

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MAY 11, 2006

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 11:08 a.m. by First Selectman, Kevin J. Kopetz. Also present was William F. Mitchell. Mr. Kopetz explained that the meeting is held at the library because it is handicapped accessible. He announced that future meetings would be held there, pending availability.

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of April 13, 2006. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes

Mr. Kopetz read a letter dated May 9, 2006, from Jeffrey Coppola, Oakbrook Estates Condominium Association President, thanking Mr. Kopetz and Mr. Mitchell for continuing the Town's policy to reimburse for refuse and recycling collection costs. At this point, Ms. McCarty joined the meeting. She proposed to add a correction to the minutes. After reviewing the minutes, Mr. Kopetz determined that they reflected accurately what was discussed at the meeting and the situation at hand regarding phase in of revaluation. She will submit a clarification next month. About her proposal to rescind the condominium reimbursement policy, she reaffirms that all residents do not utilize all Town and school programs and services and are not reimbursed accordingly.

Mr. Kopetz read a resignation letter from Gary E. Johns(R), 65 Carriage Drive, from the Board of Finance and thanked him for his many years of public service on this board and the Board of Education.

Director of Community Services and Recreation, Joseph Ierardi, reported on the Neighborhood Assistance Act. He explained that the State allows tax credits for private industries wishing to contribute to local non-profit agencies. Accordingly, the Town must conduct a Public Hearing and a Special Town Meeting to execute this legislation. His department acts as a liaison in the process. This year, Lancraft Fife and Drum is the only applicant.

Mr. Mitchell moved to sign a Call for a Public Hearing, concerning programs to be submitted for approval under the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act, to be held on June 1, 2006, in Conference Room #3 of the North Haven Town Hall, 18 Church Street, North Haven at 6:45 p.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved to sign a Call for a Special Town Meeting, concerning programs to be submitted for approval under the Connecticut Neighborhood Assistance Act, to be held on June 1, 2006, in Conference Room #3 of the North Haven Town Hall, 18 Church Street, North Haven, immediately following the Public Hearing, but not before 7:00 p.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved the following property tax refunds:

Marie Chieco, 511 Elm Street, Unit 10-1, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$96.51, Assessor's Correction #34039

Claire Barbiero, 561 Skiff Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$96.51, Assessor's Correction #34055, in the amount of \$91.59, Assessor's Correction #34056, and in the amount of \$86.28, Assessor's Correction #34057

Elaine F. or Ralph P. Cocco, 11 St. John Street, #B-4, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$41.56, Assessor's Correction #34021

Stephen J. and Grace M. and Survs., 8 Sonne Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$96.51, Assessor's Correction #33950, and in the amount of \$91.59, Assessor's Correction #33951, and in the amount of \$86.28, Assessor's Correction #34027

Ford Motor Credit Co., P.O. Box 67000, Dept. 231601, Detroit, MI 48267-2316, in the amount of \$852.32, Assessor's Corrections #33832, #33837 and #33841, and in the amount of \$696.80, Assessor's Corrections #33835, #33836 and #33839, and in the amount of \$619.17, Assessor's Corrections #33833, #33838 and #33840

GMAC, c/o Semperian Administrative Services, Inc., P.O. Box 3100, Midland, TX 79702-3100, in the amount of \$970.67, Assessor's Corrections #33758, #33761 and #33763, and in the amount of \$364.37, Assessor's Corrections #33764, #33825 and #33828, and in the amount of \$243.26, Assessor's Corrections #33729, #33730 and #33732

Richard Kortsep, 261 Quinnipiac Avenue, #101, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$94.58, Assessor's Correction #34051, and in the amount of \$40.73, Assessor's Correction #34053

Barbara-Jean Male, 6 Orient Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$300.00 Tax Collector Correction #15863

Mercedes Benz Credit, P.O. Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$348.49, Assessor's Corrections #33756 and #33784

Stephen and Julie Metzger and Survs., 1805 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$274.77, Assessor's Correction #34032, and in the amount of \$289.53, Assessor's Correction #34031, and in the amount of \$258.84, Assessor's Correction #34033

Purchase America, Inc., 285 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$1049.42, Assessor's Correction #34026

Carol Sue Spinaci, 8 Marlborough Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$91.59, Assessor's Correction #33851, in the amount of \$96.51, Assessor's Correction #33894, and in the amount of \$86.28 Assessor's Correction #33931

Subaru Auto Leasing Ltd., 2235 Rt. 70 West, Cherry Hill, NJ 08802-3308, in the amount of \$195.43, Assessor's Correction #33970

George R. Thomson, 1680 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$92.96, Assessor's Correction #33948

Gregory J. Volpe, 37 Maple Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$251.50, Assessor's Correction #33855

Maurice F. Varney, 77 Elm Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$23.48, Tax Collector Correction #15849

Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved a Partial Release for North Haven Funeral Home, Inc., 36 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$27,500, leaving a balance of \$2,500, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Gary E. Johns, 65 Carriage Drive, as the Town Assessor. He replaces Charles E. Venter, 59 White Cedar Drive, Madison, who resigned February 24, 2006. He cited Mr. Johns's education and work experience in management and finance, along with decades of public service, including Board of Finance Chairman. There was an extensive hiring procedure that involved a panel of four, including two private, personnel consultants. There were nine candidates. Mr. Johns was selected unanimously by the panel and endorsed by the Finance Director.

Ms. McCarty questioned the 1963 Town Ordinance that cites the need for candidates of this position to take oral and written exams. Mr. Kopetz explained that candidates were interviewed. Precedent was established to forgo exams in the hiring of Mr. Venter in 2003, when the Board of Selectmen that included Mr. Kopetz and Ms. McCarty, approved unanimously his appointment. Ms. McCarty believed that the Venter appointment was transitional in nature. Mr. Kopetz replied that there was no indication that Mr. Venter would not remain in the Town's employ long-term. She also said that she did not question that appointment because Ordinances were not on-line at the time. In response to her questions, the Town Attorney added that he does not believe there are legal grounds to challenge the appointment based on the Ordinance, as the intent of the law is upheld. The hiring process was fair, open and competitive. Mr. Kopetz mentioned that other Assessors were hired in the past under the Ordinance, who were not certified at the time of hiring. Mr. Johns is pursuing an Assessor's certification. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes. Ms. McCarty abstained based on the language of the Ordinance, which should be changed. She does not oppose Mr. Johns personally.

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Michael J. Freda(R), 90 Highland Park Road, to the Board of Finance to fill the unexpired term of Gary E. Johns(R), 65 Carriage Drive, term to expire 11/6/07. Mr. Kopetz stated that Mr. Freda is the President/Chief Executive Officer of a large-scale private industry. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Before adjournment, Mr. Kopetz asked Ms. McCarty to remove from the website, northhaveninfo.org, names and salaries of town employees that appear on a budget

document. He said that the creators of the website are friends of Ms. McCarty, and many town employees and their families are very concerned about the possibilities of identity theft and other matters concerning their security. They understand that the information is available under Freedom of Information, but question the need to publicize names and not job positions on the Internet. Ms. McCarty stated that she does not control the website and asked that the information be removed.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Mitchell moved for adjournment at 12:10 p.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes