

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
@Memorial Library Community Room

JULY 19, 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.

At this time, the Board heard public comments, relative to agenda business.

Charles DeMartino, 27 Benedict Drive, advocated that the Board freeze the Director of Finance's payments of sick and other benefit time. He feels that the Board should require him to appear before it, to answer questions pertaining to his arrest and to conduct association with his position.

Michael Kulick, Jr., 194 Clintonville Road, questioned the Town's method of calculating a mill rate and overall tax system in the State.

Mr. Mitchell moved approval of the minutes of the special Selectmen's Meeting of June 28, 2007. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz introduced a letter dated June 28, 2007, from Eileen Stingo, 22 Van Rose Drive, regarding the possibility of installing "no parking signs" on one side of the road. He explained that the Police Department reviewed the situation numerous times and will place the matter on the agenda of its September meeting of the Police Commission, in order to solicit comments from neighbors. The Fire Chief submitted a letter recommending that "no parking signs" be installed on one side of the road, to accommodate emergency vehicles.

Mr. Kopetz introduced a letter dated July 5, 2007, from Charles DeMartino, 27 Benedict Drive, regarding the administrative leave of the Director of Finance and the above-mentioned concerns expressed in public comment. Mr. Kopetz replied that he is following the advice of special labor counsel to avoid undermining the Town's legal position. He further stated that the Town is consistent in its managing of similar personnel matters and emphasized that this is a continuing process.

Ms. McCarty expressed that the public is frustrated with the slow pace of the judicial system and the Town's inability to hire another Finance Director. Mr. Mitchell stated that the Finance Director is innocent until proven guilty and to ask for his resignation would be inappropriate, at this time. He further commented that he feels it is best to continue following the advice of labor counsel. Mr. Kopetz reminded the Board that the individual has legal rights, under State and federal law and in the personnel policies of the Town of North

Haven. He stated that the Town is proceeding to hire a new Director of Community Services & Recreation.

The Selectmen continued to discuss establishing an oversight committee to review and possibly amend the Town's Code of Ethics. Mr. Kopetz presented a draft letter that will be forwarded to various community groups to seek committee membership. They agreed to send the letter to members of the North Haven clergy as well.

Mr. Mitchell moved the following property tax refunds:

Edward T. Biondi, 23 Sugar Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$14.12, Assessor's Correction #35629

Directional Technologies, Inc., 26 Windsor Road East, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$69.69

Jeneit L. Whitmer, 119 Kings Highway, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$288.81

Melissa M. DiPaola, 31 Westview Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$31.92

Gina F. Montauti, 51 Lancelot Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$25.09

Stanley Kryznel, 334 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$49.48

Michael G. Pikosky, 130 Blue Hills Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$505.63

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

Mr. Kopetz moved the appointment of Steven Gimler, 56 Sentinel Hill Road, as Assistant Animal Control Officer, term to expire 10/31/07. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes

Before adjournment, the Board entertained further public comment.

Charles DeMartino, 27 Benedict Drive continued to discuss the administrative leave of the Finance Director, urging the Board to freeze his payments to best protect the Town.

Ms. McCarty asked Mr. Kopetz about pursuing the Board's consideration of salary increases for the Registrars of Voters. Mr. Kopetz, commenting that the Registrars seek health benefits as well, feels that the issue and a variety of alternatives must be studied thoroughly, in order to be fair and consistent with

other part-time employees and other employees, who are undertaking more responsibility. He would like to consider the matter, as part of next year's budgetary cycle, to solicit comments from the Board of Finance and residents at Town Meetings and other forums.

Library Director, Lois Baldini, announced that with the hiring of additional personnel, the Library is resuming regular summer hours beginning July 30th. This includes opening at 10 a.m. and on Fridays.

Mr. Kopetz responded to questions posed by Gary Amato, 27 Pool Road, regarding the late issuing of tax bills. He explained that borrowing funds to operate into the new fiscal year is always an option. The Town is avoiding this by sending out bills to its largest commercial taxpayers and requesting payment as soon as possible. The delay is caused by the defeat of the budget at the first referendum, the implementation of a new system and a need to check for accuracy. He expects bills to be delivered August 1st, with a payment due date of September 4th. Mr. Kopetz also announced that Rabina Properties is filing a "Master Plan" this month.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Mitchell moved for adjournment at 12:30 p.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Mitchell-yes, McCarty-yes