tony Iadarola supported this waiver because it causes less disturbance on the property and fits into the existing grades. It was noted that this approval was approved by the Inlands/Wetlands commission and was given a positive referral by the Planning Commission.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the driveway for the property located in Aberdeen Acres resubdivision on Bear Mountain Road as described by Town Engineer Tony Iadarola in his letter to the Planning Commission dated October 25, 2020. Khris Hall seconded the motion.

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **COVID relief for small businesses**

The BOS spoke of ways to help New Fairfield small businesses during this second round of COVID. She spoke of the possibility of deferring taxes for small businesses or possibly establishing a tax abatement committee in town. There was a discussion of what options the town has since it is not a Charter town. It was suggested that the town reach out to small businesses to make sure they are aware of the new grant available through the CARES Act. The BOS will continue to research ways to help small businesses in town.

**Public Comment**- None

#### **Teamsters Local 677-911 Dispatchers grievance**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:21pm to discuss the Teamsters Local 677-911 Dispatchers grievance. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

The Board of Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:33 pm.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of New Fairfield and Teamsters Local 677-911 Dispatchers. "In the event the Town assigns an employee as lead dispatcher, the lead dispatcher will receive a paid premium of \$2.00 per hour in addition to the employee's regular hourly rate for all hours worked in the capacity of lead dispatcher. In addition, when the lead dispatcher is on vacation or away from work for a period of a week or more, his or her designee will receive a paid premium of \$2.00 per hour in addition to the employee's regular hourly rate for all hours worked in that capacity. These payments are in lieu of, and supersede,

any prior stipends or wage adjustments provided for an employee assigned as lead dispatcher”. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Adjournment**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Kloos