

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MINUTES  
September 7, 2016

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, in the first floor conference room of Independence Hall.

Members Present: First Selectman Michael C. Tetreau, Selectman Laurie A. McArdle, Selectman Christopher W. Tymniak

Others Present: Laura Devlin, Barbara Kupchik, Tony Hwang, Emmet Hibson, William Burke, Mr. Thomas, Steve Ellworthy, Roger Altori, Matt Waggnner, FairTV

1) CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Tetreau called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Selectman McArdle.

3) WEDNESDAY'S PET – No pets available.

4) MINUTES

To consider and act upon the minutes of Regular Meeting of August 17, 2016

Selectman McArdle made a motion to postpone approval the minutes to a date certain of next BOS meeting. Selectman Tymniak seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

5) RECOGNITION

Recognition of Fairfield American Little League for winning District 2, Section 1 and State Little League Championships and representing Fairfield at the New England Regional Little League Championships.

The Coach spoke and they are all great kids. Selectmen McArdle and Tymniak congratulated them on winning Connecticut State Championship and moving onto New England Regionals. Selectman Tymniak appreciated the way they represented Fairfield. First Selectman Tetreau said Little League has given the kids a tremendous opportunity. They've won State Championship 5 out of 7 years.

State Delegates Mr. Hwang, Ms. Devlin and Ms. Kupchik congratulated the team. Kristen McCarthy Vahey sent regrets. Mr. Hwang acknowledged the parents and coaches. Ms. Devlin said they accomplished greatness. Ms. Kupchik said they made Fairfield proud. Selectmen distributed State Citations and photos were taken.

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR and FAIRFIELDER OF THE YEAR  
First Selectman Tetreau mentioned the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Employee of the Year and Fairfielder of the Year nominations are underway and encouraged town residents to vote. Submission deadline is 12:00 p.m. on November 7, 2016.

6) **FIRST SELECTMAN APPOINTMENTS (for information only)**

a) Citation Hearing Officer

William M. Burke, 245 Unquowa Road  
(Appointment Date: August 25, 2016)

First Selectman Tetreau thanked Mr. Burke for serving the Town.

b) Parking Violation Hearing Officer

William M. Burke, 245 Unquowa Road  
(Appointment Date: August 25, 2016)

7) **CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE**

To hear a report from the Clean Energy Task Force on the Electric Vehicle Showcase being held during National Drive Electric Week.

Mr. Thompson distributed flyers to BOS and spoke about the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Electric Vehicle Showcase to be held September 10 from 11-2 at 140 Mill Plain Road, Auxiliary Parking lot. Free admission. It's an opportunity to come and see electric cars that are on the market. There are 35 models in every price range including SUVs. It will raise awareness to go green. There are 10 Town owned charging stations, 2 each to be installed at Warde and Ludlowe High Schools and 6 privately owned and about 20 throughout town.

8) **REVIEW AND APPROVE REGISTRARS OF VOTERS SALARIES (postponed from August 3, 2016)**

Mr. Hibson reviewed what his letter covered and provided comments to the packet. He discussed how Connecticut, Federal and IRS each classify whether an employee is exempt, non-exempt or elected official and how it relates to compensation. Under the Help America Vote Act, they are not employees and are excluded. The Town is not obligated to pay them. Town does not track their hours, their work is provided by state statutes. He feels the health care benefits as reasonable compensation are not included under the Act. The Town has to cover under 95% and they have met that. Mr. Hibson said it is up to BOS to set compensation. These jobs fall outside State Statutes and the Town is not in violation of any laws.

The department request is \$235,463 represents a 6.2% increase due to state training required for Seasonal workers and Registrars, and a canvass of voters conducted every four years.

The Registrars each spoke and read their letter of July 29, 2016 to the Selectman. The reviewed the salary tables comparing similar towns. Mr. Ellworthy said they now required to be certified. Mr. Altori suggested a raise in 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> year if you they

are certified giving them two years to get certification. Penalty under the new law were discussed.

First Selectman Tetreau is concerned that they don't report to anyone at State level and questions asked by BOS, RTM and other boards have not been answered. He said performance and quality of service are also issues. Selectman Tymniak said a higher burden is placed on Registrar of Voters and technology has changed to help.

First Selectman Tetreau said they have to implement by January 3, 2017 and will be in place for four years. They don't need to do tonight, the BOS has flexibility.

First Selectman Tetreau clarified: 0 1<sup>st</sup> year, 0 2<sup>nd</sup> year, 3% 3<sup>rd</sup> year, 0 4<sup>th</sup> year. If nothing changes they will earn \$1,500 less than they are making now with stipend removed (\$2,500).

Selectman Tymniak would like to postpone to review roll out.

Selectman Tymniak made a motion to postpone approval to a date certain next BOS meeting. Selectman McArdle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment – none.

All in favor

#### 9) TOWN ATTORNEY

Private Executive Session – Two Pending Litigation Items

At 5:53 p.m. Selectman McArdle moved and Selectman Tymniak seconded, to move into private executive session to discuss two pending litigation items. The motion carried 3-0.

At 6:21p.m. Selectman McArdle moved and Selectman Tymniak seconded, to reconvene into public session. The motion carried 3-0.

No motions were made or nor votes take in Private Executive Session.

Selectman McArdle motioned to approve Attorney Aiken's recommendation. Selectman Tymniak seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

Selectman McArdle motion to approve Attorney Lotty's recommendation. Selectman Tymniak seconded. The motion carried 3-0.

#### 10) TAX COLLECTOR

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

Selectman Tymniak made an amendment to remove the period at the end of the sentence and add a comma followed by \$26,261.63. Selectman McArdle seconded. The motion carried as amended 3-0.

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the amended item. Selectman McArdle seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

11) To hear, consider and act upon any other business which shall properly come before this meeting.

There was no other business.

12) ADJOURN

Selectman McArdle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m. Selectman Tymniak seconded the motion which carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Tesei, Recording Secretary