

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING FINAL MINUTES  
May 6, 2015

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6, 2015, in the first floor conference room of Independence Hall.

Members Present: First Selectman Michael C. Tetreau, Selectman Kevin P. Kiley, Selectman Sheila H. Marmion

Others Present: Ben Powers, Terry Giegengack, Soundview, FairTV, Mary Carroll-Mirylees, Keith Gallinelli, Tom Dubrosky, Genny Reilly, Scott Bartlett, Selma Cohen, Bruce Carter, Cheryl Houston, Judy Ewing, Richard DeAngelis, Brian Carey, Palma Senator, Stanton Lesser, Alexis Harrison, Robert Jameson, Tracy Minsky, James Quinn, Laura Pulie, Heather Dean, Joe Michelangelo, Eileen Kennelly, Ed Boman, Janet Brogan, Zibby Perkins, Betsy Gardner, Don Hyman, Jim Bradley, Nancy Legare, Selma Cohen, Linda Delorenzo

1) CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Tetreau called the meeting to order at 4:41 pm.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3) WEDNESDAY'S PET – presented by Sherri Steeneck

There was no pet as he was adopted earlier in the day.

4) MINUTES

To consider and act upon the minutes of: Regular Meeting of April 22, 2015

Selectman Kiley made a motion to approve the minutes. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

First Selectman announced May 4-8 is Teacher's Appreciation Week. He encouraged the public to thank your teacher today.

5) RECOGNITION

Recognition of Eagle Hill – Southport School's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Headmaster Ben Powers thanked the Selectmen for recognizing the school and its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Mr. Powers talked about the school's history involving a phenomenal group of Southport residents forming this school to help students with disabilities. There has been much success with the 1000 families the school has served since it opened. The partnership with the community helped make the school's success possible. Mr. Powers thanked the Town.

First Selectman Tetreau then read and issued a proclamation to Mr. Powers proclaiming 2015 as Eagle Hill-Southport year and congratulated the school on its anniversary. Mr. Powers recognized Board of Director members and a former student who now works at the School who attended the meeting. Selectman Kiley congratulated the School on its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for bringing educational partner in town. Selectman Marmion congratulated the School also and heard how wonderful it is.

6) ANNOUNCEMENT

Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Announcement of Mayor's Challenge

Keith Gallinelli, Chair of the Committee, introduced a couple of members who were also at the meeting. First Selectman Tetreau thanked the Committee and said this is challenge is

an important initiative involving living, working and biking together since we all live within the same existing space. Referring to a handout on the Challenge, Mr. Gallinelli said Fairfield is one of over 230 communities in the nation to join this initiative. One goal is to advance safety. Mr. Gallinelli went over the seven challenge activities that is part of the Challenge that the Committee wants to do. He said there will be a forum in Bridgeport next week. He noted how successful the recent library to library bike route trial program in Fairfield was.

Mr. Gallinelli said the Committee is looking into best practices. Selectman Marmion said this is a great idea and asked if there is a set time period for this challenge. Mr. Gallinelli said it's for one year. Selectman Marmion asked how the Committee will track new bike data. Mr. Gallinelli said it will reach out to people already doing this like police and hospitals and will put in monitors. The goal is to get a conversation started. The Committee is gathering volunteers to track data. Member Don Hyman said a survey was performed. Mr. Gallinelli said the Committee had street signs donated to it that the town will put up with police enforcement activities.

7) **RESIGNATIONS (for information only)**

a) Economic Development Commission

Christopher J. LaSala (U), 115 Somerset Avenue, term 11/11 – 11/16  
(Resignation Date: April 1, 2015)

b) Shellfish Commission

Catherine Raynor-Catropa (R), 1087 Bronson Road, term 11/12 – 11/17  
(Resignation Date: April 20, 2015)

8) **OTHER APPOINTMENTS (for information only)**

Conservation Director

Brian V. Carey

(Appointment Date: April 6, 2015)

First Selectman Tetreau welcomed Mr. Carey who said he is a life-long resident and this is his dream job. He had worked as Stratford's Conservation Director. He said Fairfield is a model and on the forefront of conservation. He thanked the Selectmen and residents and looks forward to serving the town. Selectman Marmion congratulated Mr. Carey and asked what his main challenges are. Mr. Carey said he will look to streamline processes so they are more user-friendly to residents. He wants to have more interaction with residents. Selectman Kiley congratulated Mr. Carey and said he has a great background and big shoes to fill. He noted how Conservation is very important in Fairfield.

