

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

OCTOBER 7, 2010

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The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:00 pm in the Community Room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

### **Members Present**

First Selectman, Michael J. Freda  
Second Selectman, Timothy M. Doheny  
Third Selectman, Stephen A. Fontana

Mr. Freda introduced himself and Selectmen Doheny and Fontana, and welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

### **Public Comments Relative to the Agenda - none**

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes of the Regular Board of Selectmen's Meeting of September 2, 2010.

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

Mr. Fontana motioned to approve the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of September 17, 2010.

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

### **Selectman's Overview -**

#### Operational

- Award of STEAP Grants by OPM
  - Clintonville School Playground - \$188,000
  - 2,700 feet of replacement sidewalks on Skiff Street from VanRose to Whitney Avenue - \$95,370
- Milling and Paving of Broadway (State Route 729)
  - Scheduled to begin on October 14<sup>th</sup> - expected completion October 22<sup>nd</sup>
  - Milling awarded to Costello Industries for \$32,000 and paving to Tilcon Ct. for \$183,000
  - All costs to be paid by the State
- Universal Drive Milling and Paving
  - Bid Opening Date of October 14
  - Town's financial commitment to this \$715,000 project will be approximately \$10,000.
  - Expected to begin early November
  - Estimated to be completed in less than 6 days
- Todd Drive, Todd Drive South and Pine Book Areas Drainage Project
  - Phase 1A was completed by the Department of Public works on August 9<sup>th</sup>
  - Phase 1B commenced September 29<sup>th</sup> and is estimated to conclude by October 15<sup>th</sup>
  - Phase 2 of the project – Permitting applications for the CT DEP, CT DOT and US Army Corps were delivered on September 1 and under review now.
  - Phase 3 – Permitting also required, however it is difficult to tell if there will be

funds remaining for completion of this portion of the project.

- DPW Garage Rehabilitation Project
  - \$650,000 funded by the State of Connecticut Office of Policy Management and Public Works ‘in kind services’
  - Approximately 98% complete – expected to be fully completed by October 19<sup>th</sup>
- Sackett Point Road Bridge Project
  - \$12.8 M bridge design and construction project is under negotiations with the Town’s design consultant (Dewberry) and the State DOT.
  - Majority of funds secured through State’s Local Bridge Funding Program and Federal dollars.
  - Estimated to be under construction in years 2013 and 2014.
- Energy Efficiency Community Block Grant (EECBG) - No cost projects:
  - Solar scoreboard at Bailey Field
  - Traffic signals at 14 different intersections in town- installed September 29<sup>th</sup>
  - 596 Home Energy Audits in conjunction with the UI
- Applying for Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant
  - Solve Muddy River problem
- Montowese Enhancement Project Completed:
  - 2 Bus Stops
  - 1 replacement
  - 1 new
  - Sidewalk rehabilitation
- Tire Pond Update
  - Public Informational Meeting
  - Tuesday October 12<sup>th</sup>
  - 7:15 pm Library Community Room
- CMB – Indian Ridge Update
- Fall Leaf Collection Program
  - Beginning November 1<sup>st</sup>
  - Bulk Leaf Collection Schedule will be posted in the Advisor and on the Town’s Website under announcements

#### Economic Development

- Priorities continue to be:
  - Northern Washington Avenue
  - Lower Washington Avenue
  - 297 State Street (former Quebecor Building)
  - 222 McDermott Road
  - Sackett Point Road
  - Valley Service Road
- Valley Service Road Extension
  - On August 26<sup>th</sup> the Town entered into an agreement with Diversified Technology Consultants to begin surveying, soil explorations, wetlands identification and design work for the extension of Valley Service Road.
  - Received \$1.6 M in grant funds through the SAFETEA-LU Connecticut Earmark Grants.
  - Preliminary design expected to conclude by Spring of 2011
- New Business in Town
  - Yankee Clock Peddler
  - Extreme Bathovers
  - State Farm
  - Radio Shack
  - Big Lots

- Show and Sell – North Haven Business Expo
  - October 23<sup>rd</sup>
  - North Haven High School
  - 10:00 – 3:00
- Other events scheduled for October 23<sup>rd</sup> at the High School:
  - Turn North Haven Pink for Breast Cancer Awareness (NH Girls Volleyball 10/15/10)
  - SAPC - Pill Return Program
    - Elm Street Side Entrance
- Substance Abuse Prevention Council
  - Making a lot of progress
  - Recently held presentation by Ginger Katz
  - Courageous Parenting held at the Town Hall well attended

Mr. Doheny commented that regarding the Clintonville School playground STEAP Grant that was recently awarded, he wanted to thank Mr. Fontana and Senator Fasano for their letters of support for that project. He added that there were a number of women on that committee that worked very hard to bring this to fruition, and Kathy Kessler in particular spearheaded the group's efforts and he would like to recognize her contribution. He also noted that he wished to acknowledge Diversified Technology Consultants. They contacted the group on their own and volunteered to donate their services to the project. This was very important since there are significant drainage problems on the site.

