The meeting opened at 10:16 a.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

a. Attendance:
   i. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei – Present
   ii. Selectman John F. Toner – Present
   iii. Selectman Drew Marzullo – Present

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes of Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on 5-14-2015 were reviewed and approved as presented without objection.

3. First Selectman’s Update

a. Eversource Energy has cancelled its June 11, 2015 public information meeting, which would have been their second public presentation to discuss the methodologies of adding a new substation in Central Greenwich. The delay is due in part to the attempt to be responsive to Greenwich’s concerns about the project. Eversource Energy intends to schedule another meeting before July 1.

b. On May 18, four new police officers were sworn in. The police force is now at a full strength of 155 officers.

c. Greenwich Reads Together has kicked off another year with the book “America.” The First Selectman attended the book announcement at Greenwich Library on May 20 and expressed his pleasure at being able to support the program.

d. May 30 is the 7th annual “Save the Children Marathon” at Greenwich Point.

e. May 19 was Public Works Appreciation Day, which is an opportunity to spend lunchtime with DPW’s various divisions and thank them for their great work in Town.

f. June 6 is the 100th anniversary of the Hamilton Avenue School, and will be celebrated with a community picnic.

g. June 7 is the Junior League “Touch a Truck” event at Town Hall. This is a fun opportunity for young people to see various emergency services and public improvement vehicles up close.

h. There have been 3 fire service discussion meetings held so far with members of the Board of Estimation and Taxation (BET), the Fire Department, the Volunteer Fire Department, heads of the Fire union, RTM representatives, and former First Selectman Jim Lash. These meetings have helped foster greater mutual understanding of the issues of increasing Fire staffing in future budget years, and develop a path forward to achieve this goal. One additional meeting will be held on June 2.

i. June 8 is the next meeting of the Representative Town Meeting (RTM). On the call this month is the approval of 5 members of the soon-to-be developed New Lebanon Elementary School Building Committee, and the Neighborhood Assistance Act.
4. **Old Business**
   a. John Toner motioned to take up a report by Alan Monelli on the MI for Grass Island Locker Building and Lavatory facility that the Board of Selectmen previously approved. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 10:31 am.
      i. After Hurricane Sandy, FEMA changed base flood elevation regulations in order to prevent future flooding, leading to changes in the plan for the new facility. Now, the building must be elevated 16 feet.
      ii. The reconfigured MI complies with FEMA standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, and was submitted in 2014.
      iii. The original estimate for the cost of the project was $600,000, a number which seemed reasonable based on the fact that 3 other beach restrooms constructed in the last few years were all below that cost. However, the winning bid on the new plan is $1,200,000, due to the extra measures required to remain compliant with federal mandates.
      iv. The interim funding request will be submitted to the BET in two weeks for further discussion, and they will hold out on going to bid until September, so they will not have to rebid based on price changes over time.
   b. **Request for Municipal Improvement Status for New Lebanon Elementary School**
      i. Ron Matten, the Director of Facilities for Greenwich Public Schools, said that the soil tests requested by the BOS had been performed and the results showed that there was excess in only one area, and at 18 parts-per-million, it was still within limits that occur naturally. Therefore, there is no additional expense necessary to clean up Site C. Mr. Matten added that the materials and information requested by the Selectmen about Scheme D, as well as the requested A-2 survey, would be ready by June 1, 2015.
      ii. Barbara O'Neill, the Board of Education (BOE) Chair, clarified that the MI is not needed for the State application, but it is needed to release funding from the BET so they can move forward.
      iii. First Selectman Tesei reminded everyone that the mutual goal is to build the best school in the best location with the least disruption possible for students. Modular trailers and dispersion are two separate and viable options. If dispersion is chosen, GPS has determined that it has the seats available in other schools for the displaced children, but busing costs would be significant and not reimbursable under the State grant.
      iv. Both First Selectman Tesei and Selectman Marzullo were concerned about the feasibility of continuing operation of a school facility while construction is under way in an already densely populated business area. There are the issues of traffic congestion, safety, and potential health concerns.
   v. **Public Commentary:**
      1. Ms. O'Neill stated that these are issues for the Building Committee to tackle. Meanwhile, we are losing time and could possibly lose the whole summer if a decision is not made now. People have built around schools before, and safety was their top priority too. She asked that the appointed Building Committee be allowed to take a good, honest look at Scheme C.
      2. Peter von Braun reasoned that there are two main concerns. The first and most important is how the children would be transported. The next is the construction technology that would be employed, which impacts duration, quality, and cost. He said that a date for the presentation on Scheme D needs to be scheduled so more research and information can be gathered on the issues raised.
3. Nicole O'Connor, the President of the Byram Neighborhood Association, conveyed the results of a poll given to 200 members of the Association. 54% of the community preferred Scheme C, 42% preferred Scheme D, and 4% preferred something else. Although there was not one unanimous point of view in Byram, the community is strongly committed to having a neighborhood school. Also, they are staunchly opposed to busing, since it would mean up to an hour in non-instructional time each day for the students. Ms. O'Connor asked the BOS to be decisive because students deserve a new facility, so we need to move forward with the process.

4. Pat Oberbeck stated that the current New Lebanon School did not experience any traffic problems when it was being built, and suggested that modular trailers could be put on the ball field.

5. Diego Sanchez, the Co-president of the Parent Teacher Association at New Lebanon, also distributed a survey, just to parents at the school, and 90% support Scheme C. This demonstrates that they are strongly against either displacement or modulars. Architects already did pre-feasibility studies, feasibility studies, and an RFP was issued, so the expertise is already there. There is nothing stopping us from moving ahead with Scheme C.

6. First Selectman Tesei said there are still many unknown variables in Scheme C, especially the low elevation, its close proximity to I-95, and the fact that people are reluctant to deal with unknown properties after issues with recent Town construction projects. Selectman Marzullo also asked Mr. Sanchez if he believed the results of the survey would still be so overwhelmingly in favor of Scheme C and opposed to Scheme D if the question had been worded differently to imply Scheme D would use modulars instead of busing. Mr. Sanchez said he believed it would and also made the point that there would be many unknowns in any scheme.

7. Clare Kilgallen mentioned that a few years ago when there was talk about there not being enough space in New Lebanon and possibly having to move 5th graders to a different school, the community came together in workshops to find a solution. They felt so strongly about keeping the community school together that they were willing to make class sizes larger. Also, the construction would be farther away and less disruptive than the construction on the Byram Library had been.

8. Paul Curtis commented that in the last two major school building projects on the Western side of town, the students from those schools had been displaced, in one case to modulars next to Western Middle School and in another they were bused from Western to Cos Cob. The parents and the community had no choice in these cases. Although the situation was not optimal, it did produce two schools that are excellent and were built on-time and under budget.

9. Matthew Popp said that the traffic during the Byram Library renovation was a disaster. Also, he said that there are many problems with site C. Primarily, the site is extremely close to I-95, within 300 feet of the highway. As recent newspaper articles have shown, diesel pollution can be harmful within 500 feet and especially toxic within 300 feet. Trees and high elevation help eliminate dangers from diesel pollution, but site C has few trees and is on low elevation. Additionally, there are drainage issues because the site is low. The final problem is that Byram's only wooded area would be torn down. Site D is truly the best location.
10. Principal Riccio of New Lebanon School shared that the passion of the Byram community that is so invested in children's education is what makes the community strong. She also stated that the teachers' understanding throughout the process has been that it would be up to the Building Committee and the architect to find the best location. Principal Riccio implored everybody to get started and get the plan up to the State.

11. Jim O'Brien observed that the two main issues appeared to be the land use issue and what to do with the students. He commented that there are many building experts at Town Hall whose job it is to study the sites and make these decisions, and they should have a chance to do so.

12. John Dobrucky, a resident who lives across the street from the ball field and the woods by New Lebanon School, remarked that a new school is definitely necessary and should be built, but the old building should be used as the footprint. The rock foundation the current building is built on is solid. The trees in the woods are instrumental in filtering noise and air pollution from I-95, and Scheme C would require these trees to be cut down. Also, scheme C is a flash flood area.

vi. Selectman Toner motioned to consider the 4-27-2015 referral of Scheme C for the New Lebanon Elementary School for municipal improvement (MI) status. Selectman Marzullo seconded. Discussion ensued.

1. Selectman Marzullo stated that the BOS had been charged to evaluate Scheme C and give either an up or down vote. He reminded everyone that all of the Selectmen completely support building a new facility that will be beneficial for the Byram children. Selectman Marzullo said he would be voting against the proposal because after evaluation of both short and long term effects, he believes Site C is the wrong place to put a school. It is in a ditch in a ravine with drainage issues and forestry issues. He has a tough time believing that students' education will not be affected when major construction is occurring so close by. Additionally, it seems like a reactionary decision, and it would be difficult to attract students with that perception, which is necessary to solve the racial imbalance issue.

2. Selectman Toner agrees with everything Selectman Marzullo stated.

3. First Selectman Tesesi affirms that he has a commitment for a new school with the highest standard, and accepting Scheme C would be settling for the second best option. Therefore, he supports declining the referral of Scheme C to the Planning and Zoning Commission, with the understanding that there will be an accelerated process of examining Scheme D, taking into consideration all of the various associated issues.

4. With all three Selectmen opposing, the motion to consider the referral of Scheme C for the New Lebanon Elementary School for MI status failed 0-3-0 at 11:35 a.m.

5. **New Business**

There were no items of New Business before the Board of Selectmen.

6. **Appointments and Nominations**

First Selectman Tesesi motioned to appoint Sarah Corman Crosby as a regular member of the Shellfish Commission for a term expiring March 31, 2018. John Toner seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 11:37 a.m.
7. **Executive Session**

John Toner motioned to amend the agenda to add the discussion of a pending claim in Executive Session, in addition to the listed pending tax appeal. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 11:38 a.m.

John Toner motioned to enter into executive session to discuss a pending claim against the Town, as well as a pending tax appeal. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 11:39 a.m.

Present in Executive Session were: Wayne Fox (Town Attorney), Gene McLaughlin (Assistant Town Attorney), and Michael Rosen (Executive Assistant to the First Selectman).

John Toner motioned to enter into public session at 12:35 p.m. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

John Toner motioned to approve the settlement of Docket No. HLB CV 13-6024540, 25 Railroad Avenue, LLC v. Town of Greenwich, as presented, with a credit of $32,909 to be applied against future tax payments. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 12:36 p.m.

John Toner motioned to adjourn at 12:37 p.m. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

There will be a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen on Friday, June 5, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room to discuss Scheme D for the New Lebanon Elementary School.

\[Signature\]
Peter J. Tesei  
First Selectman

\[Signature\]
Prepared by Michael Rosen  
Executive Assistant to the First Selectman