

MINUTES

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

DECEMBER 14, 2009

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

Mr. Freda started by welcoming the public and introducing the Board of Selectmen. He then proceeded by wishing a happy holiday season to all! It is a great pleasure to be serving you as the new Board of Selectman as we move into the year 2010.

At this time, Mr. Freda asked if there were any public comments relative to the public agenda.

Mr. Bill Leiserson, 15 Cella Terrace had concerns about why a Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on December 9, 2009 when the Democratic member could not attend. That doesn't show a spirit of bipartisanship.

Mr. Freda started out by saying that he spoke to Mr. Fontana before hand. He requested Mr. Fontana's permission to have the special Board of Selectmen meeting. The purpose of the special Board of Selectmen meeting was that there was a Board of Education meeting scheduled for December 10, 2009 and Chairman John Lambert had resigned on November 30, 2009. Therefore, a special meeting to swear in the next highest vote getter was necessary so that we could form the Board on December 10, 2009. Mr. Fontana was gracious enough to give his authorization to have this meeting without him. Mr. Freda gave him an overview of what was going to transpire. So the notion that the minority member was ignored is totally not true. Discussion was still had between Mr. Freda and Bill Leiserson.

Mr. Freda then asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none he moved on.

Mr. Freda made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting of October 1, 2009.

Voted: Freda – yes, Fontana – yes, Doheny - Abstained

Mr. Freda then showed a PowerPoint overview of the past two (2) weeks since he's been in office and a review of what is to come in the future. Below is a list of the items he spoke of:

1. Staffing in the Selectman's Office – hopefully someone will be in place by the beginning of 2010. He thanked the departments that are helping him in the interim and also thanked Barbara Feinberg for her professionalism and all her help in the past two (2) weeks.
2. Finance Director – Michael Betz has resigned as Finance Director. He was ready for retirement and time with his family. His last day was Friday, December 11, 2009. The plan is to move Ed Swinkoski into the position and save benefits and salary by not replacing his position.

3. A level of Professional Human Resource and personnel expertise – Mr. Freda believes that a solution might be to contract that out. If the Town of North Haven can afford to do this, together we will make it work.
4. Town Attorney – Conflicts of interest with many of the Attorney's in Town. There should be a solution this week as to who will be picked; it has been narrowed down to two (2) attorneys. The new Town Attorney needs to be in place by December 31, 2009. There will be a special meeting of the Board of Selectmen on Monday, December 28, 2009 to appoint the Town Attorney and have all the Boards in place.
5. Legal Situations – Getting a list of all impending litigation from PPP. Chris DUBY is putting that all together.
6. Postal Service – Mr. Freda met with the Postmaster and two (2) Executive Management personnel on December 9, 2009. They reviewed the prospects of moving the Post Office in one (1) of three (3) options. They were very interested in what Mr. Freda had suggested and will be attending the January 2010 meeting to speak to the residents.
7. Economic Development – Mr. Freda will be meeting with Mickey Rabina on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 to discuss the Pratt & Whitney site. He will be bringing with him a potential client who is looking to purchase the site. The site will no longer be a mixed use – that option has gone away. It is very important for the Town of North Haven that Economic Development continues to put opportunities on the table. There is a manufacturing company as an option.
8. Grand List Members – Mr. Freda will be meeting or has met with the following people: Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield on Monday, December 21, 2009 with Dave Fusco and Jim Augur; on Tuesday, December 15, 2009 with Hap Perkins of CT Container; met last week with Brescome & Barton; will be meeting with Wharton Brook Business District in January 2010; lastly, Mr. Freda met with Quinnipiac Universities President John Lahey & Vice President of Alumni, Don Weinbach at a recent hockey game. Chief DiCarlo and Chief Landisio joined him; they are looking to expand in North Haven.
9. Debt Service – Looking at restructuring the debt service on our bonding in an effort to reduce our interest payments over the next thirty (30) days.
10. State Situation – Not too encouraging. Outlook calls for a 3% state reduction to municipalities with ECS not being affected until fiscal year 2012 and then it looks to be cut back.

That concluded Mr. Freda's PowerPoint presentation.

Mr. Freda then stated there was no correspondence.

Mr. Freda made a motion to appoint Stephen A. Fontana as secretary of the Board of Selectman. Mr. Fontana was happy to accept.

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

Mr. Freda made a motion to appoint Sharon G. Huttner, 65 River Road, to the Clean Energy Task Force.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to appoint Jacquelyn A. Ladutko, 8 Nettleton Avenue, to the Clean Energy Task Force.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

Mr. Freda then spoke of the ratification of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town of North Haven and the North Haven Social Workers Union Local 1303-264. There will be zero percent increase in the first and second years and a three percent (3%) increase in the third year. The Board thought that was a fair arrangement. Mr. Freda made a motion to ratify this contract. Mr. Doheny seconded.

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

Mr. Freda asked Mr. Doheny to speak on behalf of the resolutions. Mr. Doheny then read the following resolutions:

A. Montowese Enhancement Project – Mr. Doheny read all resolutions involved with this project. All were in favor.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

RESOLVED: That the Board of Selectmen authorizes, approves, ratifies and affirms the Agreement between the Town of North Haven and the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation in the matter of the Montowese Transit Enhancement Project Route 103, North Haven, CT, and further, the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute said Agreement on behalf of the Town.

In said Agreement the Town agrees to maintain all items in the right of way as delineated on the Maintenance Agreement Map A, dated October 1, 2009, including but not limited to the following:

- Lamps and Poles
- Sidewalks
- Landscape Plantings
- Bus Shelters
- Modular Brick Walls

A copy of said Agreement is attached to this Resolution

RESOLVED: That the Town accept the Site Improvement Easement in, over, under and through property of Thomas Matteis at 59 Quinnipiac Avenue, as attached to this Resolution, and further, that the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute said Easement on behalf of the Town.

RESOLVED: That the Town accept the Site Improvement Easement in, over, under and through property of Siphone Ounsaen and Mee Ounsaen at 92 Quinnipiac Avenue, as attached to this Resolution, and further, that the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute said Easement on behalf of the Town.

RESOLVED: That the Town accept the Site Improvement Easement in, over, under and through property of Khamphanh Khamphouy and Thone Khamphouy at 96 Quinnipiac Avenue, as attached to this Resolution, and further, that the First Selectman be and is hereby authorized to execute said Easement on behalf of the Town.

B. Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant – Mr. Doheny read the resolution. All were in favor.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

RESOLVED: That the Town of North Haven approves the submittal of a grant application for funding under the Office of Policy and Management Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant and that Michael J. Freda, First Selectman, is authorized to sign grant application and grant award.

C. Michael J. Freda, First Selectman is empowered to enter into or amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Town of North Haven with the Department of Social Services of the State of Connecticut for Community Services Day Care Program if such an agreement is offered and to have the corporate seal affixed to all documents required as a part of any offered agreement. All were in favor.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

D. That the Board of Selectmen takes action to change the authorized signers of the ED-099 Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs to First Selectman, Michael J. Freda as signature # 1, as the person authorized to sign this agreement on behalf of the institution and to sign claims for reimbursement. Furthermore, Director of Community Services & Recreation, Gerardo Sorkin, is authorized as signature # 2, to sign the claims for reimbursement in the absence or incapacity of the first designated individual. All were in favor.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes

Mr. Freda made a motion to approve all the following property tax refunds and bond releases. All were in favor.

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

Property Tax Refunds:

ARI Fleet LT, 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mount Laurel, NJ 08054, in the amount of \$255.03

CAB East LLC, Box 105704, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$233.64, and in the amount of \$171.10

DCFS Trust, Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$181.58

DCFS Trust, Mercedes-Benz Financial, 13650 Heritage Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177, in the amount of \$224.89, and in the amount of \$142.57

Financial Ser Veh Trust, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$247.83, and in the amount of \$250.06, and in the amount of \$288.97, and in the amount of \$145.74, and in the amount of \$201.91, and in the amount of \$218.84, and in the amount of \$274.24, and in the amount of \$710.95

Stephen & Holly Gifford & Surv, 230 Clintonville Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

GMAC, 500 Enterprise Drive, Rocky Hill, CT 06067, in the amount of \$293.34, and in the amount of \$124.32, and in the amount of \$96.62, and in the amount of

\$125.33

Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 010140-9681, in the amount of \$43.72, and in the amount of \$6.81, and in the amount of \$119.98, and in the amount of \$19.61, and in the amount of \$15.35

Neal M. Klein, 231 Maple Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$251.47

Daniel T. Knudsen, 1401 Hartford Turnpike, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$14.04, and in the amount of \$7.10

Gail M. or Andrew S. Lawrence, 1630 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$108.57

Kathleen T. Norko, 177 Pool Rd, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$18.41

Thea & Harold M. Oren, 112 Blakeslee Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$86.28, and in the amount of \$91.58, and in the amount of \$86.10, and in the amount of \$76.32, and in the amount of \$70.50

SAAB Leasing Co., Box 7101, Little Rock, AR 72223, in the amount of \$204.28

Annette Sauerbrunn & Thomas B. Downing Jr., 42 Gail Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$70.50

Alexandra L. Simone, P.O. Box 5063, Hamden, CT 06518, in the amount of \$65.44, and in the amount of \$89.62

Joseph S. Snurkowski, 199 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$95.57

Robert V. & Eleanor J. Stefanowski & Surv, 200 Forest Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$53.42, and in the amount of \$49.36

Jason or Karen J. Szobota, 31 Culver Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$59.71

TJX Companies Inc., PO BOX 5369, Cochituate, MA 06369, in the amount of \$754.07

TJX Companies Inc., International Appraisal Co., 110 Pleasant Avenue, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458, in the amount of \$629.92, and in the amount of \$522.42

Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$114.70, and in the amount of \$45.36

Saba C.Tozzo, 38 Marlen Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$103.78

David Uryase, 60 Cloudland Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of

\$19.18

VW Credit Leasing, 1401 Franklin Blvd, Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$49.73, and in the amount of \$350.79

Wheels LT, 666 Garland Drive, Des Plaines, IL 60016, in the amount of \$80.44, and in the amount of \$294.20

Louisa A. Widdows, 20 Moulthrop Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount \$18.55

Alexium Leasing Co., 17500 Chenal Pkwy 400, Little Rock, AR 72223, in the amount of \$31.19

ARI Fleet LT, 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, in the amount of \$447.53, and in the amount of \$189.11, and in the amount of \$14.37

Automotive Rentals Inc., 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, in the amount of \$111.30

BMW Financial Services, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$136.28

Michael J. Brown, 44 Milton Street, New Haven, CT 06513, in the amount of \$247.90

Chase Auto Finance Corp., 900 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530, in the amount of \$240.72

Jill M. Duda, 47 Windsor Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$47.74

Federal Express Corp., 9000 Midlantic Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054, in the amount of \$342.78, and in the amount of \$48.37, and in the amount of \$27.87

Financial Ser Veh Trust, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$85.52

Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040, in the amount of \$177.32
Se Te J. Huang or Shu Lan J. Cheng, 35 Enoch Drive, New Haven, CT 06525, in the amount of \$197.23

Willis Miller, 1 Fallon Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$37.02

Nissan Infiniti LT, Box 254648, Sacramento, CA 95865, in the amount of \$85.75, and in the amount of \$59.99

SAAB Leasing Co., 17500 Chenal Pkwy 300, Little Rock, AR 72222, in the amount of \$255.70, and in the amount of \$235.71, and in the amount of \$189.48, and in the amount of \$75.49

Toyota Motor Credit Corp., Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of

\$341.71, and in the amount of \$84.64

VW Credit Leasing, 1401 Franklin Blvd., Libertyville, IL 60048, in the amount of \$413.09

Bond Releases/Reductions:

Paul Rebeschi, 370 Upper State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$12,000.00, with the recommendation of the Inlands Wetlands Commission

High Lane Club, 40 High Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$10,000.00, with the recommendation of the Inlands Wetlands Commission

North Haven Commons Development, LP, 240-300 Universal Drive North, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$525,000.00, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission

National Amusements, Showcase Cinemas, 550 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$86,000.00, and in the amount of \$5,000.00, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission

Quinnipiac University, 328 Bassett Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$15,000.00, with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission

Mr. Freda announced that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be on Thursday, January 7, 2010 at 7:00 PM in the Library Community Room. A list of upcoming Board of Selectmen meetings will be handed out starting in January.

