

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**DECEMBER 6, 2012**

---

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:05 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, Alan J. Sturtz

Mr. Freda introduced himself and Selectmen Timothy Doheny and Alan Sturtz and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Mr. Doheny motioned to add two items to the agenda that were an oversight. One was the approval of the minutes of the Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of October 30, 2012 and the second was correspondence from the Clean Energy Task Force. Mr. Sturtz seconded.

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

Mr. Freda asked for public comments relative to the agenda. Mr. Amato asked why the correspondence was being added to the agenda after the 24 hour posting period. Mr. Freda explained that the correspondence had been received prior to the agenda but was inadvertently left off the agenda, and according to statute they have the ability to add to the agenda by majority vote. Mr. Amato also asked Mr. Freda if during his overview he would be talking about Todd's Pond. He responded he would. Mr. Amato wanted to speak to the subject of Todd's Pond and Mr. Doheny stated that he did not feel it would be appropriate to discuss items presented during the overview, but rather only items specific to the agenda; however he could ask about Todd's Pond during public comment. Mr. Amato also requested that there be a level of respect maintained during the meetings.

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes from the special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of October 30, 2012 with a second by Mr. Sturtz. Mr. Freda noted that the special meeting was to vote on the ratification of the Fire Fighter's contract.

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

Mr. Sturtz motioned to approve the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of November 1, 2012 with a second by Mr. Doheny.

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes from the Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of November 28, 2012 with a second by Mr. Sturtz.

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

Mr. Freda read a letter received by the Clean Energy Task Force concerning their desire to become better integrated into the Town's energy planning as well as a utilization of the energy savings being put back into other energy savings efforts. They requested a meeting of the selectmen and the UI along with the Clean Energy Task Force. Mr. Freda stated that we have saved significant dollars with the many changes that we have undertaken in our energy savings efforts. He also stated that we will be complying with the CETF's request and have arranged a meeting for December 19<sup>th</sup>.

**OPERATIONAL**

2012 Fall Leaf Collection Program

- The Department began its annual Fall Leaf Collection Program on November 5<sup>th</sup> and continues through December 15<sup>th</sup>, weather permitting. The schedule has been placed in

local newspapers as well as on the Town's website and in various Town buildings. Residents are reminded that bulk and bagged leaves must be placed at the curb and NOT in the street itself or across sidewalks. Bulk and bagged leaves must also be placed at the curbside by 5 a.m. on the Monday of your street's designated collection week.

#### Hurricane Sandy Brush Collection

- The Department in concert with the Fall Leaf Collection program, has been collecting brush generated by Sandy. All brush is brought to John's Refuse and Recycling, which is a permitted brush disposal site located in Northford. Brush collection will conclude on December 15, 2012.

#### Crack Sealing Town Roads

- Under the Pavement Condition Study as provided to the Town through SCRCOG's consultant, BETA Engineering, 45 roadways in Town were recommended for crack sealing in lieu of milling and paving. The Department has coordinated a 'first ever' crack sealing program along with A and A Asphalt. Work commenced on October 23<sup>rd</sup> and was completed on November 26<sup>th</sup>. A list of those roadways which were crack sealed has been made available on the Town's website.

#### Construction of Leaf Composting Facility

- The Department along with its consultant (Stevens Environmental Engineering Services) has prepared the existing landfill located behind the Water Pollution Control Facility on Universal Drive for a leaf composting facility. The CT DEEP has issued the Town a leaf composting permit and a Disruption Permit for the landfill. The Department, after its first season of composting, will be able to provide all residents in Town with free compost available at its Recycling Center and will auction off all surplus compost to interested contractors.

#### Rehabilitation of Todd's Pond

- The Department commenced with the rehabilitation of Todd's Pond located on Maple Avenue in August of 2012. Due to Hurricane Sandy, followed by Winter Storm Athena, and lastly, the annual Fall Leaf Collection program, the project was placed on hold. The project is scheduled to commence again in January 2013 and is expected to have a duration of two months thereafter for project completion.

