

UNAPPROVED

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING
@ Memorial Library Community Room

July 30, 2009
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectman was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the 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.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Selectmen's Meeting of July 2, 2009.
Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda - yes

Ms. McCarty referred to responses from Fire Chief Vincent Landisio in a letter dated 7-30-09, Inland Wetlands and WPCA in addressing the letter sent by the Board of Selectmen to all Board and Commission chairmen asking them to consider adding public comments to their agenda if they already do not have them.

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint Rosalind Gambardella (D), 1014 Hartford Turnpike, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6-30-11.
Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to reappoint Reverend Scott Morrow (D), 34 Bassett Road, to the Cemetery Commission, term to expire 6-30-11.
Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Mr. Fontana made a motion to approve the following tax refunds:

Joseph John Alfano Jr., 110 Standish Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$86.10, and in the amount of \$76.32

Thomasina & Joseph John Alfano, Jr. & Surv, 110 Standish Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

Joan Barrow, Mark B. Tomassi & Marcie J. Scalia, 511 Elm Street, Unit 2-3, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$162.06, and in the amount of \$149.70

David A. & Joyce G. Calarco, 52 Grove Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$101.50, and in the amount of \$93.76

Philip D. G. & Catherine M. Coish & Surv, 1365 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$65.28, and in the amount of \$90.48

DCFS Trust, Box 977, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$120.25

DCFS Trust, 2050 Roanoke Road, West Lake, TX 76262, in the amount of \$206.69, and in the amount of \$101.67, and in the amount of \$44.23, and in the amount of \$96.03, and in the amount of \$28.43, and in the amount of \$236.69

Andrew & Roseanne Diotaiuto & Surv, 30 Gail Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

Maria L. Esposito, 103 Homewood Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$15.19

Joshua French, 80 Frost Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$72.01

Harry Massini Jr., 175 Manomet Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$44.52, and in the amount of \$41.12

M. McCafferty-Mattia, 129 Shawmut Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$117.78

Daniel A. Merriam or Barbara Merriam Kovacs, 80 Warner Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$242.52

Jean Paul D. Millman, 148 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$52.71

Toni H. Morrotti, 27 Briarwood Circle, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$28.05

Ralph Rodriguez & Sharon McGettigan-Rodriguez & Surv, 6 Sheffield Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

Ralph & Sharon Rodriguez, 6 Sheffield Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$76.32, and in the amount of \$86.10

Antonio Scarano, 60 Coventry Circle, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$63.39

Eugene R. Teixeira, 401 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50
Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

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

Banton Construction Company, 370 Bassett Road, Total Release in the amount of \$10,000.00

Primax Properties, LLC (Advance Auto Parts), 343 Washington Avenue, Total Release in the amount of \$25,000.00

Edible Arrangements International, Inc., 101 Washington Avenue, Total Release in the amount of \$5,000.00

Opus Avc, Inc., 40 Montowese Avenue, Total Release in the amount of \$18,000.00
Voted: McCarty – yes, Fontana – yes, Freda – yes

Ms. McCarty announced that the next meeting of the Board of Selectman will be on Thursday, September 3, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the North Haven Library Community Room.

Ms. McCarty stated that the following streets are scheduled to be paved relatively soon:

Ridge Road - Skiff Street to Buell Street

Kings Highway - Blue Hills to Upper State Street

Hartford Turnpike – Liberty Terrace to 1293 Hartford Turnpike

Hartford Turnpike – School Lane to Skiff Street

Warner Road – Middletown Avenue to Longview Drive

Mill Road – Roarke Road to Pierpont Court

Ms. Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works, answered questions regarding paving and milling of town streets. Mr. Freda asked about paving costs. Ms. Sadosky said she will have more information about the cost after she meets with Tilcon on Tuesday, August 4, 2009.

Mr. Freda discussed drainage issues pertaining to culverts that have become clogged on Louis Street, Village Street and Todd Drive. Mr. Freda wanted to give the list to Public Works. Ms. Sadosky explained to Mr. Freda the work order process for starting this work.

Ms. McCarty addressed a memo dated July 1, 2009 that was sent to Public Works' employees regarding outside visitors such as lawyers and investigators visiting town offices. Ms. McCarty stated that an attorney questioned the Public Works Department employees about a legal issue involving an employee in their department. Ms. McCarty explained that this memo provides employees, in this situation, with proper procedure as well as security and safety. Mr. Freda felt the word “investigator”, contained in this memo, could be a violation of our ethics code 30-4.13. Mr. Freda said he is concerned that an investigator would not be able to go in and ask questions of town personnel. He doesn't want employees to think that they will be reprimanded for speaking.

The Board entertained comments from the public.

Rodger Salman, 27 Drazen Drive, is concerned with the town's legal expenses and suggests hiring an attorney as a Department Head to handle all legal affairs and having Department Heads handle negotiating contracts.

Florence Sinow, 18 Maple Avenue, spoke in regards to the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009, regarding outside visitors such as lawyers and investigators speaking with town personnel. She felt that state investigators will not announce, in advance, why or what they are investigating in order to protect the investigation.

Veronica Kivela, 70 Drazen Drive, spoke regarding the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009. She asked Ms. McCarty to explain her security reasons. Ms. McCarty replied that outside people should not be allowed to discuss legal issues with town employees without proper approval.

Patricia Heltke, 183 Pond Hill Road, asked if the WPCA has the right to foreclose on delinquent residents. Town Attorney, John Parese, stated that the WPCA does have lien rights giving them the possibility of foreclosures.

Richard Kivela, 70 Drazen Drive, feels that the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009 will have a negative impact on the town's morale and is a threat.

Christopher Peterson, 100 State Street #118, feels the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009, violates the Code of Ethics and he interprets the memo as a gag order.

Pamela Parrella, 25 Trumbull Place, Registrar of Voters, spoke pertaining to the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009. She feels she has no control over people coming into her office so she might be in danger. She feels that the wording tells town employees to be careful of what they say or do.

Ann DeMatteo, New Haven Register, asked the Public Works Director, Lynn Sadosky, what prompted the July 1, 2009 memo. Ms. Sadosky explained that employees in her department were solicited for information pertaining to a personnel issue. Employees were concerned about answering questions pertaining to a legal issue. Ms. Sadosky stated that Ken Rupley of Public Works requested the memo. Ms. DeMatteo asked about the original policy that this Public Works' memo is based on.

Robert Wechsler, 16 Windsor Road, stated that Mr. Freda's response to the Public Works' memo dated July 1, 2009 was confusing and was making people feel angry. He felt that Mr. Freda's column is out of place and irrelevant to the memo. He stated that this memo has nothing to do with the Ethic's Code. Mr. Freda asked Mr. Wechsler if a state investigator asks a town employee to speak what would he do. Mr. Wechsler stated that an investigator can speak with an employee if he follows the rules. The town has to protect itself.

Mr. Freda asked if a state investigator questioned an employee about litigation, is the employee able to speak with the investigator without being reprimanded. He stated the Public Works' memo has created turmoil within the Town Hall and he is concerned with the wording of the memo because it can be interpreted in a negative fashion. Ms. McCarty stated that town employees feel more secure with this policy.

Gary Zempel, 279 Maple Avenue, a former registrar, stated that the Registrars' Office is not frequently bombarded by outside people watching audits.

Ms. McCarty gave an update on 500 Middletown Avenue. She explained that there was asbestos found on this site and the DEP shut it down. She also stated the State will provide a more appropriate sign and fence for this site.

Gary Amato, 27 Pool Road, addressed Mr. Freda's questioning of the Marlin Firearms' rumor, at last month's meeting, pertaining to them moving out of town. Mr. Freda stated that he visited the business and they are doing well.

Michael Mele, 108 Maple Avenue, stated that Mr. Freda should have addressed the Marlin rumor with Ms. McCarty or Mr. Durante of the Economic Development Commission instead of bringing it up on TV and scaring people with false information. Mr. Freda responded by saying minority members should be able to make their own decisions and pursue opportunities without having to request permission from the First Selectman.

Antoinetta Carmody, 159 Upper State Street, asked why residents are receiving foreclosure notices instead of a phone call first. Town Attorney, John Parese, explained that delinquent residents are notified twice. A letter is sent advising them to contact the town and make payment arrangements to avoid foreclosure.

Anthony Marena, 28 Legrand Road, asked if town employees would be reprimanded if they spoke with investigators.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Ms. McCarty moved for adjournment at 7:59 p.m.

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

