

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

APRIL 12, 2007

A regular 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 regular Selectmen's Meeting of March 8, 2007. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz introduced a letter from Peter J. Criscuolo, Jr., 15 Fawn Ridge Road, requesting funding for an emergency response vehicle. Mr. Kopetz remarked that the Call of the Annual Budget Town Meeting includes the purchase of a \$140,000 replacement vehicle.

Mr. Kopetz reviewed a letter and petition signed by Ken Foscue, 195 Wayland Street and numerous citizens, requesting extension of pool hours and noted that the Board of Finance added \$50,000 to the proposed budget for this purpose.

Mrs. Ann M. Ruocco, 23 Ansonia Drive, wrote a letter, expressing concerns about the proposed Pratt & Whitney development. Mr. Kopetz explained that the mixed-zone regulation is a "floating" one and that once it is sought to be applied to a particular piece of property, the development would be reviewed by appropriate boards and commissions. Residents may speak on the proposal at public hearings.

Mr. Kopetz announced the resignation of Phyllis Havens(U), 36 Washington Avenue, from the Library Board of Directors and thanked her for her service.

Mr. Gary Amato, 27 Pool Road, wrote a letter requesting the resignation of the First Selectman. Mr. Kopetz read the letter and acknowledged that the recent arrest of three Veteran Town managers has brought much sadness to the Town government and to the community as a whole. He feels he is responsible for correcting the policies and procedures that failed to provide appropriate checks and balances. In addition to preparing a request for proposal for a new auditing firm, he is requiring all travel vouchers, overtime requests and reimbursements to be submitted to and signed by department heads with written and detailed explanations. Cash reimbursement will be eliminated. He was instructed by State Investigators to refrain from commenting on the investigation and reminded the Board of Selectmen that they are the pension review board and would be required to make decisions on retirement benefits for the employees in question. Mr. Kopetz added that he is most concerned for the well-being of the existing employees in the affected departments, as they have demonstrated always a professionalism and dedication to the community.

Mrs. McCarty expressed support for the actions taken to correct future problems. She recommends that the Town pursue a forensic audit to review past financial records and add language to the Code of Ethics to include "whistleblower" protection. Mr. Kopetz stated that the Town Attorney attended a workshop on municipal ethics and that the First Selectman intends to propose future recommendations to strengthen the Town's Code of Ethics.

Ms. McCarty included a letter she wrote, dated April 5, 2007, into the record. It states her support to restore hours to the pool, transfer station and library, along with three strategies to fund the appropriation. She advocates voting on the appropriations at the upcoming referendum and eliminating Department Head raises.

Mr. Mitchell moved the following resolution, as recommended by the Board of Finance:

RESOLUTION: That the part-time line in the Election Budget of the current FY be rolled into the full-time and that the sum in question be paid retroactively and for the balance of the FY, to the Registrars of Voters.

Mr. Kopetz explained that upon review of the Registrars' budget, it was determined that a reorganization of line items was necessary, which is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen noted the increased workload of the office in light of recent State requirements. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved a Call for the Annual Budget Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 14, 2007, at 7 p.m., in the auditorium of North Haven High School. Mr. Kopetz read the Call, which indicated that the purchase of the emergency vehicle and the adoption of a new Noise Ordinance would be considered at this time. Discussion on the proposed 2007/2008 budget would follow, with the budget vote to be conducted by a town-wide referendum. Ms. McCarty would prefer that the emergency vehicle be considered at the referendum. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-no

Mr. Kopetz moved property tax refunds for Anthony D. Massaro, 41 Cottontail Lane, North Haven, in the amount of \$120.54, Tax Collector Correction #16117, Edmund C., Vera & David C. Gagliardi, 17 Horseshoe Hill Road, North Haven, in the amount of \$86.10, Assessor's Correction #36277 and Jackson Landscape Nurserymen, Inc., 366 Old Maple Avenue, in the amount of \$42.20, Tax Collector Correction #16027. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the following bond releases/reductions, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission:

Avalon Haven, 99 Broadway, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$25,000

North Haven Health & Racquet, LLC, 100 Elm Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$30,000

WE 33 Stiles Lane, LLC, 33 Stiles Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$10,000

Candid Communications, LLC, 120 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$15,000

Biagio G. Gallo, 166 Upper State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$10,000, leaving a balance of \$5,000

TFJA, LLC, 323 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$40,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

Montowese Associates, 163 Quinnipiac Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$12,500, leaving a balance of \$2,500

Ceruzzi North Haven, LLC, 49-79 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$420,000, leaving a balance of \$50,000

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

Additionally, Mr. Mitchell moved a partial bond reduction for Sackett Point Developers, LLC, 67 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$35,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000, as recommended by the Inland Wetlands Commission. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the reappointment of Thomas Gersdorf(R), 2179 Whitney Avenue, to the Quinnipiack Valley Health District, Board of Directors, term to expire 5/4/10. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Erin S. MacDonnell(U), 3 State Street, to the Library Board of Directors, to fill the unexpired term of Phyllis Havens(U), 36 Washington Avenue, term to expire 12/31/07. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

In response to a question from Ms. McCarty, Mr. Kopetz stated that the Town Attorney is reviewing and processing agreements for Connecticut Clean Energy.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Mitchell moved for adjournment at 11:30 a.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes