

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**May 7, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 7:03 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, Sally J. Buemi

Mr. Freda welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced himself and Selectmen Timothy Doheny and Sally Buemi. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Freda asked if there were any public comments relative to the agenda. There being none, Mr. Freda moved on to the next item on the agenda, and asked for a motion for the approval of the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting from April 2, 2015. Miss Buemi motioned for an approval of the minutes, Mr. Doheny seconded the motion.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

Mr. Doheny motioned and Miss Buemi seconded the approval of the minutes from the Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of April 21, 2015.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Abstain, Buemi – Yes

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval of the minutes of the Special Workshop Meeting of the Board of Selectmen of April 29, 2015.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

There being no correspondence Mr. Freda then proceeded with an overview, including operational issues, financial updates, economic development topics related to the Town, as well upcoming events pertaining to residents.

Following Mr. Freda's overview, Miss Buemi began a discussion regarding the UI Tree Removal Program and the removal of the tree stumps in the town right of way. Miss Buemi feels that the UI should be responsible and finish the project and does not think the Town should expend its resources to grind the stumps. Miss Buemi wanted Mr. Doheny's opinion of using town resources for grinding the stumps left in the Town's ROW. Mr. Doheny stated that ideally it would be good if the UI did it, but he doesn't see any harm in the Town DPW grinding the stump below grade since we have the equipment and it's within their regular work day. The discussion continued among the selectmen.

Following the discussion, Mr. Freda welcomed Building Committee Chairman, Gary Johns, to provide an update of the Middle School Building Project. The

Committee has been working on the Project Labor Agreement for some time and negotiations have been completed. The Committee was able to experience a virtual walk through using a device called Oculus Rift. They will be preparing video of the virtual walkthrough and putting it on the website and North Haven Middle School Building Committee Facebook page. Local officials all signed off on project and it was presented to the OSF on April 15th and received approval to go out to bid on April 22nd. The Bid packages were prepared and released on April 29th and the pre bid walkthrough was May 6th and bid opening is May 20th and 21st. They met with Senator Len Fasano and State Representative Dave Yaccarino on April 17th to discuss legislation which will qualify the project as a renovation and provide a waiver to allow the square footage above the state maximum to be included in the program for reimbursement. On May 4th the construction manager, Gilbane, presented the phasing outline to the school members so they will know what to expect when they return to classes in the fall. Miss Buemi asked Mr. Johns if we are still on track to put the shovel in the ground as soon as school is out in June, since the bid opening is happening later than originally expected. Mr. Johns stated that he has had all the assurances from the construction company that it will happen.

Following the update, Mr. Freda and the Selectmen discussed the recommendation of the Assessor to approve the draft Tax Incentive Agreement prepared in connection with the application of Connecticut Container Corporation, dated January 5, 2015, submitted pursuant to the Economic Development Tax Incentive Program for real property improvements related to the building expansion at 455 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, which property is owned by Phane Realty, LLC, and to authorize the First Selectman, Michael J. Freda, to execute the Tax Incentive Agreement on behalf of the Town of North Haven.

The following resolution was read into the record by Miss Buemi, Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the motion to approve the resolution.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

RESOLVED: That in accordance with the recommendation of the Assessor, the draft Tax Incentive Agreement prepared in connection with the application of Connecticut Container Corporation, dated January 5, 2015, submitted pursuant to the Economic Development Tax Incentive Program for real property improvements related to the building expansion at 455 Sackett Point Road, North Haven, which property is owned by Phane Realty, LLC, is hereby approved and the First Selectman, Michael J. Freda, is authorized to execute the Tax Incentive Agreement on behalf of the Town of North Haven.

Mr. Freda explained that due to an error in the identification of the fire department vehicle, they would be tabling the following resolution. Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the motion.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

RESOLVED: The Town of North Haven authorize the online auction of a surplus Fire Department vehicle with Govdeals.com at a cost of 5% of the accepted selling fee. All revenue received will return to the Town of North Haven's General Fund. At present, there is one fire department vehicle leaving the fleet and available for auction. The vehicle is identified as a 1989 Ford F-350, with an ambulance body. The Director of Finance, Edward Swinkoski, is authorized to determine acceptable bid offers.

Mr. Doheny proceeded with reading the following resolution, Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

RESOLVED: The Town of North Haven authorize and sign a contract with Central Auto Auction to dispose of surplus Police Department vehicles at a cost of \$155.00 per item sold. All revenue received will return to the Town of North Haven's General Fund. At present, there are two (2) police department vehicles leaving the fleet and available for auction. The vehicles are identified as Police Vehicle ID: Car R4 2011 Ford Crown Victoria with VIN ending 19445 and Police Vehicle ID: Car 9 2010 Dodge Charger with VIN ending 48946. The Director of Finance, Edward Swinkoski, is authorized to determine acceptable bid offers.

Miss Buemi read and motioned to approve the following resolution, seconded by Mr. Doheny.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

RESOLVED: That Michael J. Freda, First Selectman of the Town of North Haven, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant.

