

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
DECEMBER 16, 2013**

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Town of Fairfield was held on Monday, December 16, 2013 at the Education Center on Kings Highway East.

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 P.M. by Moderator Mary McCullough.

PRESENT: 42 ABSENT: 8 VACANCY: 0

PRESENT: Herley, Lipp, Sundman, P. Ambrose, Burshtein, Schindler, Steele, Bateson, Devlin, Ference, Mackenzie, McCullough, Dean, DeMartino, Gerber, Palmer, Waldron, Domeika, Garskof, O' Brien, Way, Gottlieb, Marks, Marmion, Wolk, Zezima, Hochberg, Newman, Pires, Schwartz, Durrell, Li, McCarthy, Melaragno, Iacono, McArdle, Pontrelli, Tymniak, Cafferelli, Farnen, Perugini, Ryan

ABSENT: Donovan, Meyer, Varian, Smey, Hoffkins, Braun, Jacob, Neuberger

ITEM 1 ON CALL: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moderator McCullough asked for a moment of silence for all those that keep us safe.

ITEM 2 ON CALL: APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 2013.

Carol Way, District 5 clarified that the address referred to in Item 7 be corrected to Kings Highway East from Villa Avenue.

Upon motion made, seconded and duly carried the minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

ITEM 3 ON CALL: REAPPOINTMENT OF MICHAEL MEARS TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

Mr. Mears was present and explained that he has spent 20 years in finance specializing in risk and risk allocation.

VOTE: The reappointment of Michael Mears to the Employees Retirement Board was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 4 ON CALL: REAPPOINTMENT OF BENJAMIN M. BAKER TO ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Hal Schwartz, Dist. 7 moved to postpone this item to the January 27th meeting, duly seconded and carried unanimously. (Messrs. Sundman and Schindler were not present to vote.)

ITEM 5 ON CALL: APPOINTMENTS OF CHERYL H. BEACOCK, MARK S. FOSTER AND HARRY B. FRENCH TO THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

Peter Ambrose, Dist. 2 moved to postpone this item to the January 27th meeting, duly seconded and carried unanimously. (Messrs. Sundman and Schindler were not present to vote.)

ITEM 6 ON CALL: REAPPOINTMENT OF PHOEBE S. KAYLOR AS ALTERNATE TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Hal Schwartz, Dist. 7 moved to postpone this item to the January 27th meeting, duly seconded and carried unanimously. (Messrs. Sundman and Schindler were not present to vote.)

ITEM 7 ON CALL: REAPPOINTMENT OF TIMOTHY H. SMITH TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mr. Smith was present and explained that his background is in architecture and has served a full term already.

VOTE: The reappointment of Mr. Smith the Historic District Commission was approved unanimously.

ITEM 8 ON CALL: RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER GRANT REVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,675 FOR COST OF PROGRAMS SPONSORED BY FAIRFIELD CARES COMMUNITY COALITION, FAIRFIELD'S LOCAL PREVENTION COUNCIL, AND TO AUTHORIZE FIRST SELECTMAN MIKE TETREAU TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS OR AMENDMENTS THEREOF WITH RYASAP. THESE COSTS ARE 100% REIMBURSABLE

Selectman Vahey noted that Wendy Bentivegna, co-chair of the Local Prevention Council, Fairfield Cares Community Coalition, was present as well. She explained that Fairfield Cares will use the \$5,675 grant for specific strategies and prevention efforts against alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse.

VOTE: The resolution to transfer \$5,675 from an increase in grant revenue was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 9 ON CALL: RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE CONVEYANCE OF A CERTAIN LOT KNOWN AS LOT #1 OPEN SPACE 2.844 + ACRES ON MAP #7552 TO BE USED FOR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES FROM SPECIAL PROPERTIES XII LLC TO THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD

Town Attorney Stanton Lesser explained that the subdivision regulations allow that some space be dedicated as open space when subdivided into 5 or more lots. This case went to the Appellate Court and while the appeal was pending the parties settled and the stipulated judgment included the conveyance of a lot comprising 2.844 acres to the Town for open space.

Ed Bateson, Dist. 3 inquired if acceptance of the settlement needed BOS approval. Atty. Lesser said it did not as it is part of the TPZ Regulations.

Mr. Bateson asked if the resolution needed to specify "passive open space." Conservation Director Tom Steinke said the second paragraph of Schedule A of the Warranty Deed specifies that it will be utilized for passive open space use only.

Heather Dean, Dist. 4 asked if this property was free of all hazards, hidden oil containers, etc.

Mr. Steinke said he had inspected the property before, during and after the development of the subdivision, and it's his belief that the property is clean.

VOTE: The Resolution to accept 2.884 acres of open space land was approved with 41 in favor and 1 abstention (Ambrose).

ITEM 10 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE ON REDISTRICTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH §2.6A(2) OF THE TOWN CHARTER.

The RTM Redistricting Committee was established upon motion made, duly seconded and carried unanimously.

ITEM 11 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW ARTICLE III OF CHAPTER 95, TAX RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOMEOWNERS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH S95-15.4 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD.

Upon motion made, duly seconded and carried unanimously the RTM Tax Relief for the Elderly & Disabled Committee was established.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and upon motion made duly seconded and carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth P. Browne
Town Clerk

Recorded by: Kyle Fournier