

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL TOWN
MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2015
NORTH HAVEN HIGH SCHOOL
7:00 P.M.**

At approximately 7:08 p.m., the Town Clerk, J. Stacey Yarbrough, called the meeting to order. After a brief introduction, the Town Clerk explained to those present the first necessity of the Special Town Meeting, and that was for the election of a meeting Moderator, and the requirements of the same.

The Town Clerk opened the floor for the nomination process. After a nomination was made for Mrs. Theresa Ranciato-Viele to serve as meeting moderator, and after receiving a second upon said nomination, with no further nominations, a vote was taken, resulting in Theresa Ranciato-Viele unanimously elected, by voice vote, as meeting Moderator.

The meeting Moderator took to the stage, thanked those present, and asked the Town Clerk to read the call of the meeting.

The Town Clerk then read the call of the meeting:

The legal voters and those duly qualified to vote in the Town Meeting of the Town of North Haven were warned of this Special Town Meeting of the Town of North Haven to be held tonight in my office and by way of publication in a local town newspaper publication. Therefore, having received appropriate written notice and warning of the Town as aforementioned, I hereby convene this Special Town Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote at town meetings for the purpose of acting upon and/or discussing the following items:

- 1. To consider and vote upon whether to adopt amendments to the Soldiers' Memorial Ordinance at Chapter 67 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to amend Section 67-1 to formally assume responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of*

all the memorials and monuments on the Town Green and add Section 67-2 to establish certain eligibility criteria for future memorials and monuments;

2. *To consider and vote upon whether to adopt a Blasting Ordinance at Chapter 83 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to set forth the blasting policy of the Office of the Fire Marshal developed for the protection of the health, safety, and well-being of the Town, its residents, and their property;*
3. *To consider and vote upon whether to adopt an amendment to the Building Construction Ordinance at Chapter 88 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to revise the definition of delinquent at Section 88-4.A. of Article IV concerning the Withholding of Permits and Certificates for Delinquent Taxes, Charges, and Assessments such that for the purposes of Section 88-4 the delinquency of any tax, fee, charge, or fine in issue, together with any accrued interest or penalties, shall be determined in accordance with the applicable provision(s) of the Connecticut General Statutes, ordinance(s), code(s), or regulation(s) which define delinquency for the particular tax, fee, charge, or fine in issue and if not so defined, said tax, fee, charge, or fine shall be deemed delinquent if it remains unpaid, in whole or in part, for a period of thirty (30) days past the date upon which payment of such tax, fee, charge, or fine was due, together with any accrued interest and penalties; and*
4. **FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:** *To discuss elderly tax relief.*

The moderator then advised the members of the Special Town Meeting that no other business would be conducted during the course of the nights' proceedings, and then requested that the Town Clerk to read the first item on the agenda.

Per the request of the Moderator, the Town Clerk read the resolution for the First (1st) item on the agenda for the evening:

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, amendments to the Soldiers' Memorial*

Ordinance at Chapter 67 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven are hereby approved and adopted to amend Section 67-1 to formally assume responsibility for the maintenance and preservation of all the memorials and monuments on the Town Green and add Section 67-2 to establish certain eligibility criteria for future memorials and monuments. The amended Chapter 67 shall be published in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of North Haven and shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication.

The Town Clerk requested, and was provided, a second upon the resolution.

The Moderator opened the discussion period for item number one of the night's agenda.

Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola and Mr. Raymond Fowler spoke briefly as to the meaning and background and reasoning of the pending resolution for such an ordinance.

Various others from the Special Town Meeting spoke as to this item, i.e., Mary White, Joseph DiMartino, Selectman Sally Buemi, and Mary Quinn, as to whether or not the ordinance as currently drafted was correct, or needed to be amended per soldiers v. war veterans differentiation, etc.

After discussion ended, the Town Clerk discussed with the Moderator the need for a brief recess to consult with Attorney Coppola.

A brief recess occurred.

After the conclusion of the meeting recess (of approximately five minutes time), the decision was made to seek a Motion to Table the resolution for the ordinance.

Said Motion was raised, and seconded, and voted for with unanimous vote in favor of Tabling. Thus, the resolution was in fact tabled indefinitely.

Per the request of the Moderator, the Town Clerk then read the resolution for the 2nd (Second) item on the agenda:

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with the*

recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, a Blasting Ordinance is hereby approved and adopted at Chapter 83 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven to set forth the blasting policy of the Office of the Fire Marshal developed for the protection of the health, safety, and well-being of the Town, its residents, and their property. The Blasting Ordinance at Chapter 83 shall be published in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of North Haven and shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication.

