

UNAPPROVED

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
@Memorial Library Community Room

DECEMBER 4, 2008
7:00p.m.

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by First Selectman, Janet M. McCarty. Also present were Stephen A. Fontana, Second Selectman, and Michael J. Freda, Third Selectman.

At this time, there were no public comments relative to the agenda.

Ms. McCarty noted that she has been First Selectman for a year. She stated that it has been a remarkable year, and she is grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of North Haven. She also thanked Mr. Fontana and Mr. Freda for serving the town for the year.

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of November 12, 2008.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

A motion was made by Mr. Fontana to approve the minutes of the Special Selectmen's Meeting of November 20, 2008.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty introduced Don Jacobs, D.I. Consulting Company, who explained the details of the classification and compensation study for department heads.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to accept the resignation of Stephen F. Darley(D), 100 Fitch Street, from the Housing Authority

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Stephen F. Darley (D), 100 Fitch Street, to the Inland Wetlands Commission as an Alternate, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint Reverend Dr. James P. Morgan, 19 Village Street, to the Commission on Aging, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Rodger Salman(R), 27 Drazen Drive, to the Commission on Aging, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Katherine Lofquist(R), 35 Grove Road, to the Commission on Aging, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Thomas Dunham(R), 40 Millbrook Road, to the Economic Development Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Ralph Durante(R), 37 Juniper Drive, to the Economic Development Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Walter L. Mann(R), 7 Benedict Drive, to the Economic Development Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint Ralph W. Cook IV(R), 52 Mountain Brook Road, to the Housing Authority, term to expire 12-31-13

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Freda expressed his concern that Antoinette Giordano McKeon was not being renominated to the Community Services Commission after many years of hard work and dedication. Ms. McCarty explained that she was interested in appointing more Democrats and Unaffiliated residents where Republicans held the majority in the past. In addition, Mr. Fontana stated that this administration was looking for new people to get involved.

Mr. Freda made a motion to reappoint of Antoinette Giordano McKeon(R), 117 North Hill Road, to the Community Services Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – no, Fontana – no, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Judith C. Meyers(D), 40 Tokeneke Drive, to the Community Services Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Donna L. Malley(U), 18 Algonquin Drive, to the Community Services Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Maggie M. Jensen(D), 25 Tokeneke Drive, to the Community Services Commission, term to expire 12-31-11

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to appoint Salvatore Bonito(U), 511 Elm Street, #7-5, to the Conservation Commission, term to expire 8-31-12

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty introduced John Parese, town attorney, to explain the terms of the agreement between the Town of North Haven and Covanta Projects of Wallingford L.P. which will be brought to a Special Town Meeting for approval.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to Sign a Call for a Special Town Meeting, to be held on Monday, December 15, 2008, at 7:00p.m. in the auditorium of the North Haven Middle School, 55 Bailey Road, North Haven, CT to take action on a Municipal Solid Waste Disposal Agreement between the Town of North Haven and Covanta Projects of Wallingford L.P.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty explained that she would like to have a new Code of Ethics in place soon. The next step in the process is to have a public hearing for residents to give their input. An updated proposed Code of Ethics will be available to the public and also on the town website before the public hearing.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to Sign a Call for a Public Hearing to be held on Monday, December 15, 2008, immediately following the Special Town Meeting in the auditorium of the North Haven Middle School, 55 Bailey Road, North Haven, CT to discuss the proposed Code of Ethics

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to name the road that was accepted by the Town of North Haven at the Special Town Meeting on June 19, 2008, between the property currently known as North Haven Pavilion (Target Plaza) and North Haven Commons on Universal Drive North, “Eagle Crossing” with the recommendation of the Police Chief and Fire Chief

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following property tax refunds:

CAB East LLC, P.O. Box 67000 Dept #231601, Detroit, MI 48267, in the amount of \$105.40

Joseph J. & Rose Marie Cavallaro & Surv, 34 Old Kiln Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$141.00

Vera Cholewinski, 11 Wenzel Farm Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$134.83

DCFS Trust, 2050 Roadnoke Road, West Lake, TX 76262, in the amount of \$25.34, and in the amount of \$23.93

Financial Ser Veh Trust, 5550 Britton Pwky, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$242.41, and in the amount of \$946.89, and in the amount of \$202.18, and in the amount of \$248.11

GMAC, 500 Enterprise Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, in the amount of \$76.32, and in the amount of \$70.50, and in the amount of \$126.31

Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelley Way, Holyoke, MA 01040, in the amount of \$124.10

Ann J. Jones, 282 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$144.06

James M. or Sharon L. McGinley, 82 Chapel Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$189.51

Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$111.06, and in the amount of \$236.48, and in the amount of \$67.66, and in the amount of \$77.20

Constance A. Viglione, 21 Carolyn Court, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$99.67

VW Credit Leasing LTD, 1401 Franklin Blvd, Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$82.87, and in the amount of \$167.63

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana moved to approve the following bond releases, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission:

KMK Insulation, 1907 Hartford Turnpike, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$25,000.00

The Upjohn Company, 410 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$5,000.00

Towering Oak, LLC, 267 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$10,000.00

Pharmacia & Upjohn, 41 Stiles Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$60,000.00

Pharmacia & Upjohn, 41 Stiles Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$5,000.00

David Yaccarino, 1 Lincoln Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$4,000.00

Pharmacia & Upjohn Company, 41 Stiles Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$2,500.00

Gabriel Zurolo, 198 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$7,500.00

Louis and Tania Yaccarino, 319 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$2,500.00

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, January 8, 2008 at 7:00p.m. in the Library Community Room.