9) **APPOINTMENTS**

To hear, consider and act upon the following appointments:

FairTV Commission (requires unanimous vote of BOS and RTM approval)

- i. Alexis P. Harrison (R), 240 Melody Lane, term 07/15 - 07/16
- ii. Robert M. Jameson (R), 501 Wilson Street, term 07/15- 07/17
- iii. Tracy G. Minsky (D), 1012 Mill Plain Road, term 07/15 - 07/17
- iv. James F. Quinn (D), 508 Wilson Street, term 07/15 - 07/18

Selectman Kiley made a motion to approve item 8i.-8iv. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion.

First Selectman noted the length of terms are different. The Commission needs an unaffiliated voter. Selectman Marmion asked the candidates what drives their interest. Ms. Minsky said engaging people and getting involved. Ms. Harrison said she looks forward to continuing to

serve after serving on the Committee but being the first members of this new commission the RTM approved as an ordinance may be a challenge. Mr. Quinn said he's worked with the Connecticut Judiciary Department. He noted transparency is key. Challenges will be technology. Mr. Jameson said he works with the media so he feels this role is a good fit for him. He has worked a lot in politics. Transparency is important. This is an opportunity to be creative and engage the town. Selectman Kiley thanked the candidates for volunteering and bringing different perspectives. He likes the comments on good government, transparency and communication. First Selectman Tetreau said it's important to establish an informed public through FairTV.

The motion carried 3-0.

#### 10) SOUTHWEST REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

To hear a report from the Southwest Regional Mental Health Board  
Cheryll Houston, Deputy Director of the Southwest Regional Mental Health Board spoke about May which is Mental Health Awareness Month. She encouraged the public to look at the website, [www.HealthyMindsCT.org](http://www.HealthyMindsCT.org) to view the calendar of events. The Board has long been a partner with Fairfield and is thankful for that continued relationship. The Board is doing more for Fairfield. It secured a donation for Fairfield employees to receive a seminar on mental health awareness. First Selectman Tetreau read and issued a proclamation citing May as Mental Health Awareness Month in the Town of Fairfield. Selectman Kiley thanked the Board for all it does in raising awareness and reducing the stigmas which makes a better society. He said the Board's work is appreciated. Selectman Marmion said the Board does important work and really likes that it is involved with Fairfield's high schools. She said youth need to understand how to treat people who are different with respect.

#### 11) HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Human Services Commission:

RESOLVED, that the building at 100 Mona Terrace shall be named the Bigelow Center for Senior Activities as of July 1, 2015.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to approve the item. Selectman Marmion seconded the item.

Bruce Carter, Commission Chair, introduced some of the Commission members. He said Cindi Bigelow has been helping the Senior Center for 27 years. The Commission wants to rename the building the Bigelow Center for Senior Activities. It's a small way to thank Ms. Bigelow for doing so much for so long. Selectman Marmion said the timing is right to rename the Center given all the positive changes that have taken place and it's a new era with membership up, Terry Giegengack on board. She said the Commission has been doing great work and this renaming is a good way to grow awareness and honor all Ms. Bigelow has done. Selectman Kiley said there is not enough praise for the volunteers, staff and Commission. He is privileged to have met Ms. Bigelow and noted how much the Bigelow family has done for the Town. First Selectman Tetreau said that when the Senior Center performed a survey many seniors gave feedback that they did not want the building to be called a Senior Center. First Selectman Tetreau said this new name is more attractive and honors Ms. Bigelow for helping seniors while keeping the word seniors in the name of the building making the Senior Center a home for seniors. First Selectman Tetreau membership has grown from 200 members about two years

ago to about 4000 today. He thanked Ms. Giegengack and her staff.

