

Town of Greenwich
Regular Meeting Board of Selectmen
December 6, 2018
10:00 A.M.
Town Hall Meeting Room

APPROVED MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:05 A.M.

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

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Tesei asked that there be a moment of silence in memory of former Greenwich resident and former President George H. W. Bush whose funeral was being held in Houston.

1. Approval of Minutes

- a. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting held on October 15, 2018 were moved for approval by Mr. Litvack. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion passed 3-0-0.
- b. Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting held on November 1, were moved for approval by Mr. Litvack. Following a second by Mr. Toner, the motion passed 3-0-0.

2. First Selectman’s Updates

Mr. Tesei said the inaugural Greenwich Economic Forum was an overwhelming success on Nov. 15-16. It was attended by nearly 400 members of the international finance community who learned about the intellectual talent in our community. He also highlighted the talks given by Paul Tudor Jones as well as the artist Akon who uses his celebrity and capitalized on helping his native country. Plans already are underway for next year’s conference.

On Nov. 27, Mr. Tesei met with the Round Hill Association Board of Directors for a discussion on several issues including the RTM’s Sense of the Meeting Resolution regarding a Northwest Fire Station.

Earlier this week, Mr. Tesei participated in the Greenwich Prevention Council’s presentation of the Greenwich Youth Survey. Mr. Tesei, along with Police Chief Jim Heavey, Communities4Action Executive Director Ingrid Gillespie and Human Services Director Dr. Alan Barry led the presentation and discussion on addressing addictive behaviors of public and private school students.

On Dec. 6, Mr. Tesei also participated in the United Way annual legislative breakfast which was well-attended and covered several issues impacting our community.

Mr. Tesei said that highlights of upcoming events, include his presentation of the draft Capital Improvement Projects budget at 6 p.m. Dec. 18 in the Cone Room. Mr. Tesei explained the CIP budget process.

Mr. Tesei also read a thank-you letter from resident Emerson Jones who commended Greenwich Police for their response to alarms at his residence.

3. Old Business

There was none.

4. New Business

- a.** Review/amend Board of Selectmen 2019 meeting schedule.

Mr. Litvack made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to amend the Board of Selectmen meeting schedule for 2019. The June 27 meeting will be held on June 26 and the Sept. 12 meeting will be held on Sept. 11. The motion was approved unanimously.

- b.** 2019 Proposed Parks & Recreation fees – Parks & Recreation Director Joseph Siciliano.

Mr. Tesei explained that historically, proposed fee changes are presented at one meeting and then voted upon at the next Selectmen meeting in order to give the public an opportunity to review the proposed changes and share their opinions.

Mr. Siciliano explained that the proposed 2019 fees would be effective Jan. 1, 2019 through Dec. 31, 2019. There are some incremental increases proposed after reviewing what surrounding towns charge. He also said the Parks & Recreation Department expects \$5 million revenue to be generated by the proposed fee schedule. In response to Mr. Litvack's question, Mr. Siciliano said this year's revenue was \$4.9 million.

Mr. Tesei asked about revenue generated by the new Byram Park pool. Mr. Siciliano said there was average of 485 people who used the pool during the 68-day season and there were \$1.8 million in guest passes sold.

Mr. Litvack said the issue raised via email about vehicle passes will need to be addressed.

- c.** Eversource request for road closures and detours – Tracey Alston of Eversource.

- i.** Eversource construction manager Eric Bloom and customer relations representative Tracey Alston discussed detour plans needed to allow work for repairs to circuits that is related to the Labor Day week outages.

Ms. Alston said there would be communications to all impacted customers including door-to-door and hangtag notifications and outbound calls.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to approve the detours. The motion was approved unanimously.

ii. The second set of requested detours by Eversource are related to the news substation and transmission line project, according to Ms. Alston. She said communication about the 11 detours will be communicated via a local media press briefing, mail, door hangtags and telephone calls.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to approve the detours. The motion was approved unanimously.

- d. Request to settle *Coumantaros v. Town of Greenwich* – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

Mr. Litvack made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to accept the proposed settlement. The motion was approved unanimously.

- e. Request to settle *Varshisky v. Town of Greenwich* – Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to accept the proposed settlement. The motion was approved unanimously.

- f. Readopt the Senior Tax Relief Ordinance – the Commission on Aging.

Kip Burgweger and Lori Contadino of the Commission on Aging presented the proposed extension of the tax relief ordinance. Mr. Burgweger said the Commission is seeking to expand the extension to 10 years, rather than the five years that historically has been approved.

There was discussion on how the ordinance works and how local seniors benefit.

Mr. Tesei said the Board will delay voting on the extension until its Dec. 20, 2018 meeting.

5. Appointments and Nominations.

- a. There were none.

6. Executive session

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

Mr. Litvack made a motion to enter Executive Session at 11:24 a.m. Upon a second by Mr. Litvack, the motion was approved unanimously.

In attendance were Town Attorney Wayne Fox, Assistant Town Attorneys Eugene McLaughlin and Abby Wadler, Recording Secretary Barbara Heins, and board and commission candidates Darius Toraby, Peter von Braun, Dr. Adam Messenger and Lauren O'Keefe.

Mr. Litvack made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to exit the Executive Session at 1:04 p.m.

7. Adjournment

At 1:06 p.m., Mr. Litvack made a motion to adjourn. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved unanimously.

The next Meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Peter J. Tesei, First Selectman

Prepared by Barbara A. Heins,
Recording Secretary