The Board entertained comments from the public.

Michael Mele, 109 Maple Avenue, noted that the appointments that were made at the meeting included six Republicans and three Democrats. He also noted that comments made in the past regarding the salary of the new Director of Community Services and the salaries of the Police Chief and Fire Chief have proven to be false.

James DiCarlo, Police Chief, asked that the results of the classification and compensation study be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen, and that there should be input from the Police and Fire Commission. He stated that he did not believe that the Police Chief and Fire Chief should be below the midpoint of the salary range, because on their years of service.

Michael Zuccarelli, 520 Middletown Avenue, brought up his concerns regarding group homes in North Haven. He asked if the job classification study will be expanded to include union jobs.

Vincent Landisio, Fire Chief, noted that a group home must be registered if it has five or more clients, but there are homes with less than five residents and it is not mandated they be registered. It was explained that the police department knows where the group homes are located.

Joseph D'Errico, 50 Corey Road, Chairman of the Police Commission, stated that there are 25 group homes in North Haven and that the town has no recourse if a property owner decides to rent to a group home. He also asked if money had been put aside for pay increases for the department heads. He stated that it was his understanding that evaluation and performance standards are done by the Police Commission.

Ann DeMatteo, New Haven Register, asked about the implementation of the classification and compensation study. Ms. McCarty explained that the department heads did not get their usual cost of living increase when the 7-1-08 budget went into effect. However, the budget does include a line item to cover department head raises. She stated that all the department heads are pleased with the new job descriptions. She thanked all the department heads for their cooperation in the study. She then explained that one of the duties of the First Selectman is to evaluate department heads every year. She also noted that the department heads have not had salary ranges in the past. The study was expanded to include the clerical union because of different job titles and salary steps, and concerns about job expectations. The cost of the study was \$5,000 for the department head portion and \$8,000 for the clerical workers' portion. Ms. McCarty noted that Mr. Jacobs recommended a policy be adopted so that the results would be implemented on an ongoing basis.

Miriam Brody, 500 Elm Street #15-4, asked if a copy of the revised Code of Ethics would be available to the public before the Public Hearing on December 15, 2008. Ms. McCarty stated that a copy would be on the town website and also available to the public.

Timothy Doheny, 19 Knight Lane, stated that the Board of Finance set aside \$12,000 for department head raises and that would not cover the raises that were proposed in the classification and compensation study. He then stated that it was his opinion that a vote to approve any increase would have to come before the Board of Finance. He asked John Parese if there was an outclause in the contract with Covanta and inquired about what would happen to the tipping fee stabilization fund. It was explained that there was no outclause and that the money from the tipping fee stabilization fund would be coming back to the town if the contract with Covanta was implemented.

Pat Nuzzillo, 7 Mansfield Road, stated that it was up to the First Selectman to explain about giving salary increases that are not part of union negotiations. He also stated that the salary of the police chief and deputy, and fire chief and deputy should be above the midpoint of the salary range as defined in the classification and compensation study. Ms. McCarty explained the issue of the salary increases for the public works employees would be addressed at the next Board of Finance meeting.

Robert DeMauro, 25 Lincoln Street, stated that facts of a situation should be known before criticism is leveled.

Antoinetta Carmody, 159 Upper State Street, asked the following questions:

1. How many employees bring cars home? Ms. McCarty stated she did not know the specific times an employee brought a car home. When asked if she has a town car, Ms. McCarty said that she does not but she has used a town car to get back and forth from her home to work when her car has been unavailable.
2. Are the town trucks that plow snow safe? Ken Rupley, in charge of maintenance for Public Works, stated that the trucks are safe.
3. Does Mr. Fontana think the raises for the public works employees were fair? Mr. Fontana stated that he agreed that it was important to treat employees fairly.
4. Was it wise going with the low bid for the classification and compensation study? Ms. McCarty stated that she was happy she had gone with the \$5,000 bid and not the \$20,000 or \$40,000 bid. She was satisfied with the job done by Don Jacobs for \$5,000.
5. Will the budget this year contain "0 based budgeting"? Ms. McCarty stated that they are moving toward that standard.

Gary Amato, 27 Pool Road, addressed previous statements by Mr. Freda that the town should be run like a business. He questioned Mr. Freda's statement because of the many failed corporations this country is dealing with.

Mr. Freda had questioned the salary increases to the employees at Public Works and asked why any action would not have waited until after the classification and compensation study was completed. He stated that he was against the increase, but did not have an explanation as to why the action was taken. He noted that he had already submitted an article to the newspapers expressing his views, but that he was interested in speaking to the people involved to get the facts.

Bertram Martus, 1635 Ridge Road, asked if there could be adjustments in the compensation study salary range without having a new study done. Ms. McCarty explained that the framework is already set and it would be an easier process to adjust the ranges.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. McCarty moved for adjournment at 9:20 p.m.

Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes