

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JANUARY 11, 2007

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 11 a.m., by First Selectman, Kevin J. Kopetz. Also present were William F. Mitchell and Janet M. McCarty

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

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the regular Selectmen's Meeting of December 14, 2006. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the special Selectmen's Meeting of December 20, 2006. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz introduced a letter received January 5, 2007, from Anne Murphy, 103 Ridgewood Avenue, urging the Board to support C.L.A.P.S. (the School System's creative learning program), during the upcoming budget season. Board members are proud of this successful program.

Mr. Mitchell moved a resolution regarding the Community Services Child Day Care program:

RESOLVED: That the First Selectman, Kevin Kopetz, is empowered to enter into or amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of North Haven with the Department of Social Services of the State of Connecticut for a Child Day Care program if such an agreement is offered and to have the corporate seal affixed to all documents required as a part of any offered agreement.

Voted; Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved a resolution to host the 2012 CT State Firefighters' Convention.

RESOLVED: That in recognition of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North Haven Fire Department, the Board of Selectmen hereby authorizes the Fire Department to host the 2012 Connecticut State Firefighters' Convention; It being understood that any related expenditure will require prior approval by the Board of Finance and, if necessary by a Special Town Meeting called for that purpose, all in accordance with Town Charter; and it being further resolved, that the Fire Department will seek prior approval from the Board of Selectmen for any and all promotional or other uses of the name and seal of the Town of North Haven in connection with this endeavor; and it being further resolved that progress reports, including the naming of members to associated committees, shall be submitted to this Board on a regular basis.

Fire Chief, Vincent Landisio, expressed that the North Haven Fire Department is honored to be selected to host this event and seeks the support of the Board of Selectmen. In response to questions from Ms. McCarty, he reported that the gathering would begin on a Friday evening, with the convention held on a

Saturday and a parade on a Sunday. He anticipates that private fundraising efforts, organized by the department, would defray all but minimal costs.

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

Mr. Mitchell moved the following resolution regarding the retirement pension of former First Selectman, Tony Rescigno:

RESOLVED: That in accordance with Town Ordinance, "Pensions", Chapters 56-1, 56-4 and 56-5, the Board of Selectmen hereby approves the early retirement of former First Selectman, Anthony P. Rescigno, at 62 years of age and establishes his eligibility to collect the pension allowance at a reduced rate of 80%, beginning March 1, 2007.

Mr. Kopetz explained that the Board is mandated to review the eligibility requirements of the Ordinance, in order to allow for Mr. Rescigno's early collection of pension benefits. Mr. Kopetz affirmed that the former First Selectman meets the eligibility requirements in terms of age and length of service. Ms. McCarty questioned if he is eligible for medical benefits. Mr. Kopetz responded that he does not believe this is the case, and the Ordinance does not refer to any such benefits. Mr. Mitchell added that town employees may retire at 55 years of age, and therefore, he has no issue with Mr. Rescigno's request to collect early with a penalty. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-abstain. Ms. McCarty stated that she needs more information.

The Selectmen continued their discussion of tax relief measures for qualifying senior citizens and the disabled. After researching the issue and listening to the requests of members of the public, Mr. Kopetz would like to amend the Town's current Ordinance in a number of ways. He would like to change the application period from annual to biennial to coincide with the State of Connecticut's requirements. He suggests beginning with the State's base income limits of \$28,800 for individuals and \$35,300 for married couples and adding a sum of \$7,000 to each, in order to establish more generous income limits, and in so doing, to narrow the gap between singles and couples. The new income limits would be \$35,800 for individuals and \$42,300 for married couples. A cost of living adjustment would be added, at the same time and in an amount established by the State. The Board agrees it should propose removing the requirement disqualifying eligible residents, who are responsible for students in the school system. Voters at a Town Meeting must approve the amendments to the Ordinance.

Ms. McCarty discussed recent State legislation that allows municipalities to freeze taxes for qualifying senior citizens over 70 years of age. Mr. Kopetz reaffirmed his position that this legislation is not tax relief, but a shift to other taxpayers, including other qualifying senior citizens, who are not yet 70 years of age. Town officials predict the costs of the program to be about \$146,912 next year and increasing in future years to \$581,985 by 2010. He also mentioned that the State instituted a program such as this in the past and phased it out, he believes, because of escalating costs.

Ms. McCarty proposed writing a letter to North Haven's State legislators advocating for other funding sources for a tax freeze. Mr. Kopetz asked her to broaden the scope of her correspondence to include support for real property tax relief for the Town of North Haven. She will allow the Board to review her draft correspondence.

Mr. Kopetz moved the following property tax refunds:

Richard and Elizabeth Ardolino & Survs., 31 Shawmut Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$99.08, Assessor's Correction #35622, and in the amount of \$94.03, Assessor's Correction #35623, and in the amount of \$88.58, Assessor's Correction #35624

Dennis A. Brunelle, 27 Elaine Court, Prospect, CT 06712, in the amount of \$341.82, Assessor's Corrections #35907 and #35908

Margaret Carocari, 1 Frost Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$86.10, Assessor's Corrections #35500 and #35502

Chase Manhattan Auto Finance Corp., Box 5210, New Hyde Park, NY 11042-5210, in the amount of \$221.20, Assessor's Correction #35159, and in the amount of \$131.53, Assessor's Correction #35778

Edward H. or Irene M. Cowern, 271 Clintonville Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$287.00, Assessor's Correction #3 5563

Daimlerchrysler Services, Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$59.58, Assessor's Correction #35666

DCFS, 2050 Roanoke Road, Westlake, TX 76262, in the amount of \$166.40, Assessor's Correction #35464, and in the amount of \$121.15, Assessor's Correction #35512, and in the amount of \$353.58, Assessor's Correction #35591

Edart Leasing Co., LLC/Edart Truck Rental, P0 Box 234, Hartford, CT 06141, in the amount of \$84.49, Assessor's Corrections #35627 and #35628, and in the amount of \$474.36, Assessor's Corrections #35552 and #35553, and in the amount of \$225.07, Assessor's Corrections #35551 and #35626

Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040, in the amount of \$506.44, Assessor's Corrections #35555 and #35696, and in the amount of \$47.73, Assessor's Correction #35965

Honda Lease Trust, 470 Granby Road, Ste. 2, 5. Hadley, MA 01075-3215, in the amount of \$1,010.55, Assessor's Corrections #35601, #35652 and #35651, and in the amount of \$527.02, Assessor's Corrections #35653 and #35599, and in the amount of \$104.87, Assessor's Corrections #35695 and #35554, and in the amount of \$221.36, Assessor's Corrections #35694 and #35966

Peter A. or Margherita Iacobelli, 40 Cedar Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in

the amount of \$3.56, Assessor's Correction #35463

Mazda American Credit, P.O. Box 37068, Franklin, TX 37068, in the amount of \$230.46, Assessor's Correction #35692

Marilyn P. Nelson, 49 Mountain Brook Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$79.10, Assessor's Correction #35912

Emilio Parente, 50 Sentinel Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$109.35, Assessor's Correction #35669

Alexander Pullen, 6 Pequot Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$18.68, Assessor's Correction #35681

Saab Leasing Co., 1750 Chenal Pkwy 300, Little Rock, AR 72222, in the amount of \$63.31, Assessor's Correction #35578

Lois S. Sachs, P0 Box 273, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$255.54, Assessor's Correction #35646

Isaiah E. Spann, 136 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$86.16, Assessor's Correction #35572

Toyota Motor Credit Corp., Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$515.59, Assessor's Corrections #35471, #35513 and #35514, and in the amount of \$400.33, Assessor's Corrections #35570, #35612 and #35613

Edward E. Varipapa, 140 Cloudland Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$374.51, Assessor's Correction #35621

Volvo Finance NA, Inc., P.O. Box 280020, Franklin, TN 37068, in the amount of \$412.99, Assessor's Correction #35693

VW Credit Leasing, Ltd., 1401 Franklin Blvd., Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$308.95, Assessor's Corrections #35556 and #35510, and in the amount of \$64.79, Assessor's Correction #35667

John G. and Marion G. Wodecki (life use) and Paul Feeney, 126 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$281.79, Assessor's Correction #35677

Richard or Beverly Zimmer, 25 Marion Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$3.36, Assessor's Correction #35723

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

Mr. Mitchell moved the following bond releases and reductions that were recommendation by the Planning & Zoning Commission:

Doreen Iannotti, 266 Quinnipiac Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial

Release in the amount of \$7,500, leaving a balance of \$2,500

Sackett Point Developers, LLC, 67 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$100,000, leaving a balance of \$12,000

Friendly Ice Cream Corp. 140 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$45,000

State Street Car Care Center, LLC, 384 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$35,000

Andrea J. Salemme, Le Petit Salon & Spa, 51 Montowese Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$20,000

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

Mr. Kopetz recognized the following appointments to the Open Space Advisory Committee that were recommended by their respective boards and commissions, with terms to expire 12/31/07:

Conservation Cm.	Hugh H. Davis	1261 Ridge Road
Board of Finance	Timothy M. Doheny	19 Knight Lane
Inland Wetland Cm.	Leroy Clemens Gould	299 Mansfield Road
Land Trust	Mark V. Cofrancesco	6 Frost Drive
Parks & Rec. Cm.	Joseph Cullen	107 Blakeslee Avenue
Planning & Zoning Cm.	Douglas E. Roberts	140 Round Hill Road

Mr. Kopetz moved the reappointment of Stephen J. Fitzgerald, 34 River Road, as the Board of Selectmen's appointee to the Open Space Advisory Committee, term to expire 12/31/07. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes. Ms. McCarty suggested amending the Ordinance to extend these terms to two years. Mr. Kopetz responded that the intent of the Ordinance was to expose as many individuals as possible to the group. He agrees, however, that a change may be in order now, given the time consumption of annual paperwork, as well as the need for continuity.

Ms. McCarty moved the appointment of Sarah Ahmad Aziz(D), 56 Patten Road, to the Community Services Commission, to fill the expired term of Carol Davis(D), 10 Pleasant Drive, term to expire 12/31/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

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