#### STEAP Grant Award for Montowese Playscape

- The Town received notice in May that we received a Small Town Economic Assistance Program Grant (STEAP) in the amount of \$50,000 to design and construct playscape improvements as the Montowese Elementary School. The Town selected Milone and MacBroom to design and develop plans and specifications for the proposed project which will be Bid on December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The project was presented for a Section 8-24 approval by the P & Z Commission on December 3<sup>rd</sup>; the project was approved unanimously.

#### Hazard Mitigation Plan – Opportunities to Participate

- The planning process is as important as the plan itself. It creates a framework for risk-based decision making to reduce damages to lives, property, and the economy from future disasters.
- Public Opinion Survey
- Public Workshops
- Draft Plan Review
- <http://www.scrkog.org/regional-hazard-mitigation.html>

#### FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Moodys – Town rated Aa1
- Bonds – update
- Special Town Meeting on January 29, 2012

#### ECONOMIC UPDATE

##### Yale New Haven Hospital Update:

- By January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the center will be open seven days a week and will offer a wide variety of very comprehensive services and treatment including: Walk in Primary Care/Urgent Care Center, Inflammatory Disease Center, Smilow Cancer Hospital Care, X-ray / MRI, Information Technology

##### Economic Development Updates

- Medical Center on State Street with the 24,000 square foot facility – Cardiology

Associates Grand Opening November 19<sup>th</sup>.

- Hibachi Grill- Flyer with coupons in last Sunday's Register
- Leon's
- Covidien Expansion
- Northern Washington Avenue
- Senior Housing Initiative

Following Mr. Freda's update, Mr. Sturtz asked what happens after December 15<sup>th</sup> if there is still brush and leaves remaining around town. Mr. Palma stated that residents are welcome to bring brush and leaves to the transfer station. We also pick up small bundles with our weekly sanitation. Mr. Sturtz also asked to have the information regarding the Hazard Mitigation survey on the Town website. Mr. Freda agreed. Mr. Doheny commented on the Town's bond rating. He noted that the Town received the second highest Moody's rating of Aa1, this is a nice reflection on the Town.

Mr. Doheny motioned to accept the resignation of Stephen Consiglio (R), 147 Sentinel Hill Road from the Board of Education. Mr. Sturtz seconded the motion.

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

Mr. Sturtz moved and Mr. Doheny seconded the following property tax refunds –

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

- ARI Fleet LT, 4001 Leadenhall Road, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054-4611 in the amount of \$72.72, and in the amount of \$72.72, and in the amount of \$72.72, and in the amount of \$436.58.
- Barulli, Vito L, 857 Thompson Street, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$11.94, and in the amount of \$155.26.
- Cab East LLC, Box 105704, Atlanta, GA 30348 in the amount of \$33.43, and in the amount of \$362.98, and in the amount of \$158.41, and in the amount of \$118.91, and in the amount of \$162.31, and in the amount of \$176.74, and in the amount of \$32.85.
- Chase Auto Finance, Box 901098, Fort Worth, TX 76101 in the amount of \$576.80.
- DCFS Trust, 2050 Roanoke Road, West Lake, TX 76262 in the amount of \$343.16.
- Fifth Third Auto Leasing Trust, 38 Fountain Sq. Plaza, Cincinnati, OH 45202 in the amount of \$337.85.
- Financial Ser Veh Trust, 5550 Britton Parkway, Hilliard, OH 43026 in the amount of \$123.65.
- Honda Lease Trust, 600 Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040-9681, in the amount of \$315.69, and in the amount of \$196.27.
- LoPresti, Michael J., 175 Sentinel Hill Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$143.50.
- McKhann, Rhona L (½) & Etals Trustees (½), 1155 Mt Carmel Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$146.60 and in the amount of \$148.62.
- Moore, Jeffrey L, 23 Mountain Brook Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$270.81.
- Nissan Infiniti LT, Box 650214, Dallas, TX 75264-0214, in the amount of \$322.54.
- Nissan Infiniti, LT, Box 254648, Sacramento, CA 95865 in the amount of \$132.22, and in the amount of \$486.21.
- Thomas, Monica, 330 Bassett Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$62.50.
- Toyota Motor Credit Corp, Box 105386, Atlanta, GA 30348 in the amount of \$181.72, and in the amount of \$58.50, and in the amount of \$88.51.
- VW Credit Leasing Ltd., 1401 Franklin Blvd, Libertyville, IL 60048 in the amount of \$247.36, and in the amount of \$565.67.
- Wormely, Nicholas, or Michelle, 160 Tokeneke Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$501.85.

Mr. Doheny moved and Mr. Sturtz seconded the following bond releases –

Vote: Freda- Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes

- 39 State Street – Luigi Nuzzolillo release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$20,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- 200T Elm Street Extension – North Haven Tech Park, 200 Sackett Point Road, LLC release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$20,000.00 with the recommendation of the Inland Wetlands Commission.
- 66 Leonardo Drive – Mason Holdings, LLC release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$25,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- 66 Leonardo Drive – Mason Holdings, LLC, release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$15,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.
- 30 Leonardo Drive – Joseph Barnick, release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$25,000.00 with the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Commission.

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, January 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT. He then opened the meeting to public comment.

Mr. Freda asked for public comment. Mr. Raymond Sonazzaro, Elm Street, gave notice that he will be submitting a request under the Freedom of Information Act regarding the Health and Racquet Club leasing property on the land that he feels is burial ground left by Mr. Stiles. He stated that it appears he is the only one who seems to care about this.

Mr. Gary Amato, Pool Road, asked about the Todd's Pond project. He said it looks terrible, and is detrimental to the residents in the area that are trying to sell their houses. Mr. Freda explained that he just provided the details of the project during his overview, and reiterated that the delay was due to Hurricane Sandy and the leaf pick up. The discussion continued at length. Mr. Amato asked about the contractors and others whom were revealed from the Building Department audit to owe money to the Town, and why he can't get the list. He wants to know if they are still doing work in Town, and if they live or have a business in Town. He would like the Town to put a lien on their property. Mr. Freda explained that we did collect a portion of the debt and the rest have been turned over to the attorneys for legal action. The discussion continued on this topic. Mr. Amato asked Mr. Freda about a comment he made at the Legion regarding navigating businesses to North Haven. Mr. Freda explained his comment relative to his vision of what types of business he would like to see in Town to provide a blended portfolio of businesses and companies to create a healthy economy and tax base. Mr. Amato then brought up the issue of the memo that was issued some time ago to the Public Works Department employees regarding workplace violence. He asked if it was ever given to the other departments. Mr. Freda explained the memo was given to the DPW because there were some issues there. We address issues in each department within the town, on an as needed basis, such as customer service training, etc. Mr. Amato continued the conversation asking Mr. Freda additional questions concerning the DPW and a pending lawsuit related to claims of workplace violence and harassment. Mr. Palma addressed Todd's Pond indicating the project was very well planned by the Town Engineer, and stated we did not need any permits, it is Town owned property. He also stated that the incident Mr. Amato was referring to is in fact a lawsuit against the Town and cannot be discussed publicly. Mr. Sturtz advised that the taxes have nothing to do with the permit fees. Taxes go on the property that is owned. If there are back taxes due there may be liens on the property but building permit fees are separate from taxes.

Mr. Sonazzaro commented that the pond needed to be excavated and dredged. If it was not dredged it would become overcome with sludge and nothing would be able to live in it.

Mr. Al Warren, Charles Court, asked if the boilers at the High School are still the same and just running on gas. Mr. Freda stated yes, they are running fine on gas. Mr. Warren inquired about the paving of a portion of Valley Service Road. Mr. Palma explained that it had been a very long time since that road was paved and when the plows went over they were digging up the road,

and it was unsafe for travel. They paved just the minimum necessary. He also asked if the cracks sealing was done, Mr. Palma said for this year. Mr. Warren provided the Selectmen with a picture he took while walking along the Valley Service Road area depicting several containers with warning postings. Mr. Freda stated that our DPW would take care of it.

Mr. Amato stated that he recommended crack sealing years ago. He thinks it's too late and should have been done years ago. He asked several questions about the process. Mr. Palma addressed Mr. Amato's concerns explaining that all proper procedures were followed.

Mr. Freda asked for any additional public comment. Hearing none and seeing none, he thanked everyone for coming. On behalf of each of the Selectmen, he wished everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and New Year. Mr. Doheny motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny- Yes, Sturtz- Yes