Town of Greenwich
Board of Selectmen Meeting
August 6, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Town Hall Meeting Room

MINUTES

1. The meeting opened at 10:17 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 7-30-2015 were reviewed and approved as presented without objection.

3. First Selectman’s Update
   a. With the support of the Senior Management Analyst, Melissa Jones, the Town has launched the pilot of “Access Greenwich” – a mobile application that can be downloaded to a smart phone. This is a resource for residents to submit inquiries or notify about issues around Town. The pilot is limited to the Department of Parks and Recreation. The program will be evaluated over the course of 5 months, and is intended to expand to departments throughout Town.
   b. At the First Selectman’s monthly staff meeting on August 4, there was a report from the First Selectman’s Safety Council regarding workers’ compensation rates and safety stats. The staff also heard from the Nathaniel Witherell (TNW) that they are at full capacity, and that there is a wait to get into short term rehabilitation. The response to this demand is the addition of additional short term beds – TNW will be converting 5 two-bedroom suites into single beds for short term care.
   c. The First Selectman held a meeting on August 4 with the two citizen members of the Retirement Board, John Chadwick and Larry Simon. The role the Board plays in relationship to the Retirement Plan Administrator and the Director of Human Resources was discussed.
   d. On August 3, Mr. Tesei held an introductory meeting with Bob Stacey, the new Human Resources Director for the Board of Education. Mr. Stacey has a depth of experience in both the public and private sectors.
   e. On August 11 at 7:00 p.m., the Community Development Block Grant public hearing will be held in the Town Hall Meeting Room.
   f. There will be a meeting on August 10 to discuss preparations for the Greenwich 375th Anniversary Parade, which will be held on Sunday, September 27, 2015.
   g. The August 2015 Western Connecticut Council of Governments (WCCOG) meeting will be held in New Canaan on August 20.

4. Old Business
   a. Zoubek Mooring Issue
i. Aamina Ahmad, Assistant Town Attorney, gave an introduction to the issue. The authority granted to the Board of Selectmen under Special Acts 93 and 288 deal with rules and regulations pertaining to moorings, anchoring vessels in harbors, speed of vessels, and related issues. Therefore, the BOS regulates the anchoring and mooring of vessels and crafts in our Town’s harbors.

ii. The issue appeared to be resolved, but the coordinates provided to the Harbormaster were not reflective of the location that the resident, Mr. Zoubek, intended. Therefore, no action can be taken at today’s meeting.

iii. Charles Zoubek stated that he would like to reconcile the mooring’s GPS coordinates. He knows where historically his mooring has been, in relation to the coordinates provided by Ian Macmillan, Harbormaster.

iv. Mr. Zoubek acknowledged that the issues have moved on from the proximity to the osprey nest and depth of waters, which were the original claims for mooring denial. Now, the issue stems from the coordinates. Mr. Macmillan knows exactly where the mooring is because he has moved it twice, the second time being yesterday.

v. Additionally, there is an issue of a pinched fairway – the contention that the harbor is too narrow for large boats to navigate, should there be an emergency in someone’s dock. Mr. Zoubek added that it is 340 feet across at the narrowest part of harbor, which is a huge navigable area. Lastly, there is a predictable use claim, which is Mr. Macmillan’s idea that there will be “raft-ups” on that mooring. Mr. Zoubek denied this claim.

vi. Charles Zoubek asked if the Town can have a police boat go out to confirm the coordinates. Mr. Tesei responded that Mr. Zoubek’s mooring vendor can confirm the location, but not the Town’s police boat.

vii. Aamina Ahmad said that the coordinates provided by Mr. Zoubek are outside Greenwich waters, confirmed by the Town GIS Department. Drew Marzullo inquired, then, if Mr. Macmillan had approved a mooring not in Greenwich waters. This was confirmed.

viii. Ms. Ahmad suggested that in order to proceed, we need the correct verified coordinates.

ix. Peter Tesei concluded with the statement that the Harbormaster should produce the coordinates from where Mr. Macmillan removed Mr. Zoubek’s lobster pot that demarcated the mooring location.

5. New Business

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

6. Appointments and Nominations

Deputy Commissioner of Public Works

Commissioner of Public Works, Amy Siebert, is pleased to announce the recommendation of Mr. James W. Michel to be appointed as the Town of Greenwich Deputy Commissioner of Public Works.
Mr. Michel has served as the Town of Greenwich Department of Public Works Chief Engineer since January 2011. As Chief Engineer, Mr. Michel plans and directs all activities of DPW’s Engineering Division, providing in-house design, project management and engineering assistance to other divisions, departments, boards, and agencies. Mr. Michel manages the development and implementation of a major capital improvement program with an annual budget of five to ten million dollars.

From 1995 to 2010, Mr. Michel worked in the private sector in the civil engineering field. His focus areas included land development, stormwater management, and traffic design. He worked with both private and municipal clients. Mr. Michel was also an active business manager, as he was a partner in a small consulting firm serving the Chicago suburbs. He brought organizational and information technology skills developed in that role to the department when he joined.

Mr. Michel graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Illinois, and a Masters of Business Administration from the Keller Graduate School. Mr. Michel completed the American Public Works Association Emerging Leaders Academy in 2014. Additionally, Mr. Michel is licensed with the State of Connecticut as a Professional Engineer.

The search process began in May 2015. The four top qualified candidates were interviewed, and Mr. Michel was selected. The interview panel consisted of Katie DeLuca (Town Planner), Ben Branyan (Town Administrator), and Amy Siebert. The appointment is effective immediately.

RESOLUTION

Appointment of Deputy Commissioner of Public Works

August 6, 2015

RESOLVED:

The Board of Selectmen appoints James Michel to the position of Deputy Commissioner of Public Works at a starting salary of $133,000 annually, effective immediately.

The position of Deputy Commissioner of Public Works is a non-represented unclassified position allocated to the MC 9 salary range in the Managerial/Confidential Employees’ Compensation Plan. The Town, in accordance with the Town’s Managerial/Confidential Compensation Plan, shall determine future salary considerations.

MOTION: Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

SECOND: John Toner, Selectman

VOTE: 3-0-0, at 11:00 a.m.
Other

John Toner placed the nomination of H. Andrew Fox for appointment as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring March 31, 2017. Peter Tesei seconded. Drew Marzullo opposed in favor of candidate Nancy Ramer. The motion passed 2-1-0 at 11:19 a.m.

John Toner placed the nomination of Dr. Francis Ennis for appointment as a regular member of the Nathaniel Witherell Board of Directors for a term expiring March 31, 2018. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously at 11:22 a.m.

7. Executive Session

There were no items of Executive Session before the Board of Selectmen.

John Toner motioned to adjourn at 11:23 a.m. Drew Marzullo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Friday, August 21, 2015 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 Michael Rosen
Executive Assistant to the First Selectman