Mr. Freda entertained comments from the public.

Veronica Kivela, 70 Drazen Drive, congratulated Mr. Freda and stated she loves the new format – very professional and very informative. She addressed Ms. McCarty regarding election night in reference to her composure on how she handled herself and that she was very proud of her. Also, she addressed other issues relative to election night. She is hoping that the division between Democratic and Republican will taper down to help Mr. Freda unify the Town of North Haven.

Mr. Freda thanked Ms. Kivela.

Pamela Sletten, 9 Frost Drive, stated she would like to request to be reappointed to the volunteer position of the Inland Wetlands Commission. She hopes her dismissal is not a political move. She briefly stated why she should and would be a good candidate to keep on the commission. She then handed materials out to the Board and discussed into more detail. The administration should look at her qualifications and training, which highly qualifies her for the position to be reappointed.

Mr. Freda thanked her and asked her to send a resume to his office. Your resume

will be included in the packet of information and it will be voted on December 28, 2009.

Gary Amato, Pool Road, asked questions relative to an investigation going on in the Building Department having issues going on with employees and residents in regards to problems with permits in the Town.

Mr. Freda responded by stating that he has been trying to meet with the contractor who issued these allegations and the contractor has canceled three (3) times. He has also contacted the State and they need everything in writing as a formal complaint. The State has said they have not received any complaints against the person in question. There was brief discussion had between Mr. Amato and Mr. Freda. Mr. Freda assured him that he is on top of the situation and this administration will not tolerate any corruption within the Town of North Haven.

Mr. Amato then asked about the special meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Freda again stated that there were no other nights to meet and he has to preside over all meetings. Therefore, he had no choice. Again, Mr. Fontana understood.

Mr. Amato had several concerns regarding a meeting on November 15, 2009 for Department Heads and Union Presidents; he spoke to Chief DiCarlo about concerns regarding blinking lights on Bailey Road; he was dissatisfied with the Fire Chief and the Superintendent of Schools in regards to a Board of Education meeting which he attended and felt disrespected. He asked if Mr. Freda could speak to the Fire Chief and the Superintendent and he would like them to issue him a public apology.

Mr. Freda asked if he answered all his questions and Mr. Amato stated he did.

Ray Fowler, 6 Todd Drive, spoke of his love for North Haven after thirty-eight (38) years and what a great place to live. He is hopeful that the parties can all work together in this new format. There are extraordinary strengths and weaknesses but lets work together with good ideas and honest criticism.

Mr. Freda thanked Mr. Fowler.

Barbara Feinberg, 34 Brockett Farm Road, she wanted Mr. Freda to know there should be resumes of all commissioners in the Selectman's office.

Mr. Freda thanked her for that information.

Bill Leiserson, 15 Cella Terrace, spoke in favor of his fellow colleague Pamela Slettin to be reappointed back on to the Inland Wetland Commission. Mr. Freda and Mr. Leiserson then had discussion regarding the situation and about the Inland Wetland Commission in general. Also, there was discussion regarding Grand List Members in North Haven.

Mr. Freda then stated that he will be meeting with the Chairman, Mark

Trojanowski of the Inland Wetland Commission soon.

Chief Vincent Landisio of the Fire Department spoke in regards to comments made by Mr. Amato in reference to the Board of Education meeting that he attended. He again stated that Mr. Amato has no background in the fire department or as a fire marshal. Therefore, that was why he felt it necessary to go to the Board of Education meeting and let members of the Board of Education and members of the public know that the conference room was safe to hold their meetings in. He then stated he does not owe Mr. Amato a public apology.

Mr. Freda thanked Fire Chief Vincent Landisio.

Cindy Vanacore, 51 Susan Lane, also addressed the building department issues that were discussed earlier in the meeting. She has made numerous complaints since the last administration regarding David Maiden and Art Hausman. Mr. Freda and Ms. Vanacore continued their discussion.

Mr. Freda again stated that he is currently trying to meet with the contractor but he has canceled three (3) meetings. He then stated the state is requiring all allegations in writing because contractors are complaining about building officials all the time in these tough economic times and without the allegations in writing, they can't do anything.

Ray Fowler spoke again stating that he was on a Board at one time and if there is any one more qualified and more dedicated to a Commission than another commissioner, they should be appointed. All Boards deserve the best.

Mr. Freda thanked Mr. Fowler.

Deborah Ward O'Brien, 337 Kings Highway, it has been the practice that Chairs of either political committee can make recommendations for boards and commissions regarding appointments to the First Selectman. She stated that Republicans, Democrats and Unaffiliates are being looked at equally as to who can do the best job. However, she does not make the final decision.

Mr. Freda thanked Mrs. O'Brien.

Gerald Feinberg, 34 Brockett Farm Road, Vice Chairman of the Democratic Town Committee spoke in reference to their protocol regarding recommendations for boards and commissioners. He hopes that the Democratic Party will be able to make recommendations through Mr. Fontana. He also supports Pamela Sletten for the Inland Wetland Commission.

Mr. Freda thanked Mr. Feinberg.

Mrs. Kivela spoke again in reference to comments being made from the public that Mr. Freda is making decisions for political reasons/purposes. She asked that people offer evidence, not just make allegations.

Mr. Freda spoke in reference to Mr. Fowler bringing up the Library Board. There

was a woman whose term was expiring she happens to be a Democrat, Claudia Giulietti. She has done an outstanding job and will remain on the Library Board, as an example. Mr. Freda suggested let the record speak for itself as time goes on.

Ms. Sletten spoke again thanking the people who have spoke in her favor. She again spoke in regards to staying on the commission. The Commission takes their job seriously and their objective is to see that the wetlands are protected. She then asked Mr. Freda to attend an Inland Wetland meeting in January.

Mr. Freda stated that he will be attending the next Inland Wetland Commission meeting in January. Also, he will be meeting with Mark Trojanowski on December 15, 2009.

Rico Gattilia, 3 School Lane, stated environmentally speaking in regard to Devine Street he's concerned about Humphrey Chemical and the mess with all the buildings. Wonders what the status is and will the Town get stuck cleaning up the mess.

Mr. Freda stated that he has gone down to visit the site and area and is afraid that the remediation that is needed there is so significant, nobody wants to touch that site. It is a great location, but feels the site will be frozen for a while until a solution can be worked out. Mr. Freda also stated that Mr. Gattilia and his wife, Annette for years and years were staunch supporters of the residents with Upjohn down through the years and are heavily involved with the environment.

Mr. Freda thanked Mr. Gattilia for his question. Mr. Freda also stated he appreciated the forum and all the level of questions and encourages this.

Ann DeMatteo of the New Haven Register asked about CT Container and the noise issue and then asked about prospects for Mickey Rabina property.

Mr. Freda stated he understands that over the course of the past couple of years there is a loud humming noise that permeates through the walls in the evening and has kept people up all night long and they don't feel well. He will be asking those questions when he meets with the company executives at CT Container. He also has met with the residents in a group meeting and is concerned about them. All involved are trying to find a solution.

Mr. Freda then answered Ms. DeMatteo's question with regard to the Mickey Rabina property. He will continue to provide opportunities for the development on that site to Mr. Rabina. Mr. Freda stated they have had several opportunities but have struck out so far. They will continue to keep trying.

Mr. Freda then spoke of the growth in the Town of North Haven and not to get discouraged. The Board won't get tired of putting opportunities on the table and bringing more opportunities to North Haven. There was more discussion between Ms. DeMatteo and Mr. Freda regarding the site.

Mr. Freda then thanked Ms. DeMatteo.

Mr. Freda then stated that if the Post Office vacates the building they are currently in that they will look to put someone else there.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Freda moved for adjournment at 8:55 p.m. Mr. Doheny seconded.

Voted: Freda – yes, Doheny – yes, Fontana – yes