

SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING FINAL MINUTES  
September 3, 2015

A special meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2015, in the first floor conference room in Independence Hall.

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

Others Present: Doreen Caruso, Charlotte Powers and family, Chris Tymniak, Peter Van Heerden, Stanton Lesser, Scott Thompson, FairTV, Soundview, Warren Rockmacher, Laurie McArdle, Don Sharbin, Judy Ewing, Ed Boman, Eileen Kennelly, Bob Lotty, Catherine Nietzel

1) CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Tetreau called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3) RECOGNITION

Recognition of Fairfield Ludlowe High School student for winning two National Championship gold medals and one bronze medal as a coxswain for the Saugatuck Rowing Club

Charlotte Powers was called to the podium where she received a proclamation read by First Selectman Mike Tetreau for her achievements. Miss Powers spoke about her sisters inspiring her to be a leader and coxswain since they both held that role. Miss Powers talked about how she got involved and said her positive attitude helps her team. Selectman Marmion said Miss Powers is a motivator and is well rounded. As a former member of a rowing team, Selectman Marmion congratulated Miss Powers on her achievements. Selectman Kiley also congratulated Miss Powers. He said her achievements are remarkable both in and out of school. He thanked her for being a leader. First Selectman Tetreau congratulated Miss Powers on her achievements.

4) RESIGNATIONS (**for information only**)

a) Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

Elizabeth B. Gardner (D), 882 Reef Road, term 11/14 – 11/16  
(Resignation Date: August 19, 2015)

b) Fairfield Ludlowe High School Building Committee

Terri F. Leopold (U), 146 Coleman Road  
(Resignation Date: August 26, 2015)

c) Fire Commission

Patrick McCabe (D), 1395 Fairfield Woods Road, term 11/11 – 11/16  
(Resignation Date: August 23, 2015)

5) APPOINTMENTS

To hear, consider and act upon the following appointment:

Fairfield Ludlowe High School Building Committee (**requires RTM approval**)

Gregory H. Pidluski (U), 51 Lounsbury Road (To fill a vacancy for Terri Leopold who resigned)

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

Selectman Kiley said Mr. Pidluski has a great background. Selectman Marmion also said his engineering background is great.

The motion carried 3-0.

#### 6) CONGREGATION BETH EL

To hear a report on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual New England Kosher BBQ Championship and Craft Fair held Sunday, August 30, 2015

Co-Executive Chairs Don Sharbin and Warren Rockmacher talked about the event. Mr. Sharbin said he appreciates the support from the Town and Synagogue. Mr. Rockmacher gave a history of how this unique and fun event started two years ago. He said it's been a huge success and this year there were more teams that came to Fairfield as far as Kansas City. This is a BBQ and Kosher competition. The Fire Department among others participated. Mr. Sharbin explained what Kosher is. Mr. Rockmacher explained the process of the event. Donations were made to Operation Hope. This event will be held again next year.

First Selectman Tetreau said about 4500 attended this year which increased from last year's attendees. He said this event brings our community together. Selectman Kiley congratulated the organizers of the event and thanked them for sharing proceeds. Selectman Marmion thanked the organizers. She said this is a model for doing great events in town because this event encouraged the public to make a donation and brought people into our town to see its beautiful sites.

#### 7) CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

To hear a report from the Clean Energy Task Force on the Electrical Vehicle Showcase to be held on September 12, 2015

Clean Energy Task Force Chair Scott Thompson gave the Selectmen flyers on the September 12<sup>th</sup> event noting this is the first time Fairfield is part of the National Drive Electric Week which is September 12-September 20. The goal is to make the public more aware of the benefits of electric vehicles. Mr. Thompson thanked Mary Hogue. He said 165 communities around the country are hosting this event which is a national and town-wide movement. On the 12<sup>th</sup>, the event will feature 6-7 car dealers, some of which are offering test drives. A local bike shop is bringing electric bikes. Mr. Thompson said his Task Force hopes to help procure the Town's first electric vehicle. He said there are 26 different electric vehicle models on the market today. He discussed incentives of these vehicles.

Selectman Marmion asked if there are larger vehicles for families. Mr. Thompson said the first SUV is coming out this fall along with some other passenger SUVs. Selectman Marmion asked if there will be any hybrid vehicles at Saturday's event or just all electric vehicles. Mr. Thompson said plug-in hybrids, not hybrids, are not allowed. Selectman Kiley thanked Mr. Thompson and his committee for their continued efforts and bringing awareness to the community. He asked how battery life is getting better. Mr. Thompson said there is better innovation now for longer life of batteries and mass production. First Selectman Tetreau asked how many communities in Fairfield are holding this event. Mr. Thompson said four including Fairfield. First Selectman Tetreau thanked the Task Force. Mr. Thompson thanked the Town for its support on the Task Force's initiatives.

8) QUICK CENTER FOR THE ARTS

To hear a report from the Executive Director of the Quick Center for the Arts on the Center's twenty-fifth anniversary celebration

Peter Van Heerden, Executive Director of the Quick Center for the Arts, said this is the 25<sup>th</sup> year of program in the arts. He gave some statistics and said he aims to get the community involved. He talked about an upcoming event on September 19<sup>th</sup> that will celebrate the Center's 25 years and will feature Charlie Rose. Mr. Van Heerden said the Quick Center will hold about 400 events this season. He said the Quick Center provides a great resource to the community. He invited the public to call or visit.