The motion carried 3-0.

#### 12) PENFIELD BUILDING COMMITTEE

To hear an update from the Penfield Building Committee

Chairman Jim Bradley gave the Selectmen handouts on the project. He discussed the project status noting the project remains on budget and on schedule. Mr. Bradley then reviewed drawings of the site, floor plan and elevations. He showed a drawing of the east wing saying the locker wing is back. Four to five locker spaces were lost. This project has better elevation and the decks are more user-friendly. He showed the bulkhead and discussed protecting the beach. It's the same building but the east wing is smaller and more efficient. The east wing has two new larger bathrooms near the beach. Mr. Bradley also gave handouts on the project budget and schedule.

Selectman Kiley asked if the building opening in early May next year is feasible. Mr. Bradley said yes. Per Selectman Kiley's question, Mr. Bradley said all work is confined in the immediate area with access to the beach. Selectman Kiley said acoustics were not that great in the old building. Mr. Bradley said a report was done and the sound engineer has ideas on this issue. If money is available, then that improvement will be made. Selectman Kiley asked if the minor adjustments to the foundation are significant. Mr. Bradley said the adjustments pertain to the east wing only. They are the same timber piles but aren't constructed as concrete. First Selectman Tetreau said he looks forward to the next update.

#### 13) CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER

To hear an update on the snow clearing overruns and the approach to covering those costs in the budget

CFO Bob Mayer said regarding Penfield, he spoke to a staff member in Congressman Himes office who informed him that the TAC has been engaged. Reconciling the 50% rule issues is in process.

From a budget perspective, FY 2015 was a challenge so it held back on hiring and some supplies, but revenues are very strong. The contingency was used up, but the contribution surplus is safe. All overages were addressed. Net, net, all is okay.

Superintendent of DPW Scott Bartlett discussed why the town had overages with the snow during this tough winter. Selectman Marmion asked about the major drivers that brought up the budget. Mr. Bartlett said overtime, materials and outside contractors were the major drivers during the snowstorms.

#### 14) DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS **(requires Board of Finance and RTM approval)** **(postponed from April 22, 2015)**

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Director of Public Works:

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93-383, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town Of Fairfield accept from the State a grant in a sum not to exceed \$2,316,000 in order to undertake a Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery – Tranche 2 Project, Fairfield Waste Water Treatment Plant Hardening, and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Fairfield is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of The Connecticut General Statutes; and that the acceptance by the Town Of Fairfield of a Disaster Recovery Community Development Block Grant to be used for Fairfield Waste Water Treatment Plant Hardening in an amount not to exceed \$2,316,000 is hereby approved; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the First Selectman is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town of Fairfield, to execute any and all necessary documents to secure said grant; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a bond resolution entitled 'A Resolution Appropriating \$3,088,000 for the Costs Associated with Construction of Berm and Pumping Station and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds to Finance such Appropriation,' be, and hereby is, approved.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to suspend the reading of the resolution. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

DPW Director Joe Michelangelo showed the Selectmen a large drawing and a flood mitigation map another drawing on elevation. He discussed the berm to protect the waste water treatment plant. This grant is 75% funded by CDBG. First Selectman Tetreau asked if this funding would also help protect the animal control building, fire training center and conservation building. Mr. Michelangelo said yes. Selectman Kiley asked how DPW would get water out of the area. Mr. Michelangelo said water is evacuated inside through a pump. There is no grading but there are one to two spots that are connected to get the water out. Selectman Marmion asked if grading the road will be an extra cost. Mr. Michelangelo said that is part of the grant. Town Attorney Stanton Lesser emailed a legal opinion to the Selectmen on who pays for the non-grant portion. Bond Counsel said it is not comfortable to pledge WPCA bonds without WPCA's agreement. Bond Counsel certifies if there is WPCA agreement. Mr. Lesser said the berm protects more than WPCA assets so he suggested the item be postponed and the Selectmen hear from Ed Boman or Laura Pulie, who wrote almost all of the CDBG grants, on time limits for this project. Mr. Boman said the completion date is critical. While it's two years out, the state permitting process and UI process takes a while. The microgrid project is contingent on this project. Selectman Kiley asked if both projects can be done concurrently. Mr. Boman said yes to a degree. Selectman Kiley supports this project and doesn't want to hold it up. He feels WPCA should pay for some of this project.

