

## MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 8, 2013

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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 Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

### Members Present

First Selectman, Michael J. Freda  
Second Selectman, Timothy M. Doheny  
Third Selectman, Alan Sturtz

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

Mr. Freda asked if there were any public comments relative to the agenda. Mr. Gary Amato, Pool Road, inquired about the agenda item pertaining to the amendment to the Building Construction Ordinance. He stated he was pleased to see it, and has been in favor of not issuing permits to those who owe taxes. He asked about what the "certain exceptions" were. Mr. Freda stated they would address it during the meeting.

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the minutes from the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of June 13, 2013 with a second by Mr. Sturtz.

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

Mr. Freda advised there was no correspondence and then advised that he was dispensing with the typical Selectman's PowerPoint overview in lieu of a discussion regarding Gateway College. Mr. Freda then provided an overview regarding Gateway and the possibility of utilizing that facility as the middle school. He explained that the Hyde School (Math and Science program) was in a building on Long Wharf. The building needed repairs so the programs were moved into the North Haven campus for approximately a year while the repairs are being made to the New Haven building. He also stated that the State owns the building and Gateway is the primary tenant with the option to do as they wish. So therefore there is nothing we can do about that. The Town does have the first right of refusal to purchase the building and can exercise that that right if later we decided to do so. He stated that we will be voting on a middle school building committee at the Town meeting on September 23, 2013. There will be numerous discussions and public hearings on the subject of the middle school with the assistance of the building committee and input from the residents.

Following Mr. Freda's comments regarding Gateway and the middle school Mr. Doheny read the following resolution.

**RESOLVED:** That the First Selectman, Michael J. Freda, acting as a result of an approved majority vote of the Board of Selectmen may enter into an agreement with STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) for a \$127,240 grant to refurbish Carina Park.

Mr. Sturtz moved to accept the resolution with a second by Mr. Doheny.

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

Mr. Sturtz read the next resolution on the agenda as follows:

**RESOLVED:** that the Board of Selectmen recommends that the Town of North Haven increase by \$250,000 the \$700,000 appropriation and bond authorization approved at the Annual Special Town Meeting held September 24, 2012 for the replacement or rehabilitation of the Spring Road Bridge over the Muddy River, bridge No. 03961, including construction, engineering, consulting, and for administrative, financing, legal, costs of issuance and other costs related thereto, for an aggregate appropriation and bond authorization of \$950,000.

Mr. Sturtz moved with a second by Mr. Doheny to accept the resolution.

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

Mr. Doheny read the third resolution on the agenda as follows:

**RESOLVED:** That the Board of Selectmen recommend that the Town Meeting adopt an amendment to the Building Construction Ordinance at Chapter 88 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to add Article IV directing the Building Official to withhold approval of building permits and certificates of occupancy when any real or personal property taxes, sewer assessment fees, sewer use charges, fines, interest, penalties, or lien fees are delinquent for the property for which an application has been made, with certain exceptions.

Mr. Doheny moved with a second by Mr. Sturtz to accept the resolution.

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

Mr. Sturtz read the call for the Annual Town Meeting be held Monday, September 23, 2013 in the Auditorium of the North Haven High School, 221 Elm Street in North Haven, Connecticut, at 7:00 P.M., to consider and act upon the following:

1. To act upon the above recommendation concerning the increase to the appropriation and bond authorization for the replacement or rehabilitation of the Spring Road Bridge over the Muddy River.
2. The establishment of the North Haven Middle School Building Committee for the purpose of analyzing, evaluating and considering whether to undertake a renovate as new, new or alteration construction project of the North Haven Middle School; and the appointment of the following individuals as members of the North Haven Middle School Building Committee: Miriam E. Brody, Dyann M. Vissicchio, Michael R. Brandt, Gary Johns, Walter J. Nester, Jr., Michelle L. Spader, Joseph M. Porto, Bruce Morris and Luigi (Lou) G. Coppola, Sr.
3. To consider and act upon the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen to amend the Building Construction Ordinance at Chapter 88 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to add Article IV directing the Building Official to withhold approval of building permits and certificates of occupancy when any real or personal property taxes, sewer assessment fees, sewer use charges, fines, interest, penalties, or lien fees are delinquent for the property for which an application has been made, with certain exceptions. A copy of the proposed amendment to the Ordinance is on file and available for inspection in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Mr. Doheny motioned to approve the call of the meeting seconded by Mr. Sturtz.