First Selectman Tetreau thanked Mr. Van Heerden for bringing programs to the Town. Selectman Marmion asked where Mr. Van Heerden sees the Quick Center in 25 years. Mr. Van Heerden said he sees a shared communal experience and reaching out to the community while building collaborations with the education community for example. Selectman Marmion said the Quick Center helps establish Fairfield as a center for the arts and it showcases an array of arts. Selectman Kiley thanked Mr. Van Heerden and said the Quick Center is a wonderful partner. He asked how the public finds the upcoming schedule of events. Mr. Van Heerden said the public can go to [www.quickcenter.com](http://www.quickcenter.com) or call 254-4010 or stop by the box office. He gave the Selectmen a brochure featuring upcoming events.

9) PILOT HOUSE

To hear a report from the Pilot House

Doreen Caruso, President/Founder, said the Pilot House is on its eighth year. In 2008, the Pilot House moved into a larger space and serve both young children and those over the age of 18. Mrs. Caruso discussed the riding program where children develop life skills. She said that at the age of 21 no state assistance is given. She said there is 30-year wait list for group homes. The Pilot House now owns part of a family-owned farm in town and is starting a communal farm program that includes selling produce. Long-term, The Pilot House wants to buy the rest of the farm to build communal living. The Pilot House is holding a fundraiser on September 19<sup>th</sup> to help raise funds needed to buy the rest of the farm. Selectman Marmion said lives are changed and what the Pilot House is doing is visionary. Selectman Marmion asked if the Pilot House only serves Fairfielders. Mrs. Caruso said the non-profit serves 90% of Fairfield residents. Selectman Kiley thanked Mrs. Caruso for all she does for the clients and the Town.

10) DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (**lease agreement requires RTM approval**)

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

RESOLVED, that a solar power purchase agreement between the Town of Fairfield and CEFIA Holdings, LLC for the purpose of erecting a photovoltaic electric generation system on the ground behind the Recreation/Tennis Center at 15 Old Dam Road for the sole benefit of the Recreation/Tennis Center, the term of the agreement being twenty years, be, and hereby is, approved; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a system site lease agreement between the Town of Fairfield and CEFIA Holdings, LLC for the purpose of erecting a photovoltaic electric generation system on the ground behind the Recreation/Tennis Center at 15 Old Dam Road for the sole benefit of the Recreation/Tennis Center, the term of the

agreement being twenty years, be, and hereby is, approved.

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

First Selectman Tetreau explained the difference between a purchasing and a lease agreement. Ed Boman, Assistant Director of DPW, said power will go to the recreation and tennis centers. They system will be completely screened from the neighborhood. Town Attorney Stanton Lesser said the Town does not own anything but to let people on the property the Town has to provide a licensing lease which is why there are two approvals—one for the lease and to go on the property. Selectman Marmion asked what the Town is paying for. Mr. Boman said the Town is paying for the building and the occupier pays the utilities. So there is no cost to the Town and the town and occupier get benefits. In fact, the Town saves money. Selectman Kiley asked how much the tennis center saves each month on utilities. Mr. Boman said about \$6500 a year which is the same savings as the Town but this amount will change year to year. Selectman Kiley asked if the neighbors are happy with this plan. Mr. Boman said they are and there was a meeting. Given there were no comments from the neighborhood since about a month and half ago after having the final plans, First Selectman Tetreau asked that Mr. Boman or Gerry Lombardo reach out to the neighborhood to confirm they are happy with the final plan. Selectman Kiley agreed it's worthwhile to follow-up with the neighbors because of summer vacations and some people being away. Mr. Boman said if this item is not approved at today's meeting and doesn't get approved until the end of October then there may be a problem because of state funding and cold weather starting to set in. Selectman Kiley questioned why no one has heard from neighbors recently when the Town heard from them previously.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to postpone the item to a date certain of September 16, 2015, the date of the next regular BOS meeting.

Selectman Kiley wants this postponed because the final plan was not formally approved by neighbors. Selectman Marmion wants this to be done right.

Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

**11) DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (lease agreement requires RTM approval)**

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

RESOLVED, that a solar power purchase agreement between the Town of Fairfield and CEFIA Holdings, LLC for the purpose of erecting a photovoltaic electric generation system on the roof of Timothy Dwight Elementary School at 1600 Redding Road for the sole benefit of Timothy Dwight Elementary School, the term of the agreement being twenty years, be, and hereby is, approved; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a system site lease agreement between the Town of Fairfield and CEFIA Holdings, LLC for the purpose of erecting a photovoltaic electric generation system on the roof of Timothy Dwight Elementary School at 1600 Redding Road for the sole benefit of Timothy Dwight Elementary School, the term of the agreement being twenty years, be, and hereby is, approved.

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

Selectman Marmion asked why Dwight was chosen to have the solar array put on its roof. Mr. Boman said as schools like Dwight replace roofs solars are then put on. He said he will come back to the Board for approval of a solar array for the railroad station parking lot. Selectman Marmion asked how much the town saves by doing this project. Mr. Boman said in October he will give the Board an update on savings.

The motion carried 3-0.

12) 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 remove the period at the end of the sentence and add a comma followed by \$166,652.24. Selectman Kiley seconded the amendment which carried 3-0.

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

13) TOWN ATTORNEY-Private Executive Session – Pending Litigation (two items)

Selectman Kiley made a motion to enter into private executive session regarding pending litigation at 6:33 pm. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Selectman Kiley made a motion to end private executive session regarding pending litigation at 7:09 pm. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Selectmen Kiley made a motion to accept both pending litigation items recommended by the attorneys. Selectman Marmion seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

14) ADJOURN

Selectman Marmion made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 pm. Selectman Kiley seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer S. Carpenter  
Recording Secretary

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