Mr. Freda and Mr. Doheny thanked Miss Buemi for proposing the following resolution. Miss Buemi then proceeded with reading and motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Doheny.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

RESOLVED, WHEREAS the Board of Selectmen is proud of all our armed servicemen and women; and WHEREAS the Town's Annual Memorial Day Parade is scheduled for Saturday, May 23, 2015; and WHEREAS the year 2015 marks the 70th Anniversary of the end of World War II; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that May 23, 2015 (or any parade rain date thereafter) shall be known as WORLD WAR II VETERANS RECOGNITION DAY in the Town of North Haven; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen urge all citizens to attend the parade to honor all veterans and to pay special tribute to our Town's World War II Veterans on the occasion of this special Anniversary.

Miss Buemi read and motioned for the acceptance of the resignation of Marilyn (Kim) Karlin Rakusin(D) 27 Green Hill Road, North Haven, CT, from the

Community Services Commission term to expire December 31, 2017. Mr. Doheny seconded the motion.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval of the following property tax refunds.

Vote: Freda – Yes, Doheny – Yes, Buemi – Yes

- Barletta, Robert – 133 Shawmut Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$60.98, and in the amount of \$58.17
- Cehovsky, Richard – 600 Washington Ave, Unit B-1, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$84.30
- Himmel, Kenard – 67 Sackett Point Road, Apt 206, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$222.35
- Moliterno, Frederick and Nancy – 27 Cottontail Lane, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$79.62, and in the amount of \$84.30, and in the amount of \$84.30
- Vault Trust – Ally Financial, Louisville PC, PO Box 9001951, Louisville, KY 40290-1951, in the amount of \$114.82, and in the amount of \$393.21, and in the amount of \$269.29, and in the amount of \$456.94, and in the amount of \$433.72, and in the amount of \$130.10, and in the amount of \$175.54, and in the amount of \$27.09

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is on Thursday, June 4, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

Mr. Freda then opened the meeting to public comment.

Mr. Gary Amato, Pool Road, expressed his displeasure that Mr. Johns left the meeting prior to him being able to ask questions regarding the Middle School Building Committee meeting. Mr. Amato asked if we received the funding from the State regarding the reimbursement of the middle school. Mr. Freda explained that we have not and we are still working with our legislators to get the higher reimbursement at 38%. A discussion continued. Mr. Amato expressed his opinion that residents should vote no on the upcoming budget. He also had several other comments regarding the Board of Education and the Middle School Building Committee meetings and airing them on e-tv and also our academic state standings. Miss Buemi addressed Mr. Amato's concerns and the Board agreed that with future meetings they will either allow questions after his update, or ask Mr. Johns to stay.

Mr. Doheny explained that as agreed beforehand, he needed to excuse himself from the public comment portion of the meeting due to an engagement.

Ms. Irene Salman, Drazen Drive, asked why Mr. Amato is funding the taping of the Middle School Building Committee Meetings. Mr. Freda explained that is was a

decision made by the Committee based on the advice of Attorney Donofrio. Ms. Salman disagreed with their decision.

Mr. Burns, Kings Highway, made several statements regarding respectful and honest answers to resident's questions. He asked again about the changes made in the Public Works Department with regard to the Director's responsibilities and the restructuring of the Department. He stated he will be looking into the matter further.

Mr. Sonazzaro, Elm Street, provided lengthy comment regarding his continued concerns regarding the racquet club being on the land that he feels was left to the Town as burial ground. He asked Miss Buemi to investigate the issue. Mr. Freda explained this has been discussed before and Mr. Doheny provided an elaborate presentation with the facts from 1974 when this took place.

Mr. Sherman Katz, Sherwood Drive, had a question regarding several million dollars of the middle school building project that he heard that may not be reimbursable. Miss Buemi explained there are parts of the project that are not reimbursable. Mr. Katz then asked if we are still moving ahead on solar panel installation with the WPCA, Mr. Freda stated yes. Mr. Katz then inquired about a bingo board at the senior center and the funding. He then had several questions regarding 505 Washington Avenue and the tax incentive program, and questioned if the apartments would be included. Mr. Freda explained the apartments are no longer being built. Mr. Katz inquired about the tax relief for the seniors. They discussed the topic and Mr. Freda stated that he is moving forward and will bring to a Town Meeting in the future.

Mr. John Heeran, Debra Lane, stated that regarding the racquet club lease, it happened by resolution at a Board of Selectmen's meeting and was quite contentious at the time. He had several other comments regarding affordable housing. He also expressed his thanks to both Miss Buemi and State Representative Dave Yaccarino for their efforts regarding affordable housing.

Mr. Raymond Fowler, Todd Drive, stated that everyone is entitled to their opinion, but especially when they speak at the microphone, they need to provide factual and correct information, otherwise they are doing a disservice to the town.

Mr. Amato asked Mr. Freda if he would like to make a donation to tape the meetings. Mr. Freda stated that he would consider that, but as he listened to the comments this evening, he is going to talk to the Building Committee to see if the meetings can be taped through the Town.

Mr. Katz stated that he went over the budget and does not support it and urges everyone to vote against it.

Mr. Heeran stated he will not tell others how to vote, but to please vote.

At 8:34 pm, with no additional public comment, Miss Buemi motioned to adjourn, Mr. Freda seconded the motion. Vote: Freda –Yes, Buemi - Yes