The Town Clerk requested, and was provided, a second upon the resolution.

Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola and Fire Chief Paul Januszewski spoke briefly as to the meaning and background of the resolution for the pending ordinance.

Various other members of the Special Town Meeting asked questions and/or provided comments, including, but not limited to: Mr. Sherman Katz and Mrs. Mary White, with Attorney Coppola and Chief Januszewski answering questions and such.

One issue of great concern was the language in the ordinance of “within 48 hours”. A Motion to Amend was brought forward to change “within 48 hours” to “at least 48 hours”.

Attorney Coppola, the Town Clerk, and the Moderator worked through the steps to amend together, to properly present the same to the Special Town Meeting.

The Motion to Amend was voted upon in the affirmative, by unanimous vote of the members of the Special town Meeting.

After the discussion time period and Motion to Amend had been completed, the Moderator asked for a vote to call the question.

The vote to call the question for the amended resolution passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator then put the resolution to a vote.

The vote for agenda item number two passed by unanimous voice vote.

Per the request of the Moderator, the Town Clerk then read the resolution for the 3rd (Third) item on the agenda:

RESOLVED: *That in accordance with the recommendation of the Board of Selectmen, an amendment to the Building Construction Ordinance at Chapter 88 of the Ordinances of the Town of North Haven is hereby approved and adopted to revise the definition of delinquent at Section 88-4.A. of Article IV concerning the Withholding of Permits and Certificates for Delinquent Taxes, Charges, and Assessments such that for the purposes of Section 88-4 the delinquency of any tax, fee, charge, or fine in issue, together with any accrued interest or penalties, shall be determined in accordance with the applicable provision(s) of the Connecticut General Statutes, ordinance(s), code(s), or regulation(s) which define delinquency for the particular tax, fee, charge, or fine in issue and if not so defined, said tax, fee, charge, or fine shall be deemed delinquent if it remains unpaid, in whole or in part, for a period of thirty (30) days past the date upon which payment of such tax, fee, charge, or fine was due, together with any accrued interest and penalties. The amended Section 88-4.A. of Article IV of Chapter 88 shall be published in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of North Haven and shall be effective fifteen (15) days after publication.*

The Town Clerk requested (twice), and was provided, a second upon the resolution.

The Moderator opened the discussion period for item number three of the night's agenda.

Town Attorney Jennifer Coppola spoke briefly as to the meaning and background of this resolution.

No other member of the Special Town Meeting requested to speak on this resolution.

Therefore, after the discussion time period was completed, the Moderator asked for a vote to call the question.

The vote to call the question for item number three passed by unanimous voice vote.

The Moderator then put the resolution to a vote.

The vote for agenda item number three passed by unanimous voice vote.

Per the request of the Moderator, the Town Clerk read the 4th (Fourth) item on the agenda (reminding that such will be for discussion only):

FOR DISCUSSION ONLY: *To discuss an elderly tax relief program.*

The Moderator reminded all who wished to speak that they will be provided a chance to comment and/or ask questions, yet, before anyone can be called a second time, all who want to speak for the first time must be allowed to do so.

Further, she noted that there will be no vote on the fourth item after said discussion has been completed for the night.

The Moderator opened the discussion period for item number four of the night's agenda.

First Selectman Freda explained the resolution for the proposed elderly tax relief program ordinance, and the changes made, per the first draft of the ordinance which had been presented at a recent Special Board of Selectmen meeting.

Attorney Coppola and Assessor Gary Johns provided a slideshow presentation as to the proposed revised elderly tax relief program ordinance, providing further answers and insight as to certain details of the same.

Various other members of the Special Town Meeting asked questions and/or provided comments, including, but not limited to: Mr. Sherman Katz, Ms. Joan Myzurek, and Mr. and Mrs. White, along with First Selectman Freda answering various general questions and such as to the proposed revised elderly tax relief program ordinance; and specifically as to the idea of a committee to be formed so as to effectuate the drafting of the proposed revised elderly tax relief program ordinance.

After the discussion time period was completed, the Moderator noted that as there was no further business to be conducted at the Special Town Meeting, the meeting would be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:02 p.m.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED, THIS 20th
DAY OF OCTOBER 2015



J. STACEY YARBROUGH
TOWN CLERK & REGISTRAR OF VITAL RECORDS
/TAX COLLECTOR
TOWN OF NORTH HAVEN