

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JUNE 28, 2007

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 2 p.m., by First Selectman, Kevin J. Kopetz. Also present were William F. Mitchell and Janet M. McCarty. Mr. Kopetz moved to add public comments at the beginning and end of the agenda. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

There were no public comments, relative to agenda business, at this time.

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the regular Selectmen's Meeting of May 17, 2007. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the special Selectmen's Meeting of June 1, 2007. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz introduced into the record a letter dated June 17, 2007, from the Third Selectwoman about separating the operations and forensic audits.

The First Selectman announced the resignation of William DeMatteo, Jr.(R), 595 Middletown Avenue, from the Parks & Recreation Commission and thanked him for his many years of service. He also announced the resignation of Joseph M. Mappa, 15 Rimmon Road, as the Assistant Animal Control Officer and thanked him for his contributions. Later, Captain Genovese stated that the Police Department has interviewed and is preparing to hire for the position.

The Selectmen discussed establishing an oversight committee to review and possibly amend the Town's Code of Ethics. They suggested drawing committee membership from various non-partisan, community groups and engaging interested individuals. Further, they agreed to establish a timetable, define goals and objectives and solicit membership in correspondence with different community groups. Mr. Kopetz will receive comments from Board members and prepare a draft letter for their review. Ms. McCarty would like to see the new committee use experts from the State as resources.

Ms. McCarty moved a total bond release for Vigliotti Construction Co., Inc., 344-354 Washington Avenue, North Haven, in the amount of \$90,000, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission. This release was tabled from the Selectmen's Meeting of May 17, 2007. After visiting the property and reviewing the requirements imposed by the Planning & Zoning Commission, Mr. Kopetz determined that the bond release is in order. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved a partial bond release for Blue Hill, LLC, 101 Brewster Lane, North Haven, in the amount of \$342,000, leaving a balance of \$340,000, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved a total bond release for TFJA, LLC, 323 Washington Avenue, North Haven, in the amount of \$10,000, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Mitchell moved the reappointment of Anthony P. Rescigno(R), 7 Beach Lane, to the Regional Water Authority, Representative Policy Board, term to expire 6/30/10. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the reappointment of Carmela F. Chagnon(U), 1 Sachem Drive, to the Board of Ethics, term to expire 7/1/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Miriam E. Brody(R), 500 Elm Street, Unit #15-4, to the Board of Ethics, term to expire 7/1/09. Mrs. Brody replaces Raymond Gorman, Jr.(R), 6 Old Kiln Road. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Ms. McCarty moved the reappointment of Ann Kuhlman(D), 15 South Gate Lane, to the Board of Ethics, term to expire 7/1/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the reappointment of Reverend Scott Morrow, 34 Bassett Road, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6/30/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the reappointment of Leslie Corey(R), 57 Glenn Road, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6/30/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Ms. McCarty moved the reappointment of Rosalind Gambardella(D), 1014 Hartford Turnpike, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6/30/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Susan F. Puzycki(R), 59 Sugar Hill Road, to the Parks and Recreation Commission, to fill the unexpired term of William DeMatteo, Jr.(R), 595 Middletown Avenue, term to expire 12/31/09. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

The Board entertained comments from the public. Mr. Kopetz responded to questions posed by Gary Amato, 27 Pool Road, regarding the employment of

Finance Director, Vincent Palmeri. He stated that he continues to follow the advice of labor counsel regarding the personnel matter and that to his knowledge, Mr. Palmeri, is not communicating with Town employees. Later, he asked that the Town inform the public of the developments of the forensic audit. Mr. Kopetz stated that the auditor will report to the Board of Finance at these public meetings.

Michael Mele, 10 Maple Avenue, feels that the Finance Director is responsible for the last liability insurance contract not being bid and for a lack of bidding in general. He wants to ensure that lost funds are recovered. Mr. Kopetz commented that the Town has worked very hard to attract more quality bidders during this bid cycle. He agrees to begin the timetable earlier in the budget process in the future. Town Attorney, Jeffrey Donofrio, commented on the changing conditions of the insurance market that are producing cost savings at this time.

Miriam Brody, 500 Elm Street, Unit #15-4, offered to assist with the Code of Ethics revision. In response to questions from reporters, Mr. Kopetz explained that the Code was last revised in 1977 and that the State has suggested a model Code for municipalities to implement.

Charles DeMartino, 27 Benedict Drive, asked for a copy of the Town of North Haven's Department Head Personnel Policy. He wants the Board of Selectmen to interview the Finance Director and freeze his payments of vacation and other time accumulated during his career with the Town. The Town Attorney cautioned the Board about engaging in this subject, as it was not posted on the agenda, in accordance with the State Freedom of Information Act.

In response to other questions, Mr. Kopetz reported that legal advertisements and the Town website work were put out to bid. The hiring freeze was lifted with passage of the Town budget, as the Fire department hired a 28th firefighter. A Town Engineer was hired, but his starting date is delayed due to military commitments. The Library seeks to reinstate hours, after the hiring of appropriate personnel.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Mitchell moved for adjournment at 3:00 p.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes