

Town of Greenwich

Board of Selectmen

Meeting January 26, 2017

10:00 A.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. The meeting opened at 10:13 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

Following the Pledge, Mr. Tesei read a statement expressing condolences to the family of actress Mary Tyler Moore, a long-time Greenwich resident who passed away on January 25, 2017. The statement was followed by a moment of silence.

Mr. Tesei then greeted and welcomed attendees commenting that it was a Public Meeting of the Board of Selectmen who reserve the right to call on people to ask questions and make comments.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen meeting held on January 12, 2017 were moved for approval by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo. The motion passed unanimously.

3. First Selectman's Updates

- a. On January 14, there was a benefit for Safe Rides. Mr. Tesei congratulated these teens, both present and former members of Safe Rides including Julia Moch and Peter Negrea for organizing the event that raised \$30,000 to keep this valued service in operation. He explained that the 30-year-old service previously was run by the Red Cross. The Town, along with the Greenwich Police Department picked up the service after the Red Cross reorganized its operations, then the Transportation Association of Greenwich (TAG) picked up the service and incurred an additional \$18,000 of insurance costs. Now Safe Rides will be able to operate to the end of the fiscal year.
- b. The Town was proud to be a co-sponsor of the Jan. 18 program 'Why Words Still Matter.' Mr. Tesei thanked the Greenwich YWCA and its new President and CEO Mary Lee Kiernan for taking the lead in organizing this annual tribute to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The well-attended panel discussion included Boys & Girls Club Greenwich CEO Bobby Walker Jr., US Attorney for Connecticut, Deirdre Daly, Interim Greenwich School Superintendent Sal Corda and the ADL.
- c. The Greenwich Police Department held a promotional ceremony at headquarters on on Jan. 19. Sgt. Louis Pannone was promoted to Lieutenant, as was Sgt. Mark Zuccerella. Master Police Officers Danielle Petruso and Michael Ucci were promoted to the rank of Sergeant.
- d. The Greenwich Riding Trails Association held a benefit at the J House on Jan. 19. Selectman Toner attended and reported that the organization is not just a sporting organization. The group maintains many miles of riding trails that traverse private properties through the back country and also is an environmental/conservation organization.

- e. Mr. Tesei said that on Jan. 23, he attended the Western Council of Governments held its annual legislative breakfast. One of the topics of discussion was a recently conducted study called the Congestion Management Process. It's a federal requirement that the performance of the transportation system within the Western Council of Governments be evaluated. The results weren't surprising – the study showed that traffic congestion in 2015 has worsened since 2014. The study showed that through the I-95 corridor from Greenwich to Westport, the average southbound morning rush hour speed is 27.4 mph. On the northbound side, congestion is heaviest in the afternoon with an average speed of 41.5 mph. And during the morning northbound rush hour, traffic between the NY state line into Greenwich, vehicles travel only about 30 mph.
- f. The Masons Lodge 85 in Greenwich is accepting applications for the second annual Dave Theis Scholarship. The essay contest which is open to all high school seniors who will be attending college is based upon an event in Greenwich or a citizen in Greenwich who has had a lasting effect on the Town. Applications and the specific essay topics are available through high school counselors.
- g. Mr. Tesei gave an update on residents' ongoing concerns about traffic in the Porchuck Road neighborhood. He said that the Board of Selectmen, as the Town's Traffic Authority, is continuing discussions with residents about the volume and speed of traffic that apparently is directed to the area via GPS. He said that all parties will have to work with the Department of Public Works and the Greenwich Police Department on recommendations that would meet the regulations of the state Traffic Control Authority. He added that this has been a long-standing problem. Some residents were going to meet individually with Selectmen Marzullo and Toner on Jan. 26 and then with Mr. Tesei on Feb. 3.
- h. Mr. Tesei said that coming up on Monday, Jan. 30, the annual budget season officially begins with his presentation of the proposed 2017-18 operating and capital budgets to the Board of Estimate and Taxation. The presentation of the Town budget is at 6 p.m. followed by the Board of Education presentation at 6:30 p.m. A public hearing to discuss the proposed fiscal plans will begin at 7 p.m., in the Town Hall Meeting Room. He said also gave a "tremendous amount of credit to (Town Administrator) Ben Branyan and (Senior Management Analyst) Melissa Jones for developing a budget that reflects listening to the concerns of containing costs. The BET Budget Committee begins its line-by-line review on Wednesday, Feb. 1.
- i. Mr. Tesei congratulated Greenwich Police Officer Frank DiPietro, who is assigned to the Marine Section, for being named earlier in the week as a member of Connecticut Magazine's Class of 2017 '40 Under 40.' Officer DiPietro recently returned to duty after his lower leg was amputated, following an accident. Mr. Tesei thanked Officer DiPietro for his service to the Police Department as he overcame serious odds.
- j. Regarding the annual Capital Improvement Program projects budget

4. Old Business

There was none.

