

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 7, 2016

The 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, Sally J. Buemi

Mr. Freda welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced himself and second selectman, Timothy Doheny and third selectman, Sally Buemi. Following the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Freda asked if there were any public comments relative to the agenda. Hearing none, Mr. Freda proceeded with the agenda.

Mr. Doheny motioned and Mr. Freda seconded the approval of the minutes of the Board of Selectmen's Meeting of March 3, 2016.

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

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval of the minutes from the Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting of March 21, 2016.

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

There being no correspondence Mr. Freda introduced Mr. Raymond Fowler who he recognized as being instrumental in spearheading the North Haven Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program, with this being our sixth consecutive year promoting the program. Mr. Fowler addressed the Board and public providing a comprehensive overview of the program, its progression, and what it is like to be a victim of child abuse. He stated that with the cooperation of the Town and Board of Education, there would be a six member committee formed which would include Dana Corriveau, Director of Student Services for the Board of Education and Detective Julie Hill of the North Haven Police Department. There were two remaining positions and he was seeking interested volunteers. He went on to discuss the progression of the program and concluded with a piece that he wrote from the perspective of abused children. The Selectmen all extended their sincere appreciation to Mr. Fowler for his efforts and accomplishments on the program.

Mr. Freda provided a brief update on several events and happenings in Town including, Earth Day, the Economic Development Commission Breakfast, and the

Pill Take Back. He then also delivered some disappointing news regarding the decision by Maplewood to pull out of the development of the former Clintonville Manor. He explained it was their decision based on increased construction costs and decline in market demand. The Selectmen discussed the matter in further detail and included an update on the newer rentals in Town, Village on State and the Flats on Washington Avenue.

Miss Buemi then moved to the next item on the agenda concerning her desire from a procedural standpoint to see the Board take more time on some of the issues that need to go to a Town meeting. She explained the process that surrounded the recent adoption of the Senior Tax Freeze Ordinance, describing it as something that began as a marathon and ended as a 100 yard dash. She explained that much of this was dictated by the procedural deadlines and time constraints. She would have liked to see a public hearing after the committee submitted their findings to the Board. She would like to see more time be given in the future to these types of matters. Mr. Freda understood her opinion and felt she made a valid point. Mr. Doheny discussed several of the issues that surrounded the timeline and agreed that if it had been possible, it would have been better if it did not have to be quite as rushed.

Mr. Sherman Katz, Chairman of the Senior Tax Freeze Advisory Committee, addressed the Board stating that sometimes in business there is not time to drag your feet and you have to get it done. He went on to say that their meetings were open to the public but only two or three people attended. He also felt that even with more time, the committee may have likely come to the same recommendations. Mr. Freda thanked Mr. Katz.

Mr. Freda then explained the purpose of the Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects, stating that with regard to the Sacket Point Road Bridge project there will be abutting property that needs to be acquired. By allowing the State to handle the property acquisition it is a benefit to the Town as they are better equipped to do so. The agreement authorizes them to act on our behalf for that purpose. Mr. Freda explained the bridge project in greater detail. At the conclusion of Mr. Freda's comments, Mr. Doheny motioned to accept the Resolution, seconded by Miss Buemi.

RESOLVED, that Michael J. Freda, First Selectman is hereby authorized to sign the Agreement entitled "Master Municipal Agreement for Rights of Way Projects".

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

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval of the following:
RESOLVED, That the Town of North Haven hereby endorses a Fair Housing Policy to ensure equal opportunity for all persons to rent, purchase, obtain financing and enjoy all other housing-related services of their choice on a non-discriminatory basis as provided by state and federal law; and

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, That the chief executive officer of the Town of North Haven or his designated representative is responsible for responding to and assisting any person who alleges to be the victim of an illegal discriminatory housing practice in the Town of North Haven and for advising such person of the right to file a complaint with the State of Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities (CHRO) or the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or to seek assistance from the CT Fair Housing Center, legal services, or other fair housing organizations to protect his or her right to equal housing opportunities.

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

Miss Buemi read the call for the for the Annual Budget Town Meeting to be held on Monday, May 9, 2016, at 7:00 P.M. in the auditorium of the North Haven High School, 221 Elm Street, North Haven, CT. Referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

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

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the appointment of Michael J. Freda (R) 90 Highland Park Road to the Board of Directors of the Greater New Haven Transit District for a four (4) year term to expire April 1, 2020.

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

Miss Buemi motioned and Mr. Doheny seconded the approval of the following bond release:

- #P08-60 130 Middletown Avenue, Jitenda Patel - release the entire bond balance in the amount of \$54,600.00.

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

Due to a potential conflict of interest, Miss Buemi recused herself from the vote to approve the property tax refunds. Mr. Doheny motioned and Mr. Freda seconded the approval of the following Property Tax Refunds:

Vote: Freda –Yes, Doheny

- Acar Leasing LTD – 4001 Embarcadero Drive, Arlington, TX 76014, in the amount of \$428.73 and \$610.61.
- Daimler Trust – Box 685, Roanoke, TX 76262, in the amount of \$241.80.
- Golas, Richard – 78 Pool Road, North Haven, CT, 06473, in the amount of \$56.62.
- Rutland, Peter – 91 Bayard Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$154.63.
- Snedeker, Richard – 4 Alling St., 3rd Floor, West Haven, CT 06516, in the amount of \$123.81.
- Wheels LT – 666 Garland Place, Des Plaines, IL 60016, in the amount of \$154.69.

Mr. Freda stated that the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen is Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the community room of the North Haven Memorial Library, 17 Elm Street, North Haven, CT.

Miss Buemi wanted to clarify that her understanding of the call and vote for the Annual Town Budget meeting was procedural and not an indication that she either endorsed or did not endorse the proposed budget. Both Mr. Freda and Mr. Doheny agreed.

Mr. Freda then opened the meeting to public comment.

Mr. Raymond Fowler, Todd Drive, commented that Mr. Freda should not beat himself up regarding economic development, he is working very hard.

Mr. Sherman Katz, Sherwood Drive, commented that he was unaware of the Special Board of Selectmen's meeting of March 21st and would have attended if he had known. He also commented on the reduction in the Board of Education budget from 6.1% to 4.4%. He concluded by asking about our status of affordable housing as he just read that Hamden opened a new housing complex resulting in their meeting the required 10%. Mr. Freda explained we are approximately at 4.27 – 4.35%. He stated that we are far from the 10% and not close enough to obtain a moratorium. Mr. Katz cautions overspending to fight this, and thinks we need to look at what point does it become a diminishing return.

Mr. Freda asked if there were any other public comments, hearing none, Mr. Doheny motioned and Miss Buemi seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm.

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