

Town of Greenwich

Meeting Board of Selectmen

June 14, 2019

10:00 A.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 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.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on May 23, 2019

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

- b. Board of Selectmen Special Meeting on June 4, 2019

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

3. First Selectman's Updates

Mr. Tesei said that Director of Labor Relations Al Cava is retiring June 30. He began his career with the Town in 1996 as the first Director of Human Resources. He said there will be a review of the position and discussions with the BET members who are running for First Selectman. He said that Mr. Cava will be missed, especially with five labor contracts in negotiation.

Mr. Tesei said that he participated in the annual Glenville Flag Day ceremony prior to the Selectmen's meeting today and will return this afternoon to give the fifth-grade commencement.

He also highlighted the D-Day ceremony organized by the Greenwich Veterans Council on June 6. The speaker was Robert Fullilove, a Greenwich resident who served in the British Royal Navy and is a D-Day veteran.

Mr. Tesei also is involved in the process of interviewing Retirement Board citizen representative, Michael Wacek with BET Chair Jill Oberlander and RTM Moderator Tom Byrne.

Mr. Tesei also noted a change in the leadership of Firefighters Local 1042, which is in contract negotiations.

4. Old Business

- a.** Approval of settlement of Town of Greenwich v. Eversource – Cohen & Wolf.

Mr. Tesei gave a recap on the history of the Eversource project proposals and the Town's challenges of them. He also thanked Town Planner Katie DeLuca and the entire Land Use Team; former Conservation Director Denise Savageau, Environmental Affairs Director Pat Sesto, Parks & Recreation Director Joe Siciliano, ex Parks & trees Superintendent Bruce Spaman, Deputy DPW Commissioner Jim Michel and the Town Administration that helped to guide and shape the pending outcome.

Attorney David Ball of Cohen & Wolf provided a detailed history of the project proposals and said that the process is governed by the Connecticut Siting Council on the siting of transmission lines. He said that all issues related to Planning & Zoning and the Department of Public Works are taken out of the hands of the Town. The proposed settlement agreement was borne out the Town's appeal in state Superior Court as a result of months and months of meetings. The settlement includes Eversource's construction of a pedestrian bridge on which solid transmission lines will be located rather than oil-filled lines in a cofferdam through Indian Harbor as well as an aesthetically acceptable 15-foot high wall with landscaping.

RTM Member Robert Brady asked the board to describe the bridge to be built over Indian Harbor. Mr. Tesei said the best example is the Shore Road bridge, adjacent to the Horseneck Lane fire station.

Upon a motion by Mr. Tesei and a second by Mr. Litvack, the settlement agreement was approved unanimously.

5. New Business

Mr. Tesei made a motion to take up item 5. h out of order because of those in attendance to speak on the matter.

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

Strategic Energy Conservation Plan of the Energy Committee of the Conservation Commission – Environmental Affairs Director Patricia Sesto.

Director of Environmental Affairs Patricia Sesto introduced three of the Committee members who worked on the proposal – Bob Brady, Urling Searle and Conservation Resource Manager Sarah Cocco, and provided a history of the project. Ms. Sesto explained that 23 of the 28 Connecticut towns that have met 10% or 20% energy savings, have an energy commission. She said that Town Hall and Greenwich High School are the largest energy users in Town. The Board of Estimate and Taxation, procurement procedures and budget procedures hinder efforts to effectuate energy savings, Ms. Sesto said. She also said the Town could have substantial energy savings on its \$6 million utility costs if 20% energy reduction is obtained.

Mr. Tesei made a motion to accept the report and proceed with establishing an energy commission with Selectman Litvack assisting in writing the enabling ordinance. Upon a second by Mr. Litvack, the motion was unanimously approved.

- a.** Approval of settlement of Theresa Griffin v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Aamina Ahmad.

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

- b.** Approval of settlement of Joan Marzullo v. Town of Greenwich – Attorney Heather Porto.

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

- c.** Approval of settlement of Eileen Adams v. Town of Greenwich – Attorney Heather Porto.

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

- d.** Approval of settlement of Sud v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

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

- e.** Approval of settlement of Byram Shore Partners, LLC v. Town of Greenwich - Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

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

- f. Approval of settlement of Davis Associates, LLC v. Town of Greenwich and Sickle Bar Associates, LLC v. Town of Greenwich - Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

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

- g. Approval of settlement of Lauridson v. Town of Greenwich - Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

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

6. Appointments and Nominations

Upon a motion by Mr. Toner, John Hartwell (position R-6) was nominated to the Board of Parks & Recreation for a three-year term expiring June 30, 2022. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Litvack and the motion was approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Toner, Vincent DeFina was nominated to the Housing Authority of the Town of Greenwich for a five-year expiring June 30, 2024. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Litvack and the motion was approved unanimously.

7. Executive Session

- a. Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and settlement of claims, and to interview candidates for boards and commissions.

At 2:28 p.m., Mr. Litvack made a motion to enter Executive Session. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

Also in attendance, Recording Secretary Barbara Heins, Town Attorney Wayne Fox and Assistant Town Attorney Aamina Ahmad; John Hartwell, Vincent DeFina, Heather Porto, Tiffany Navarro and Human Resources Director Mary Pepe.

At 3:02 p.m., Mr. Litvack made a motion to exit Executive Session. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

8. Adjournment

At 3:02 p.m., Mr. Toner made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Mr. Litvack, the motion was approved

unanimously.

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

Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

Prepared by Barbara A. Heins,
Recording Secretary