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

Mr. Doheny motioned the Reappointment of Bessie Scott (D ), 534 Old Clintonville Road, Unit A4, North Haven, CT 06473, to the Quinnipiack Valley Health District for a three (3) year term to expire on August 31, 2016.

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

Mr. Sturtz motioned the approval of the following property tax refunds, seconded by Mr. Doheny.

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

- Campbell, Douglas, 18 Curtis Court, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$36.73.
- Cabrey, Owen, 511 Elm Street, Unit 10-4, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$39.14.
- Carlson, Raymond E., 604 Skiff Street, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$10.93.
- Cheeseman, Dorothy or Francis, 34 Cedar Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$61.93.
- Dalton, Elizabeth or Tuttle, Robert, 234 Mill Brook Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$14.45.
- Davoli, Madeline, 191 Pool Road, B23, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$12.81.
- Degeorge, Melissa, 99 Williams Street, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$57.72.
- Dzierlatza, Deborah S., 194 Quinnipiac Avenue 2C, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$33.91.
- Gamache, Robert or Carol, 65 Bradley Street, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$24.73.
- Hazen, Gordon, 1 Anthony Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$21.27.
- Hyundai Lease Titling Tr, 10550 Talbert Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, in the amount of \$98.20.
- Martindale, Charles or Lucille, 401 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$84.30.
- New Haven Drywall & Son, 73 Defco Park Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$117.40.
- Samsel, Susan, 527 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$57.08.
- Sidaraviciute, Kristina, 1549 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$120.97.
- Travers, Elisabeth, 3016 Ridge Road, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$111.05.
- Vigliotti, Elaine, 600 Washington Avenue E4, North Haven, CT 06473 in the amount of \$30.35.

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the North Haven Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT. Mr. Freda then asked for Public Comment. Mr. Raymond Sonazzaro, Elm Street, stated that he feels the firehouse renovations are more than remodels and thinks they are going to go over budget. He also feels we should not be hiring police during a recession and there are insufficient arrests to

justify having a force of 48 officers. Mr. Freda noted that we are not adding any officers.

John Heeran, Debra Lane, spoke in favor of the fire house renovations, feels the quarters were especially tight. He also noted that there are other ways of doing police work that don't always involve arrests. Mr. Doheny also noted that the firehouse renovations were fixed price contracting and Mr. Freda reiterated that all four will be completed for the \$9.2 million.

Mr. Gary Amato, Pool Road, inquired about the middle school and if we have a deadline for getting it started. Mr. Freda explained it is a balancing act right now with regard to state reimbursement rates that need to be weighed. He anticipates a series of public hearings regarding building new, or renovation as well as consideration of Gateway. Mr. Amato stated that because Gateway is set up with one entrance and exit in and out he feels it provides for a safer, more controlled environment.

Mr. Amato also commented that he had started a petition regarding the one voting place for the referendum. He did not hand it in because it would have cost money to the Town for a separate referendum. He would like to see the question to be voted on in the general election. Mr. Freda stated he will look into it and is not opposed to hearing from the public. Mr. Doheny also felt it would be good to let the residents weigh in.

Mr. Amato also had some questions about the surplus and the fund balance and feels that the 5.9% increase has everyone upset. Mr. Freda explained how we arrived at the surplus, and also stated that it is his goal to apply the approximate \$1 million to capital expenses for the next budget year. Mr. Freda also noted that he is working on the possibility of senior tax relief program and increasing the veterans' exemption. Mr. Doheny stated that when the departments and board of finance are putting budgets together, the process starts 18 months in advance and it is difficult to predict revenues.

Mr. Amato inquired about a recent Planning and Zoning meeting and asked why the Town would support a grant for a private business. Mr. Freda explained that was pertaining to the old Circuit Wise property and we worked with state agencies regarding assistance with brownfields clean up on that property since the building has been vacant for decades. REX also applied for \$350,000 to help clean up the property. Mr. Freda explained that Global Environmental Services is interested in opening a clean energy recycling plant there.

Mr. Amato concluded with asking Mr. Freda if he knew of a company Roberts and Associates. Mr. Freda responded yes, he worked for them many years ago.

Miriam Brody, Elm Street, commented that when she voted in the last referendum at the Rec Center she felt it had plenty of open parking and was convenient with no problems or confusion and was pleased that the Town was able to save some money.

John Heeran, Debra Lane, stated that schools are typically the only place available with a lot of parking and he also had a good experience at the Rec Center and supports the single polling place for the referendums.

Mr. Amato would like to see the people be the governing body on the issue.

Mr. Freda asked for any additional comments, hearing none, Mr. Doheny motioned to adjourn at 8:00 pm.