5. New Business

- a. Revision to dock license agreements. Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency Director Patricia Sesto explained the current agreement addresses existing docks on the Mianus River Pond, but not new docks. The language of the existing dock license agreement has not been updated since 2008. The proposed updated format includes hold/harmless and insurance provisions for both existing and new docks. The agreement allows private docks on public land.

On a motion by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the revisions were unanimously approved.

- b. Frank Petise, senior civil engineer for the Department of Public Works, presented a request to close Dingtletown Road and establish a detour route for the pending rehabilitation of the Dingtletown Road over the Rockwood Lake Brook. The \$350,000 project is included in the Town's Capital Improvements Program and is expected to begin in April and last about four months. The detour of about dix miles will utilize North Street, Fairfield Road and Stanwich Road.

On a motion by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the road closure and detour were unanimously approved.

- c. Harbor Management Commission Chair Bruce Angiolillo presented the Commission's proposed budget for 2017-2018. Mr. Angiolillo explained the \$40,750 budget was unanimously approved by the Commission at its Jan. 18 meeting. He also said that budget practices in the past followed the law and that this budget submission follows that – a practice that is supported by a legal opinion the Commission also received.

Mr. Toner, who is the Selectmen's liaison to the Commission, praised Mr. Angiolillo and former Harbor Management Commission Chair Frank Mazza for the progress that has been made with finalizing a Harbor Management Plan. He said that once the plan is in place, everyone will be marching to the same drummer.

Mr. Angiolillo explained that the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) expects to have a decision within 30 days on the revised Harbor Management Plan. Once that approval is received, the plan will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for approval. After the Selectmen's approval, the plan will then be returned to DEEP for another approval and then it is forwarded to the Representative Town Meeting for final approval. Mr. Tesei thanked all of the Commission's volunteer members for the hundreds of hours of work they put into developing the plan.

A motion by Mr. Toner to approve the Harbor Management Commission budget was seconded by Mr. Marzullo and unanimously approved.

6. Appointments and Nominations

Mr. Tesei made these motions to re-nominate regular members of the following commissions. Each re-nomination was approved unanimously.

Commission on Aging:

Frank 'Kip' Burgweger, for a term expiring 3.31.20

Harbor Management Commission:

Bruce Angiolillo, for a term expiring 3.31.20

Historic District Commission:

Steven Bishop, for a term expiring 3.31.22

Parks & Recreation Commission:

Gary Dell'Abate, for a term expiring 3.31.20

Scott Johnson, for a term expiring 3.31.20

Planning and Zoning Commission:

Peter Levy, for a term expiring 3.31.20

H. Andrew Fox, term expiring 3.31.20

Dennis Yeskey, as an alternate, for a term expiring 3.31.20
Victoria Goss, as an alternate, for a term expiring 3.31.20

Shellfish Commission:

Sue Baker, for a term expiring 3.31.21
Jonathan Stone, for a term expiring 3.31.21
Joan Seguin, for a term expiring 3.31.21
Roger Bowgen, for a term expiring 3.31.21

Mr. Tesei there are about 12 more nominations that need to be made, including to the Greenwich Housing Authority and that the Board should be prepared to do so at its Feb. 9 meeting.

7. Executive Session

Mr. Toner motioned to enter into executive session to discuss pending litigation at 11:01 A.M., seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

Present in Executive Session were: J. Wayne Fox, Town Attorney; Assistant Town Attorneys Eugene McLaughlin and Aamina Ahmad.

Mr. Toner moved to exit Executive Session at 11:21 A.M., seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Mr. Toner made a motion to settle the following tax appeal claim. Following a second by Mr. Marzullo, the appeal was approved by a vote of 3-0-0.

Docket Nos. FST CV 16 – 6029010S, Parcel # 08-3233S at 138 Valley Road, for a tax credit of \$1,518 against future tax payments.

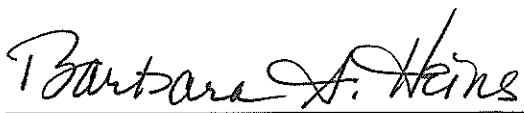
8. Adjournment

Mr. Toner motioned to adjourn at 11:23 A.M.; seconded by Mr. Marzullo, the Board voted 3-0-0 in favor.

Next Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.



John Toner, Acting First Selectman



Prepared by Barbara A. Heins,
Recording Secretary