Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen
Meeting January 14, 2016
10:00 a.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

1. The meeting opened at 10:14 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

   The First Selectman greeted and welcomed attendees. He commented that it was a Public Meeting of the Board of Selectmen but not a Public Hearing and as Chair, reserves the right to call on people to pose questions and make comments on any matters before the Board.

2. Approval of Minutes
   a. Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 12-16-2015 were moved for approval as amended by changing Section 3 L identification to “Scheme D” by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.
   b. Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on 12-18-2015 were moved for approval as amended by changing Section 3 D referring to the length of contract by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.

3. First Selectman’s Update
   a. Mr. Tesei recognized Fire Training Department Captain Laurence Roberts on his completion and certification by the National Fire Executive Officers Program which ranks him in the top 1% of firefighters nationally.
   b. Mr. Tesei announced that the League of Women Voters was sponsoring a Cocktails & Conversation program featuring Town Administrator Ben Branyan as its featured speaker.
   c. Mr. Tesei would be attending the Riverside Association’s Annual meeting with Mr. Siciliano and Ms. Lauren Elliot, to respond to the community’s questions.
   d. A swearing in ceremony was conducted at Town Hall for three new police officers and they will be attending the Connecticut Police Academy.
   e. Mr. Tesei commented on the several meetings of the FY2016-2017 Capital Improvements Projects Committee and its evaluation of $70 million of proposals; he indicated that there were no mega projects and without the New Lebanon School project, it would be below the BET Capital Plan. Additionally, he mentioned budget drivers such as healthcare costs, Nathaniel Witherell subsidies, the school lunch program and the potential use of the fund balance to offset the Tax Levy.
   f. Mr. Tesei commented on the results of the rating agency calls with the financial rating agencies (Fitch, Moody’s, and Standard & Poor’s) and their affirming the Town’s triple-A bond rating.
   g. Mr. Tesei noted that the Town has filed with the Connecticut Siting Council to be an “intervenor” on the Eversource Sub-station and transmission line project and that Town Planner Katie Deluca is actively monitoring the Eversource application for the Town.
   h. Mr. Tesei noted that the Environmental Health Division, Building Department, Planning and Zoning have all agreed to synchronize their public counter hours so customers are able to access them all within the same time period. He expressed gratitude to IWWA Director Pat Sesto, Town Planner Katie DeLuca, Health Director Caroline Baisley, and DPW Commissioner Amy Siebert P&Z for

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enhancing its Customer Service counter hours for walk-ins.

i. Three candidates were interviewed to fill a vacancy on the Town Retirement Board by RTM Moderator Tom Byrne, Board of Estimate and Taxation Chairman Michael Mason and First Selectman Peter Tesei; Mr. Joseph Pellegrino was unanimously appointed to fill the vacancy for a term expiring June 30, 2017.

j. Mr. Marzullo, Board of Selectmen Ex-Officio member of the New Lebanon Building Committee, reported and commented that he questioned the sequence of voting on the NLS building site that would change the footprint of the school building before the question of a regulation-sized soccer field was resolved.

4. Old Business
   a. Department of Parks & Recreation – 2016 Fee Schedule – Approval

      Upon a motion by Mr. Tesei, seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0 to discuss the 2016 Fee Schedule.

      • 2016 Beach Pass Policy
        Board of Selectmen voted 2-1 to approve the proposed fees. (Opposed: Marzullo)
      • Organized Recreation – Budget line 812
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.
      • Eastern Greenwich Civic Center – Budget line 814
        Board of Selectmen voted 2-1 to approve the proposed fees. (Opposed: Marzullo)
      • Dorothy Hamill Rink – Budget line 816
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.
      • Western Civic Center – Budget line 817
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.
      • Marine and Facility Operations – Beach Fees – Budget line 833
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.
      • Marine Facilities Operations – Boating – Budget line 834
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.
      • Griffith E. Harris Gold Course – Budget line 824
        Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 to approve the proposed fees.

