

# Town of Greenwich

Board of Selectmen

Meeting October 13, 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 commenting that meeting of the Board of Selectmen is a Public Meeting of the Board of Selectmen who reserve the right to call on people to propose questions and make comments.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on Sept.22, 2016 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.
- b. Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen held on Oct. 6 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. First Selectman's Update

- a. Mr. Tesei said that the First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee will be host a conference on Oct. 28 that will be held by the Anti-Defamation League's A World of Difference Institute that is open to all organizations in Town that support the community. The Committee also is preparing for its eighth annual essay contest for students.
- b. Mr. Tesei read a letter of thanks from RTM member Dawn Fortunato who praised the cleanup and maintenance work performed by Department of Public Works crews in and around the Third and Fourth Districts.
- c. On Nov. 2, the Town will be participating in a statewide exercise testing emergency communications systems and review of local operation plans. The exercise is being organized by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security.
- d. Mr. Tesei said that the Town's Leadership Institute will begin another class for employees. The nine-month program begins Oct. 25 and will continue until July 11, 2017.
- e. Regarding the water supply situation, the Town continues to received regular updates from Aquarion Water Co. The Putnam treatment plant continues to see a reduction of consumption and continues to serve the Suez Water Co. for Port Chester, Rye and Rye Brook, according to Mr. Tesei. He added, that as of Oct. 13, the Greenwich Police Department has investigated 270 calls of improper water use and violations of the Town Ordinance, indicating that people are telling on their neighbors.

- f. Mr. Tesei reported that Ensign magazine, a publication of the U.S. Power Squadron published an article in its fall edition about the efforts to improve boater safety by the Greenwich Power Squadron.
- g. Upcoming Veterans Day events include the annual march down Greenwich Avenue with a service at the War Memorial in front of the Havemeyer Building at 11 a.m., followed by a luncheon for veterans hosted by the Redmen's Association. This year there will be a focus on the disabled veteran. Other Veterans Day ceremonies will be held at Riverside School at 8:45 a.m. and at the Byram Veterans Club Parade at 7 p.m.
- h. Mr. Tesei announced that Fitch Credit Rating company affirmed Greenwich's AAA bond rating, citing sound management and financial practices. However, he said the firm noted that there will be local impacts caused by the state's fiscal conditions.
- i. Mr. Tesei said that founding Greenwich Emergency Medical Services Executive Director Charlee Tufts has announced her intention to retire in the coming months.

#### **4. Old Business**

#### **5. New Business**

- a. Proposal: Creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to advise the Board of Selectmen on current and future soil contamination issues. – Selectman Drew Marzullo.

Mr. Tesei explained that any Board of Selectmen member can present an issue for review by the Board and as a topic of discussion. He said there are several other areas which have been impacted by soil contamination including Greenwich High School, the William Street field and New Lebanon School and Western Middle School. He also said that dealing with contamination impacts several Town departments as well as the Board of Education and its departments. The Town's current protocol when contamination is discovered is to retain McCarter English to handle regulatory agencies; the international firm of Langan which is involved with the Western Middle School assessment, as well as regulatory agencies such as the Connecticut Department of Public Health.

Mr. Marzullo said he was requesting his colleagues vote in the affirmative on his proposal that would combine all efforts to review Town properties. Mr. Marzullo then read 12 questions that he suggested the panel review. He also explained that he did not specifically identify the people who would be involved on the committee. He reiterated that the proposal can be viewed as a positive so that the Town may make informed decisions. He stressed that it was not binding.

Mr. Tesei said the Town already has answers to some of the questions posed by Mr. Marzullo, and that there is a group that works on these issues. He also said that it was not wise for the Town to arbitrarily disturb a site because you think there is something in the soil. Mr. Tesei also said that not all contaminated soil is a health issue. He also questioned managing a global issue of testing private institutions and property.

Resident Claire Kilgallen, and co-president of the New Lebanon School PTA said that there needs to be an communication plan not unlike the one used when Greenwich High School began Phase 1 of the soil remediation on the campus in 2014 and again with the Western Middle School contamination. She asked that a similar plan be used for the William Street field project. Mr. Tesei said Ms. Kilgallen made a fair point.

Mr. Marzullo made a motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee to advise the Board of Selectmen on soil contamination. There was not a second to the motion. The motion failed.

## **6. Appointments and Nominations**

## **7. Executive Session**

Mr. Toner motioned to enter into executive session to discuss seven personnel and pending litigation cases at 10:51 A.M., and was seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Also present in Executive Session were Town Administrator Ben Branyan; Executive Assistant Barbara Heins; J. Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Assistant Town Attorneys Aamina Ahmad, Fred deArango, Valerie Maze Keeney and Gene McLoughlin; Police Chief James Heavey and Human Resources Director Mary Pepe.

Mr. Toner moved to exit Executive Session at 11:49 P.M., seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Mr. Tesei motioned to settle Docket No. HHB CV 13-6024841S for a tax credit of approximately \$19,720, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Mr. Toner moved to settle Docket No. HHB CV 13-6024840S for a tax credit of approximately \$26,660, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

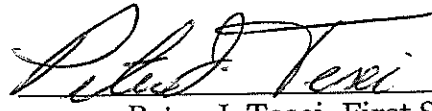
Mr. Tesei moved to settle Docket No. HHB CV 16-60340014S – Parcel No. 10-3099 for a tax credit of approximately \$9,882, seconded by Mr. Toner. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Mr. Tesei moved to authorize up to \$50,000 to settle Minerva Lachira v. Town of Greenwich, seconded by Mr. Toner. The Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

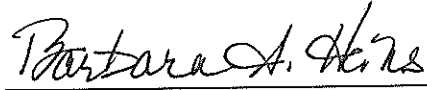
## **8. Adjournment**

Mr. Toner motioned to adjourn at 11:56 A.M.; seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.



Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman



Prepared by Barbara A. Heins  
Recording Secretary