Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen
Meeting January 12, 2017
10:00 A.M.
Town Hall Meeting Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. The meeting opened at 10:11 A.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

   a. Attendance:
      I. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei - Present
      II. Selectman John Toner - Present
      III. Selectman Drew Marzullo - Present

   Following the Pledge, Mr. Tesei greeted and welcomed attendees commenting that it was a Public Meeting of the Board of Selectmen who reserve the right to call on people to ask questions and make comments. Mr. Tesei noted the passing of Emil Smeriglio, a former Town employee, member of the Republican Town Committee and past commander of VFW Post 29, a founder of the Harvest Time Church, and a fixture in the Chickahominy neighborhood where he also was a past president of the Hamilton Avenue PTA. Mr. Tesei described him as a member of the greatest generation who gave back to his community.

2. Approval of Minutes

   Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on December 22, 2016 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.

3. First Selectman’s Updates

   a. Mr. Tesei discussed the continuing drought situation not only in the Town but also regionally. Despite recent rains and snowstorms, precipitation remains 24% less than normal and reservoirs are at 40% capacity instead of the usual 80%. He also said that he met Jan. 9 with Stamford Mayor David Martin and there was discussion on how more water use/consumption restrictions regionally and statewide may help to ameliorate the situation. Stamford is considering imposing restrictions on irrigation companies, Mr. Tesei said. He added that education, changing people’s behavior, especially with daily lawn watering during summer months may help.

   b. Mr. Tesei reported that the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection has given a tentative determination to approve the dredging and bank restoration project at Binney Park Pond.

   c. Following the annual bond rating calls with S & P and Moody's, the Town was notified that it continues with a Triple A bond rating.

   d. Regarding the annual Capital Improvement Program projects budget process, Mr. Tesei said that the committee has smoothed out the projects slated for successive years. The main projects under review by the Committee include a study of the Town's fire services, the Indian Harbor ferry, Greenwich Emergency Medical Services (GEMS) station 4. He also said that he met with a committee of stakeholders regarding the Old Greenwich Riverside Civic Center and their proposal to rebuild and expand
the current center.
e. Monday, Jan. 16 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and as part of commemorating Dr. King's life, the Town is co-sponsoring a 'Why Words Still Matter' program with the Greenwich YWCA and several other community organizations. The program will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 18 at the YWCA.
f. In an effort to reduce opioid abuse and addiction, the Town will be hosting a Jan. 26 program titled 'Chasing the Dragon.' The program, to be held in the Town Hall Meeting Room, includes a documentary and discussion to be led by an FBI agent.
g. On Jan. 30, Mr. Tesei will present his annual budget message and the proposed 2017-18 operating and capital expenditure budgets. Interim School Superintendent Sal Corda also will present the Board of Education's proposed operating and capital budgets at the meeting to be held at 6 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.
h. Mr. Tesei said that he will be attending the Jan. 14 fund-raiser for Safe Rides that will be held at 49 Byfield Ln. He is one of the honorees that also include state Rep. Fred Camillo and Greenwich Sentinel founder Beth Barhydt.
i. The Greenwich Library is looking to increase interest in the facility and its programs with a 'Tee Off at Greenwich Library' event on the weekend of Jan. 27-28. The library will be transformed into an 18-hole miniature golf course with an adult program on Jan. 27 and a family oriented program on Jan. 28.
j. The Youth Services Partnership Board held its quarterly meeting on Jan. 11 where several of the proposed projects to be completed by the members of the First Selectman's Youth Commission were reviewed, including a signage on the Town line, and an online suggestion box for the town's youth.
k. The First Selectman's Economic Advisory Committee met on Jan. 12. There was discussion on members' trip to Hangzhou China for the Westlake Hedge fund summit in November, and developing plans for a similar event in Greenwich in 2017 or 2018, and developing a marketing program for Greenwich. Mr. Tesei also said that he expects to be working with Stamford Mayor David Martin who is preparing to organize a regional marketing confab with representatives from Stamford, Greenwich, Norwalk, Westport and Fairfield.

4. Old Business

a. Request to change the name of the Department of Social Services to the Department of Human Services.

Assistant Town Attorney Valerie Maze Keeney presented four separate resolutions that would make changes to the Town Charter that would allow the change of the names of the Department of Social Services and the Board of Social Services, to the Department of Human Services and the Board of Human Services, respectively.

Each of the resolutions was moved by Mr. Toner and seconded by Mr. Marzullo. Each was unanimously adopted. [Copies of each resolution are attached at the end of this record.]

5. New Business

There wasn't any new business presented.
6. Appointments and Nominations

Mr. Toner made a motion to re-nominate Abbott Jones as a member of the Board of Social Services. Mr. Marzullo seconded the motion to appoint Mr. Jones to a term ending 3/31/20, that passed 3-0-0.

7. Executive Session

Mr. Toner motioned to enter into executive session at 11:02 A.M., seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

Present in Executive Session were: J. Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Assistant Town Attorneys Eugene McLaughlin and Fred de Arango.

Mr. Toner moved to exit Executive Session at 11:34 A.M., seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Mr. Tesei made a motion to settle the following tax appeal claim. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the appeal was approved by a vote of 3-0-0.

Docket Nos. HHB CV 15-6031254/S and HHB CV 16-6034830/S for a tax credit of $107,869 against future tax payments.

Mr. Tesei then read a year-to-date summary of tax appeal cases handled by Assistant Town Attorney McLaughlin for the 2016-17 fiscal year. There were 18 cases settled in which property owners claimed tax refunds totaling $713,136. The cases were settled with tax credits totaling $336,883.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Toner motioned to adjourn at 11:39 A.M.; seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, 2017 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

\[Signature\]

Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

\[Signature\]

Barbara A. Heins, Recording Secretary