Mr. Fontana echoed that it is a great project for the Town and also pleased about the sidewalks on Skiff Street.

## **Correspondence ☎**

### **Old Business –**

- Purchase or sale of property with regard to property size and notification of abutting property owners. - Mr. Freda stated that he did the research on this and according to the Town Charter, the Board of Selectmen have the ability to identify the land, get an appraisal, establish the value and sell the land. If there is any land that involves Town buildings, or has been designated for parks and recreation, a Town Meeting will have to take place, and the residents will have to vote on it. Mr. Fontana asked what the process will be for selling the land. Mr. Freda said he envisioned the Selectmen working together. Where there are small parcels of land that the Town is currently maintaining and residents have requested ownership, we can take it case by case. Mr. Fontana is just concerned that all people in the neighborhood would have the opportunity to weigh in especially with regard to changing the landscape of the property. Mr. Freda stated that all abutting property owners would have the ability to bid. Mr. Doheny suggested that the list of parcels be made available on the Town website. He feels if they are small parcels of land, he agrees with the plan, but for any larger, marketable pieces, they should be handled differently.
- Voting signs- Mr. Freda stated that Mrs. Ann Roucco brought the suggestion of voting signs to a previous meeting. The idea was adopted and the result was weatherproof signs with the ability to change the dates. Mr. Freda demonstrated the sign. They will be put out in each of the polling places during elections.

### **Resolutions:**

Mr. Doheny read the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the Town of North Haven authorize and sign a contract with Central Auto Auction to dispose of three (3) surplus police department vehicles at a cost of \$290.00 per item sold. All revenue received will return to the Town's General Fund. At present there are two (2) police cruisers and one (1) Ford Taurus leaving the fleet and available for auction. First Selectman Freda and Police Chief DiCarlo have set a reserve of \$3,500 per vehicle for the cruisers and \$2,500 for the Ford Taurus.

Mr. Doheny moved to accept the resolution as presented.

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

**Resignations/Appointments** – Mr. Freda stated that we have one vacancy on the Conservation Commission. We are in receipt of two resumes; one from Sandra Stetson and one from James Grillo. He asked Mr. Doheny and Fontana to collaborate and review the resumes and make a decision on the appointment to be presented at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

**Bond Releases / Reductions –**

- Northwest Washington Associates, LLC, 335 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, release of the entire bond balance in the amount of \$10,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- 301-303 State Street Real Estate, LLC, 301-303 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, release a portion of the bond by \$9,000.00 and retain a balance of \$10,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mr. Doheny explained the bonds and motioned to approve same.

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

**Property Tax Refunds –**

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the property tax refunds as presented below.

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

- Bailey, Carol, 230 Bayard Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$59.06.
- Beck, Deborah, 584 Skiff Street, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$57.59.
- BMW Financial Svc NA LLC, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$424.83.
- Cab East LLC, Box 105704, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$415.93, and in the amount of \$221.58, and in the amount of \$277.32, and in the amount of \$193.68.
- Chase Auto Finance Corp, 900 Steward Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530-4855, in the amount of \$52.02.
- Chase Man Auto Fun Corp, Box 29214, Phoenix, AZ 85038, in the amount of \$128.60.
- Coactive Capital Partners, LLC, PO Box 59365, Schaumburg, IL 60159-0000, in the amount of \$241.58, and in the amount of \$275.66, and in the amount of \$441.40.
- Daimler Trust, Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$217.61.
- DCFS Trust, 2050 Roanoke Road, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$340.34, and in the amount of \$210.93, and in the amount of \$60.81.
- EMP Services Inc, 30 Bernhard Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$82.47.
- Empire Paving Inc, 30 Bernhard Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of

\$63.80, and in the amount of \$63.80, and in the amount of \$114.67, and in the amount of \$62.70, and in the amount of \$182.73.

- Financial Ser Veh Trust, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026, in the amount of \$483.26, and in the amount of \$284.06, and in the amount of \$122.28, and in the amount of \$368.14, and in the amount of \$473.23, and in the amount of \$605.60, and in the amount of \$280.89, and in the amount of \$483.26, and in the amount of \$317.46, and in the amount of \$198.47, and in the amount of \$215.64, and in the amount of \$488.41, and in the amount of \$356.96.
- Flath, Frank T, P.O. Box 2156, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$101.67.
- GMAC, 9401 James Avenue South, Ste 14, Bloomington, MN 55431, in the amount of \$182.13.
- Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelley Way, Holyoke, MA 01040-9681, in the amount of \$47.12, and in the amount of \$90.06, and in the amount of \$140.45, and in the amount of \$270.44, and in the amount of \$70.29, and in the amount of \$36.62, and in the amount of \$53.64, and in the amount of \$268.48.
- Island Transportation Corp, 299 Edison Avenue, West Babylon, NY 11704-1034, in the amount of \$81.82.
- Kisiel Wojciech, 7 Fortune Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$13.75.
- Lockwood, Joseph, 10 Turner Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$42.26.
- Nissan Infiniti LT, Box 254648, Sacramento, CA 95865, in the amount of \$23.67, and in the amount of \$59.98, and in the amount of \$33.46, and in the amount of \$60.29.
- Sign Lite Crane and Installation, 6 Corporate Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$12.43, and in the amount of \$44.69.
- Snurkowski, Joseph, 199 Spring Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$90.58.
- Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348, in the amount of \$222.56, and in the amount of \$78.54, and in the amount of \$126.86, and in the amount of \$66.05.
- Trucks LLC, 299 Edison Avenue, West Babylon, NY 11704, in the amount of \$39.01, and in the amount of \$124.35.
- Williams, Edward or Ellen, 10 Revere Road, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$26.70.
- Zambrano, Bernard, 50 Manor Drive (1220 Whitney Avenue, PO Box 5118 Hamden, CT 06518-0118, in the amount of \$176.45.