First Selectman Tetreau made a motion to postpone the item to a date certain of a special meeting the week of Memorial Day. Selectman Kiley seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

**15) DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (requires Board of Finance and RTM approval)  
(postponed from April 22, 2015)**

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Director of Public Works:

WHEREAS, Federal monies are available under the Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery Program, administered by the State of Connecticut, Department of Housing pursuant to Public Law 93-383, as amended; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to Chapter 127c, and Part VI of Chapter 130 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Commissioner of Housing is authorized to disburse such Federal monies to local municipalities; and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable and in the public interest that the Town Of Fairfield accept from the State a grant in a sum not to exceed \$2,500,000 in order to undertake a Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery – Tranche 2 Project, Water Pollution Control Microgrid, and to execute an Assistance Agreement therefore, should one be offered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Fairfield is cognizant of the conditions and prerequisites for State Assistance imposed by Part VI of Chapter 130 of The Connecticut General Statutes; and that the acceptance by the Town Of Fairfield of a Disaster Recovery Community Development Block Grant to be used for the Water Pollution Control Microgrid in an amount not to exceed \$2,500,000 is hereby approved; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the First Selectman is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Town of Fairfield, to execute any and all necessary documents to secure said grant; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a bond resolution entitled 'A Resolution Appropriating \$2,500,000 for the Costs Associated with Installation of Microgrid and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds to Finance such Appropriation,' be, and hereby is, approved.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to suspend the reading of the resolution. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Mr. Michelangelo showed the Selectmen a large drawing and gave an overview of the project. He showed the aerial photo of all the buildings. He said DEEP is behind this project. Mr. Boman discussed how the power is generated and where it's distributed to each facility at the site. First Selectman said this is a 100% grant so there's no town match. Mr. Boman said DEEP will use this as an example for the rest of the state. Selectman Marmion asked if this power will be used every day or just for emergencies. Mr. Boman said power will be used every day since it's a full-time generator. The Town is saving money day-to-day. Selectman Marmion said this is a win-win project and helps the town prepare for emergency situations. Power is efficiently provided at less cost and the town saves money. Selectman Kiley asked about the process and timeline for the two projects. Mr. Michelangelo said they will be constructed as independent projects and the state wants all projects done by June 2017.

First Selectman Tetreau made a motion to postpone the item to a date certain of a special meeting the week of Memorial Day and the June 2<sup>nd</sup> BOF meeting. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

16) TAX COLLECTOR

To consider and act upon tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Collector in the amount recommended.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to approve the item. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion.

Selectman Marmion made an amendment to delete the period after the sentence and add a comma followed by \$6,158.44. Selectman Kiley seconded the amendment which carried 3-0.

The main motion, as amended, carried 3-0.

17) TOWN ATTORNEY-Private Executive Session – Pending Litigation

Selectman Kiley made a motion to enter into private executive session regarding pending litigation at 7:22 pm. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to end private executive session at 8:13 pm. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Selectman Marmion made a motion to accept the Town Attorney's recommendation. Selectman Kiley seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

18) To hear, consider and act upon any communications.  
There were no communications.

19) To hear, consider and act upon any other business which shall properly come before this meeting.  
There was no other business to consider.

20) ADJOURN

Selectman Marmion made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 pm. Selectman Kiley seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer S. Carpenter  
Recording Secretary

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