

**Town of Greenwich**  
Board of Selectmen Special Meeting  
December 18, 2017  
10:00 A.M.  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
Greenwich Town Hall

APPROVED MINUTES

**1. The meeting opened at 10:05 A.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

a. Attendance:

- I. First Selectman Peter J. Tesei - Present
- II. Selectman John Toner - Present
- III. Selectman Sandy Litvack – Present

Following the Pledge, Mr. Tesei 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 pose questions and make comments.

**2. Approval of minutes**

- a. There was a motion by Mr. Toner and seconded by Mr. Litvack to place approval of the minutes of the Dec. 4, 2017 meeting on the agenda. The vote was 3-0-0.
- b. A motion to approve the Dec. 4 minutes as amended for corrections was moved by Mr. Litvack and seconded by Mr. Toner. The vote was 3-0-0.

Before moving on with the agenda, Mr. Tesei said that wanted to take up item 4 a. under New Business first. He explained that as it is custom, a proclamation and a certificate of appreciation would be presented to outgoing Tax Collector Tod Laudonia for his eight years of service. In his comments, Mr. Laudonia thanked his staff and his wife Jane, and said it was an honor to serve the people of his hometown.

**3. First Selectman's Updates**

- a. Mr. Tesei said two new fire police officers for the Glenville Volunteer Fire Department – Patrick Rooney and Jennifer Almeida, were sworn in on Dec. 11.
- b. On Dec. 12, Mr. Tesei held a meeting with residents to discuss Porchuck Road traffic. Also attending that meeting were Town Administrator Ben Branyan and Deputy DPW Commissioner Jim Michel. He said that more than 100 hours of study and review have gone into the review of the traffic situation.
- c. On Dec.12, there was the promotion ceremony for Fire Marshal Chris Practico.
- d. Also on Dec. 12, the First Selectman's Diversity Advisory Committee met and began planning for the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Defining Diversity writing contest. The contest has great support from Hearst and other partners including Mary Lee Kiernan and Joan Mockler of the YWCA, Mr. Tesei said. Last year there were more than 80 entries to the contest.
- e. On Dec. 13, the First Selectman's Economic Advisory Committee met and held

- discussions on the planned 2018 financial service/hedge fund conference, the Think Greenwich campaign and the Plan of Conservation and Development.
- f. Also on Dec. 13, the Athletic Field Utilization working group comprised of Town and Board of Education officials met to discuss and review the different stakeholders and their needs for athletic fields, as well as short-, long- and intermediate needs.
  - g. At the Dec. 14 meeting of the Western Council of Governments, there was discussion of Connecticut DOT plans to resurface certain portions of the Merritt Parkway between Lake Avenue and Round Hill Road with an adherent pavement on four curves to help minimize the number of accidents.
  - h. And on Dec. 14, Mr. Tesei and Mr. Litvack attended the final meeting of the 2015-2017 Board of Estimate and Taxation term. Proclamations were presented to four outgoing members – Jim Lash, Art Norton, Nancy Weissler and John Blankley as well as Mary Lee Kiernan, who resigned in January. Mr. Tesei said all five have performed tremendous service to our Town.
  - i. Mr. Tesei also provided an update on the Selectmen holding Executive Sessions. It is the opinion of Counsel that the Board may conduct joint interviews of candidates to Boards and Commissions in Executive Session rather than each Selectman conducting individual interviews.

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

**a. 2018 Proposed Parks and Recreation fees – Parks & Recreation Director Joe Siciliano.**

Mr. Tesei opened discussion on the long-standing policy (since 2001) of not providing free beach passes to retired Town teachers. Town Attorney Wayne Fox explained that if that benefit was to be afforded to retired employees it would be better done through labor contract negotiations.

Mr. Litvack said that it seemed to him that anyone who retired after service to the Town should be entitled to receive a beach pass; that he does not understand what the problem is in doing so.

There was discussion that such a policy would be a Pandora's box and open the issue for many other classes of employees.

Mr. Litvack also said that if the classes of eligible employees were defined, he did not see any harm in doing so.

Mr. Fox said he would be happy to set up a time to further discuss the issue with Mr. Litvack.

Parks and Recreation Director Joe Siciliano said that he had not received any questions regarding the proposed fees as outlined in the previous meeting agenda.

A motion by Mr. Toner, seconded by Mr. Litvack, to approve the new 2018 fees was approved unanimously.

**b. Revisions to the Board of Selectmen 2018 meeting schedule.**

The Selectmen said they would review their calendars and provide updated availability information to Recording Secretary Barbara Heins so that a revised calendar can be available for review at the Jan. 11, 2018 meeting.

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

**a. Sustainable Greenwich – Conservation Director Denise Savageau.**

Ms. Savageau and Conservation Commission member Gary Silberberg made the presentation. Ms. Savageau said that Sustainable CT is modeled after the program Sustainable New Jersey and focuses on economic development as well as environmental sustainability. She said the Town already has been working on this effort and will receive points for each of the efforts/programs it uses. It is a collective effort with other participating communities.

In terms of water conservation, Ms. Savageau said that the Town has been at the forefront of these efforts. The Town also has been engaged with energy conservation and coastal resiliency efforts. In 2018, the Town will be registered as a sustainable community. She also said there are more than 30 environmental groups in Town involved in a variety of efforts including public/private partnerships for recycling and composting.

Mr. Tesei commented that there are many private partners who work to protect the environment and educate people to live more environmentally active lives.

Mr. Toner made a motion, seconded by Mr. Litvack and unanimously approved to have Greenwich become involved with Sustainable CT.

Ms. Savageau said that she will be organizing a Town Hall team that will include representatives from Land Use and the schools.

**6. Appointments and Nominations**

There were none.

**7. Executive Session**

Mr. Litvack moved the meeting go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and settlement of claims at 10:49 a.m. Upon a second by Mr. Toner, the motion was approved.

In addition to the Selectmen, also attending the Executive Session were Town Attorney J. Wayne Fox, Assistant Town Attorney Eugene McLaughlin, Dr. Jill Gildea from the Board of Education, and Recording Secretary Barbara Heins.

At 12:01 p.m., the meeting came out of executive session.

Mr. Toner made a motion, that was seconded by Mr. Litvack, to resume the regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to settle Docket No. HHB CV 16-6036187S-Parcel No. 10-23281 for a tax credit of \$7,980. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Litvack made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Toner to settle Docket No. HHB CV 16-6036188S-Parcel No. 08-1947 for a tax credit

of \$5,748. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to settle Docket No. FST CV 16-6029025S-Parcel No. 10-2009 for a tax credit of \$15,845. The motion was approved unanimously.

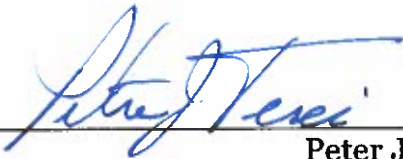
Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to settle Docket No. HHB CV 16-6036235S-Parcel No. 07-2709/S for a tax credit of \$1,300. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Toner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Litvack to settle Docket No. FST CV 16-6029024S-Parcel No. 01-1316/S for a tax credit of \$2,869. The motion was approved unanimously.

## 8. Adjournment

Mr. Litvack motioned to adjourn at 12:06 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Toner, the Board voted 3-0 in favor.

The next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled on Thursday, January 11, 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