

# Town of Greenwich

## Meeting Board of Selectmen

September 20, 2018

10:00 A.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

### DRAFT MINUTES

#### **1. The meeting opened at 10:09 A.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

- a. Attendance:
  - a. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei - Present
  - b. Selectman John Toner - Present
  - c. Selectman Sandy Litvack – Present

Following the Pledge, Mr. Tesei greeted and welcomed attendees commenting that it was a Regular Meeting, not a public hearing, of the Board of Selectmen who reserve the right to call on people to ask questions and make comments.

#### **1. Approval of Minutes.**

- a. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting held on August 23, 2018 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner. Following a second by Mr. Tesei, the motion passed 2-0-1. Mr. Litvack explained he abstained because he was absent from the meeting.
- b. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting on Sept. 6, 2018 were moved for approval by Mr. Litvack. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion passed unanimously.

#### **2. First Selectman's Updates – Peter J. Tesei**

On Friday, Sept. 7, the Greenwich Kindness Rocks garden was opened on the north end of the Town Hall.

More than 100 people attended the Sept. 8: dedication of the Margenot Atrium at the Greenwich Public Safety Complex in honor of former Selectman and First Selectman John B. Margenot Jr.

On Sept. 13, Mr. Tesei participated with the other Chief Elected Officials of the Fairfield 5 effort in New York City. The Fairfield 5 have developed an approach with the 'Five C's in trying to attract new businesses to Greenwich, Stamford, Norwalk, Westport and Fairfield: culture, cost, connectivity, capital and community.

On Sept. 16, Mr. Tesei along with Mr. Litvack and Mr. Toner participated as judges in Adopt-a-Dog's annual Puttin' on the Dog show. That day, Mr. Tesei also participated in an ergothon at the Greenwich Water Club that was organized by Rick Kral. The event raised more than \$25,000 for cancer research.

On Sept. 17, there was a ceremony with a proclamation issued for Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month with the organization TEAL – Tell Every Amazing Lady.

Mr. Tesei noted that on Sept. 17 at the meeting of the Representative Town Meeting, there was approval of a Sense of the Meeting Resolution to establish a northwest Greenwich fire station to address gaps in fire coverage. He said the vote was reflective of what residents want and he thanked RTM member Louisa Stone, members of District 10, as well as the Fire Administration, Selectmen Litvack and Toner, and Town Administrator Ben Branyan for their efforts to address the issue.

Mr. Tesei said that the Town is continuing to work on scheduling an after-action meeting with Eversource to discuss concerns about the Sept. 4 and 5 power outages.

On Sept. 25, there will be a graduation ceremony for two dozen mid-level managers who completed the Town's Leadership Institute, which is a 10-month program.

Events that are coming up include the Breast Cancer Awareness Month flag-raising at 9 a.m. Oct. 1; the domestic violence awareness ceremony with the giant Purple Purse at 1 p.m. Oct. 2; the annual Dave Theis Award ceremony on Oct. 4, and the opening of the re-envisioned campus of the Greenwich Historical Society on Oct. 6.

### **3. Old Business**

- a. Resolution to amend Town Charter to clarify role of Condemnation Commission – RTM Appointments Committee Chair John Eddy.**

Mr. Eddy explained that during a meeting with Mr. Litvack, there was concern there was a time end on some of the responsibilities of the Commission. This resolution relates to those roles.

Mr. Litvack made a motion to approve the and following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

### **4. New Business**

- a. Experience Greenwich Week – Tammy Ketler.**

Ms. Ketler explained Experience Greenwich Week is a collaborative effort of many members of the First Selectman's Economic Advisory Committee to support merchants throughout Town – not just central Greenwich but Byram, Cos Cob, Old Greenwich and Riverside as well. She said there are 15-18 fine art galleries that also are participating. The effort will benefit Think Greenwich. There also will be murals on display in vacant storefronts as well as two murals that will be painted along the I-95 underpass of Steamboat Road.

**b. Constable vacancy.**

Mr. Tesei said the vacancy was created by the resignation of Michael Pittocco. He was one of three Democratic constables. He asked Selectman Litvack to speak with Democratic Town Committee Chair Tony Turner about a candidate. Mr. Litvack agreed to do so.

**c. Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule X - Residential Permit Parking (Wilbur Peck Court, McKinney Terrace I & II, Agnes Morley Heights, Quarry Knoll I & II) – Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

Mr. Branyan said the changes were requested by the Housing Authority. He also said similar regulations were made permanent at two other Housing authority complexes – Adams Gardens and Armstrong Court - in 2013.

Following a motion by Mr. Litvack and a second by Mr. Toner, the changes were approved unanimously.

**d. i.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule X - Residential Permit Parking (Lake Drive, Stuart Drive, and Chapel Lane) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

**ii.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule I - Parking Prohibited (Stuart Drive) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

**iii.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule II - Limited Parking (Chapel Lane) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

Mr. Litvack asked whether residents were notified by Parking Services about the pending changes. Parking Services Business Manager Rodrick Dioquino said they had not. Mr. Branyan said the items could be tabled so notifications can be made and votes taken at the next Board of Selectmen meeting.

**e. i.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule I – Parking Prohibited (Hillside Road) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

**ii.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule IB – No Parking, Stopping or Standing (Hillside Road) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

**iii.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule IV – Two-Hour Parking: Timed (Hillside Road) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

**iiii.) Changes to Chapter 14, Article 5, Schedule XA – Permit Parking (Hillside Road) - Town Administrator Ben Branyan.**

Mr. Branyan explained that these four items are housekeeping in nature and now that the road has been striped, there is a need to change the code so there can be enforcement of regulations. He said these changes were presented to the Hillside Road Working Group and that there is no material change to the parking project the Working Group is working on.

Following a motion by Mr. Toner and a second by Mr. Litvack, the changes were approved unanimously.

- f. Consideration as to whether there has been an increase in litigation against the Town, with attendant increase settlements, during the past several years. If there has been such an increase, consideration of the causes therefore and steps that might be implemented to address and mitigate those causes. – Selectman Sandy Litvack.

Mr. Litvack said the genesis of this discussion is the fact the Town is faced with material increases in premiums and deductability. He asked Town Attorney Wayne Fox whether the Town is seeing a material increase in litigation and what can be done to lessen the Town's future exposure. Mr. Fox said he did not think there is an increase in litigation and explained that the BET Audit Committee reviews what can be done to make improvements in an effort to avoid future litigation/liabilities.

Mr. Litvack asked that the Selectmen be involved in the lessons learned process to help ensure the Town is taking steps to guard against future liabilities.

Mr. Tesei agreed there should be future discussions.

- g. Request to settle Jay v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.
- h. Request to settle Stugart v. Town of Greenwich – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

## **5. Appointments and Nominations**

There were none.

## **6. Executive Session**

Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and settlement of claims; and to interview candidates for Boards and Commissions.

At 11:15 a.m. Mr. Litvack made a motion to move into Executive Session discuss the settlement of claims. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Litvack made a motion to exit the Executive Session. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously at 11:06 a.m.

Mr. Toner made a motion to approve the settlement of Jay v. Town of Greenwich. Following a second by Mr. Litvack, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Toner made a motion to approve the settlement of Stugart v. Town of Greenwich. Following a second by Mr. Litvack, the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Tesei made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to hold a special meeting at 2 p.m. Sept. 27 for the purpose of approving a nomination to a Board or Commission. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **7. Adjournment**

Mr. Litvack made a motion to adjourn at 12:17 p.m. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

The next regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Monday, October 15, 2018 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 Barbara A. Heins,  
Recording Secretary