      Mr. Tesei commented that the increase in fees was an economic issue to ensure Greenwich is on par with peer communities, offset costs, and properly maintains Greenwich’s environmental resources. He requested that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be prepared to outline expectations for Police Department enforcement of existing ordinances at Town Parks and Beach facilities for the 2016 Season.

b. Fire Marshal – 2016 Special Event Fee Schedule – Approval

      Fire Marshal Shawn McDonald provided requested that fees be instituted for: 1) a Special Event Permit - $100.00; 2) a Private Event Fire Watch - $65.00 per man per hour; Fireworks – fire Marshal - $75.00 per hour; and, firefighter - $65.00 per man per hour.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Marzullo, seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the request for Fire Marshall Department fees.

5. New Business

   Greenwich Senior Center – Approval of Resolution Authorizing to accept (a) gifts of physical items from The Friends of Greenwich Senior Center, Inc., and (b) donations shall become appropriations that the Co patroller shall add to the appropriate accounts for the purpose of reimbursing the approved costs of maintaining and improving Greenwich Senior Center.

      Upon a motion by Mr. Marzullo, seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board voted
3-0 to approve the Resolution.

6. Appointments and Nominations
Mr. Tesel moved the following nominations:
   a. Lile Gibbons re-nominated to the Harbor Management Commission for a term ending March 31, 2019, motion seconded by Mr. Toner at 11:52 A.M. Vote unanimous.
   b. John Slusarz be appointed to the Alarms and Appeals Board for a term ending March 31, 2020; motion seconded by Mr. Toner at 11:53 A.M. Vote unanimous.

7. Executive Session
Mr. Tesel asked for a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss a matter of pending litigation against the Town and Property Tax Settlements at 11:49 P.M. Moved by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. Vote unanimous.

Present in the Executive Session were: J. W. Fox, (Town Attorney), Gene McLaughlin (Assistant Town Attorney), Abby Wadler-Shin (Assistant Town Attorney)

   Mr. Tesel moved to exit Executive Session at 12:19 P.M.; seconded by Mr. Toner. Vote unanimous.

   a. The litigation of the property tax on land and building and Improvements at 160 John Street for reduction of the Assessor's value of the property from $19,319,100 to $14,250,000 on its land, building and improvements was settled. The settlement terms are favorable to the Town because no refund of tax as a result of the settlements since the reduction of taxes as a result of the reduction of assessments will be taken as a combined credit of approximately $40,000 against future tax payment.

   Mr. Toner moved the settlement of the litigation; seconded by Mr. Marzullo at 12:22 P.M. Vote unanimous.

   b. The litigation of the property tax on Land, Buildings and Improvements at 11 Hurlingham Drive a/k/a 2 Cowdray Park Drive for reduction of the Assessor's value of property of $11,432,700 to $9,500,000 for 2014, and $8,730,700 to $3,800,000 for 2015 on its land building and improvements was settled. The settlement terms are favorable to the Town because no refund of taxes as a result of the settlements since the reduction of taxes as a result of the reduction will be taken as a credit of approximately $11,254 against future tax payments.

   Mr. Toner moved the settlement of the litigation; seconded by Mr. Marzullo at 12:24 P.M. Vote unanimous.

   c. Mr. Marzullo motioned to approve the settlement of the claim of Commerce Insurance Company A/S/O Peter Santoro v. Town of Greenwich in the amount of $34,489.79; seconded by Mr. Toner at 12:24 P.M. Vote unanimous.

   d. Mr. Marzullo motioned to approve the settlement of the claim of Chubb Insurance Company A/S/O Carl Herbert Gauntlett v. Town of Greenwich in the amount of $8,054.65; seconded by Mr. Marzullo at 12:26 P.M. Vote unanimous.

   e. Mr. Marzullo motioned to approve the settlement of the claim of Utica Mutual Insurance Company A/S/O Patricia Montesdeoca v. Town of Greenwich in the amount of $12,840.43; seconded by Mr. toner at 12:28 P.M. Vote unanimous.

8. Adjournment
Mr. Toner motioned to adjourn; seconded by Mr. Marzullo. Motioned passed unanimously at 12:30 P.M.
Next Meeting of the Board of Selectmen scheduled on Thursday, January 28, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Peter J. Tesio, First Selectman

Prepared by Catherine Sidor
Recording Secretary