Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen Meeting
October 24, 2019
10:00 a.m.
Cone Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 A.M.

a. Attendance:
   a. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei - Present
   b. Selectman John Toner - Present
   c. Selectman Sandy Litvack – Present

Mr. Tesei stated that this was a public meeting, not a public hearing, and that the Chair reserves the right to call upon residents to comment. He explained the Municipal Improvement requests are typically heard over the course of several meetings before a decision is made. Mr. Tesei also said that he would seek a motion to move up new business on the agenda because of the number of members of the business community in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

   a. Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on October 10, 2019.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Toner and a second by Mr. Litvack, the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. First Selectman’s Updates

On Oct. 14, he and Selectman Toner attended the Columbus Day flag-raising at Town Hall and the St. Lawrence Society annual dinner.
On Oct. 15, Mr. Tesei visited the 3rd, 4th and 5th grades of North Mianus School to celebrate the school being named a National Blue Ribbon School. It is one of 4 designated schools in Connecticut.
On Oct. 21, he attended the annual Breast Cancer Alliance fund-raising luncheon. There were more than 1,100 attendees at the event that raised nearly $2 million for their funding of research work that has national and international influence.
On Oct. 23, Mr. Tesei hosted the annual visit of the Old Greenwich School
third-grade with more than 60 students and their teachers visiting Town Hall. Following today’s board meeting, the Board is going will attend the annual United Nations Day at Julian Curtiss School where the Town’s diversity is illustrated by the nearly 60 different countries represented by the students. Also starting today was the Experience Greenwich week with 125 businesses participating.

On Nov. 1, Mr. Tesei will swear in Greenwich Fire Department recruit Scott Teulings at the Public Safety Complex at 10:30 a.m. And on Nov. 5th and 6th, Mr. Tesei will be participating in the 2nd annual Greenwich Economic Forum. Mr. Tesei also mentioned that the Selectmen’s Office has a new customer service representative, Angelina Kaether.

Upon Mr. Tesei’s request, Mr. Litvack made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to act upon New Business prior to taking up old business. The motion was approved unanimously.

4. Old Business

a. Greenwich Housing Authority request for Municipal Improvement – Armstrong Court: to construct a new building with approximately 50 “elderly” (55 and older) units, consisting of market-rate units with up to 10 units being “affordable in a single building to be located to the rear of the property to be accessed from Booth Place.

b. Greenwich Housing Authority request for Municipal Improvement – Quarry Knoll I: The property is currently improved with 50 units on about 7 acres of land. These will be replaced with between 175 and 225 units consisting of a mixture of elderly, affordable and market-rate units.

Mr. Tesei gave a history on the two municipal improvement requests, explaining that this is the 4th time the requests were on the Board’s agenda. He said that it was the Board’s job to review sightlines and drainage – those concerns are under the purview of Planning and Zoning. He said the Board should consider whether the projects meet the needs of the Town.

There was considerable discussion on the relevance of the Municipal Improvement process, funding of the project, income levels of residents of affordable and market-rate units in both projects with comments regarding how the community would be served by the projects, and the impacts upon nearby neighborhoods.

Speakers included residents Nancy Ramer, Alanna Hynes, Tom Hughes, Allison Walsh, Lucy von Brachel and Dawn Fortunato; BET Chair Jill Oberlander, Housing Authority Executive Director Tony Johnson; HATG Commission Chair Sam Romeo.
Upon a motion by Mr. Tesei that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the MI request for Armstrong Court was approved by a vote of 2-1-0.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tesei that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the MI request for Quarry Knoll was approved by a vote of 2-1-0.

5. **New Business**

   a. **North Street detour – David Medd, Aquarion.**

      Mr. Medd explained a large crane is needed to replace a submersible pump that moves water from the Rockwood Reservoir to the Putnam Reservoir. The work would take place on Oct. 29.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the detour was approved unanimously.

   b. **Greenwich Avenue road closure for Veteran’s Day walk – Erf Porter, American Legion.**

      Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Tesei, the road closure was approved unanimously.

   c. **Charter Change for parking at Town Hall Annex – Deputy Chief Mark Marino and Parking Services.**

      Deputy Chief Marino explained signage was needed to define uses of the 26 parking spaces: 18 for 12-hour public parking (including 1 for handicapped); 4 for Fire Department staff; 4 for Housing Authority employees.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Toner and a second by Mr. Litvack, the change was approved unanimously.

   d. **Sound Beach Avenue road closure for First Light Festival – Richard Fulton, Old Greenwich Merchants Association.**

      Mr. Fulton said the annual festival would be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Dec. 7.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the road closure was approved unanimously.

   e. **315 Milbank Properties, LLC v. Town of Greenwich - Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.**

      Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board unanimously voted to approve the
settlement for a tax credit of $9,887 against future tax payments.

6. Appointments and Nominations

Upon a motion by Mr. Toner that was seconded by Mr. Tesei, the Board unanimously approved the appointment of Michael Bocchino to the Board of Parks and Recreation for a term ending June 20, 2022.

7. Executive Session

Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board unanimously voted to move into Executive Session at 12:10 p.m.

Also attending were Assistant Town Attorneys Aamina Ahmad and Eugene McLaughlin, Board Secretary Barbara Heins, Angela Swift and Nina Becker.

Upon a motion by Mr. Litvack that was seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board unanimously voted to exit the Executive Session at 12:43 p.m.

8. Adjournment

At 12:46 p.m., Mr. Litvack made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

The next regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, November 14, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

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Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

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Prepared by Barbara A. Heins,
Recording Secretary