Mr. Fontana motioned to approve the property tax refunds as presented.

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

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2010 (Please note change of meeting date) at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room.

#### **Public Comment –**

Ann Roucco, Ansonia Drive, thanked the Board of Selectmen for approving the signs. They are

more than she expected. She also thanked Lynn Sadosky, Director of Public Works, for the work she put into them, including the research and attention to details. She also thanked the tax payers and reminded everyone to please pay attention to them so that they can get their votes in on time.

Mary White, Summer Lane, spoke regarding the Tire Pond soil and wanted to know if the contaminated soil from the Hamden Middle School would be part of the two soil types that would be used to fill the pond, or would the answer be given at the Tire Pond Informational Meeting. Joan Mazurek mentioned at the last month's meeting that according to the article in the New Haven Register, the contaminated soil would be deposited. She also noted that she liked the voting signs and perhaps in addition to the polling places maybe one sign could be put up near Town Hall.

Mr. Freda stated that he does not know what the composition of the soil is, and that is what we are trying to determine. He wants to know exactly what that soil is. Mr. Fontana stated that he and Senator Fasano scheduled a separate meeting where the public could ask questions freely. He does not have the answers, but the Commissioner of the DEP herself would be coming to underscore the importance of the issue.

Mr. Gary Amato, Pool Road, wanted a clarification of abutting properties. Mr. Freda provided an explanation. Mr. Amato then asked what about a property owner across the street. Mr. Fontana replied that his understanding was if you were across the street, you were considered an abutter. Mr. Amato was also concerned about possible bidding wars. Mr. Freda stated that that is possible, and Planning and Zoning would be involved. Mr. Amato also asked if the Board of Finance meetings could be conducted in the Library, since he is unable to make the stairs. He also asked if the Department Head raises discussed at the Board of Finance Meeting would be coming to the Selectmen's meeting since he did not see it on the agenda. Mr. Freda explained that it did not come to the Board tonight because he met with the Department Heads and made a very difficult decision that there would be no one percent increase. He expressed that it was difficult because he has worked closely with the Department Heads and each and every one has demonstrated a tremendous amount of professionalism and embody what is important to him, and that is customer service. He noted that they may be disappointed but they are professionals. He did not want to put Mr. Doheny and Mr. Fontana in the position of having to collaborate on the decision. He made the difficult decision himself. Mr. Amato stated that he was glad that Mr. Freda took the responsibility himself and made what he feels is the right decision during these tough times. He thanked Mr. Freda. Mr. Amato stated that he put in an FOI for the forensic audit and feels it is overdue. Mr. Freda noted that he didn't need to put in the request, they are just about wrapping this up, and he expects to call a Special Board of Selectmen's meeting. He also stated that the document will be made public. Lastly Mr. Amato asked if Mr. Maiden was now due for retirement. Mr. Freda responded no.

Mr. Gerald Feinberg, Brockett Farm Road, stated that he had the opportunity to attend a soccer alumni game last week and witnessed the poor condition of the field. It is not acceptable for our athletes or our community. Mr. Feinberg also asked if where we are in terms of the litigation on that field and do we have any plans to remediate the field. Mr. Freda stated that we had a very embarrassing situation recently when we hosted a soccer tournament. The parents and students were disappointed and did not feel it represented North Haven very well. He was alerted to it after the fact and got involved and found out that the contractor who fertilizes the field used a product that actually harmed the grass. The field has now been closed down to soccer and baseball. Presently there is no pending litigation since the field was up and running and the problems are associated with the fertilization, not the design of the field. The plan is the field is shut down, analyze what fertilizer was used, and not to repeat it. We need that field and we now have a shortage of fields. Mr. Feinberg asked if the

entire field would be re-seeded. Mr. Freda stated it was an option that remains to be determined.

Sherman Katz, Sherwood Drive attended the Planning and Zoning meeting and basically the DEP has taken control of the Tire Pond and can put whatever they want into the pond, and do not have to notify us. Mr. Freda stated that we need to be cognizant of that. Mr. Fontana stated that we can explore that topic at the meeting on October 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Freda stated that he would be willing to work with Planning and Zoning and hire an independent consultant to determine what the soil content is. Mr. Katz expressed his concerns based on history with the Upjohn property.

Mr. Freda asked for additional questions, and seeing none and hearing none motioned to adjourn at 8:05 pm.