

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

**MINUTES**

**Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021**

**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  
Cynthia Ross-Zweig, Planning Commission Chair  
Patrick Hearty, Planning Commission Vice Chair  
Jeff Morrell, Planning Commission  
Patrick Callahan, Planning Commission Alternate

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 7:32pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**- Myke Furrhman, Economic Development Commission Chairman, advised the EDC has been working on a video series to promote New Fairfield businesses and invited the Selectman to participate in the video series. The EDC has approved a small ad budget to promote New Fairfield businesses to neighboring towns. The EDC has been discussing the potential for creating small business grants in lieu of tax abatements. Myke continued that the EDC is looking in to possibly updating the town seal.

**Amendment to the Agenda**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to amend the agenda to reverse items 16 and 17 on the agenda and have public comment come after the Lighting study presentation. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

**Correspondence and Announcements**

Selectman Kim Hanson advised any Ball Pond residents listening to continue filling out the required paperwork. Selectman Khris Hall stated there will be a public hearing sponsored by West Conn a week from tonight to review findings from the study on the rt 37 corridor. Included in the report will be recommendations for a trail along Marjorie Reservoir.

**Approval of Minutes**

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

**Budget Transfers**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve a transfer of \$139.00 from Building Repair Reserve to Company A Oil Tank Lines. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to make the following Intra-Departmental transfer in the amount of \$5,198.24. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Ed Sbordone clarified that \$698.24 was for yearly testing of the wells. He continued \$4,500.00 is payroll related for the BOE and for the Town.

\$	Transfer From		\$	Transfer To	
698.24	001-4161-0000-001/332.01	Professional Services- Legal Land	698.24	1001-4161-0000-000/334.01	Professional Services- Legal Consulting
4,5000.00	001-4610-0000-000/230.00	Unclassified P&B – Pension	4,5000.00	001-4160-0000-000/130.01	Unclassified P&B – OT Contingency
<b>5,198.24</b>			<b>5,198.24</b>		

**Personnel Report** – None

**Appointments** - None

**OLD BUSINESS**

**COVID 19 update**

Pat Del Monaco gave an update regarding COVID 19. Since her report last Monday there are 35 new cases in New Fairfield and a total of 110 active cases of COVID 19 in town. The town is experiencing a peak likely related to holiday gatherings. Vaccination in phase 1B is going to be rolled out in phases. Individuals over 75 are going to be the focus of vaccination for the next few weeks. Registration for that group started today. Subsequent waves will be rolled out including front line workers, people over the age of 65, people under 65 with underlying health conditions. These phases will be rolled out over 3 to 6 months. A “COVID Vaccine” button has been created on the home page of the website to sign up for a vaccine appointment. Everyone should have their own unique email address. Household members cannot share one email. There is a secondary means to set up an appointment using a phone number on the website in the news section available Monday – Friday 8am to 4:30pm. If you need help setting up an appointment you can contact your healthcare provider, or the Senior Center between 10am and 2pm, or call

the Selectmen's office. Once you have an appointment you will receive an email from the CDC so be sure to check your spam folder. Follow the instructions included in that email.

Khris Hall added that vaccination clinics will start in New Fairfield on February 2<sup>nd</sup>. The plan is to hold four clinics per week Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 3:30pm-7:30pm, Saturday 9am-1pm. These clinics are contingent upon the availability of vaccine. If you are over 75 and require the vaccine before February 2<sup>nd</sup> you can go to any clinic in the state. Khris thanked everyone who volunteered to help at the clinics and noted the scheduling process has just started. Pat Del Monaco stated that it has not been determined if Public Works employees will be considered front line workers.

**Noise Ordinance** – Khris Hall suggested this item be tabled for the time being.

### **COVID relief for Small Business**

Pat Del Monaco outlined the business eligibility criteria for distributing grants that was modeled after the state's requirements for small business grants. There was a discussion of the basic framework, timeframe requirement, and percentage of loss a business must have incurred.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **New Fairfield Tax Abatement Committee**

Pat Del Monaco stated that the town does not currently have a Tax Abatement Committee and that if someone were to come forth requesting tax abatement, they would be referred to the Office of Personnel Management for approval. There was a discussion about developing a Tax Abatement Committee for New Fairfield. Kim Hanson suggested looking at how area non charter towns are doing it and what documentation they have.

#### **Bond Release for Barn Brook Subdivision**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the bond release for \$28,000.00 for the Public Improvements portion of the bond. Kim Hanson seconded the motion.

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

#### **Bond Reduction for Barn Brook II – Barn Brook Road**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to approve the bond reduction for Barn Brook Road. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

#### **Request for Subordination**

There was a brief discussion of the reason and location of the request as well as the refinance amount.

Pat Del Monaco recommended that they grant the request for subordination. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Planning Commission Lighting Study**

Patrick Hearty, Planning Commission Vice Chair, presented a lighting study conducted by the Planning Commission. The study focused on the entrance Memorial Field behind Town Hall. There were four different plans reviewed. There was a discussion on which plan would make the most sense and be cost effective. There was also a brief discussion to change all the town lights to LED's and potentially save the town money on electrical costs. There was agreement to move to the study to the next step.

### **Public Comment**

State representative Pat Callahan stated he is looking forward to working with the Board of Selectman and is on judiciary, environment, and education.

### **Executive Session**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to enter executive session at 8:41pm with Ed Sbordone. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to reenter the regular meeting at 9:03pm. Kim Hanson seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

### **Adjournment**

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:03pm. Khris Hall seconded the motion. **Vote: 3-0-0 (Motion approved)**

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Magoon

Received by Email on 1/21/2021 @ 6:28 pm  
by Pamela J. Dohan, Town Clerk, New Fairfield