

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2019

MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019, in the First Floor Conference Room, Independence Hall. The meeting was recorded in its entirety by FairTV, Fairfield's Education and Government Access Channel.

Members Present: First Selectman Michael C. Tetreau, Selectman Christopher W. Tymniak, Selectman Edward J. Bateson

Others Present: Anthony Calabrese-Parks & Recreation Director, Brian Carey-Conservation Director, Kyran Dunn, Deputy Fire Chief, Stanton Lesser-Town Attorney, Laurence Lowy, Patricia Lowy, Denis McCarthy-Fire Chief, Joseph Olzacki-Fire Commission Secretary, Leslie Richmond, Humberto Juarez-Fairfield Citizen, Fair TV

1) CALL TO ORDER

First Selectman Tetreau called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Selectman Bateson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

A moment of silence was held for the passing of Father Sangiovanni of Notre Dame and Catherine Taylor of Fairfield and in memory of the 14th Anniversary of the Donnelly murder.

3) MINUTES To consider and act upon the minutes of:

a. Regular Meeting of January 16, 2019

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion.

Public comment – none.

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

b. Special Meeting of January 23, 2019

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion.

Public comment – none.

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

4) VACANCIES (**for information only**)

Police Commission

Walter A. Flynn (D), 338 Queens Grant Road, term 11/17 – 11/22

(Deceased: January 11, 2019)

5) REAPPOINTMENTS

To hear, consider and act upon the following reappointment:

Parks and Recreation Commission

Mary von Conta (D), 128 Southport Woods Drive, term 11/18 – 11/23

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion.
Public comment – none.

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

6) **CONSERVATION DIRECTOR (requires RTM approval and a report from the Town Plan and Zoning Commission) (postponed from January 16, 2019)**

To hear and consider the following resolution as recommended by the Conservation Director:

RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfield sell the property know as 150 Trail Street to Leslie M. Richmond for the sum of \$32,518 as more particularly set forth in Request for Proposal #2019-42.

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion.

Conservation Director Brian Carey said they sent certified letters to the abutting neighbors of 150 Trail Street and received a response from a neighbor who is interested in the property.

Public comment – Lawrence Lowy of 130 Trail Street said his home is directly adjacent to 150 Trail Street. Patricia Moss (Lowy) thanked the Town for notifying them that the property was for sale. Mrs. Lowy said they would like an option to buy it if the bid is re-opened and that they are willing to pay fair offer price. She said they plan to maintain property and are concerned that the property is not developed in any way.

Leslie Richmond of 147 Trail Street said he has put a deposit on the property and his primary intent is to preserve it. Mr. Richmond said the bid process was fair. He said he is concerned about the property surveys and believes there is still a debate on property lines.

Selectman Tymniak said he understood Mr. Richmond's position. He said people rarely go online to buy town property. Selectmen Tymniak said that he understands the Town followed the bid procedure but failed to notify the abutting neighbors. He said it is an administrative policy we need to fix. First Selectman Tetreau said the policy has been reviewed with the Purchasing Department and notifying abutting neighbors will be part of the bidding process going forward. Selectman Bateson said the Town followed the rules but that is up to the Board of Selectmen to institute fairness. First Selectman Tetreau said the Administration has a primary fiduciary obligation to residents to get best price, to see that it has been applied properly and equitably and that all possible bidders were not notified.

The motion failed; 0 in favor, 3 opposed.

First Selectman Tetreau said the Purchasing Department will be notified tomorrow to put the property out for rebidding.

7) **FIRE CHIEF (requires Board of Finance and RTM approval)**

To hear, consider and act upon a bond resolution entitled "A Resolution Appropriating \$1,400,000 for the Costs of a Tower Ladder Fire Truck with a Hundred Foot Hydraulically

Operated Ladder and Ancillary Equipment and Authorizing the Issuance of Bonds to Finance such Appropriation.”

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion.

Chief Denis McCarthy reviewed the Ladder Truck 14 Point document and the Fire Department Vehicle Replacement Program. Chief McCarthy explained the town’s needs for a ladder truck and listed numerous operational functions and uses. He discussed how they determined the specifications and said they have demonstrated several other models. He said this truck is similar to neighboring town’s trucks. The current ladder truck will be in reserve and both the old and new trucks will be housed centrally at Station #2.

Public comment – Fire Commission Chair Joseph Olzacki said the department has veered off the vehicle replacement program and Chief McCarthy has done a great job to get it back on track. Mr. Olzacki said the Fire Commission supports the Chief in this purchase and hopes the Board does as well.

The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

8) TAX COLLECTOR

To consider and act upon tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$10,624.84.

Selectman Tymniak motioned to approve the item. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 3-0.

First Selectman Tetreau motioned to add Private Executive Session to the Agenda for the purpose of getting an update on the current legal status of Town of Fairfield vs. Julian Development, LLC et al. Selectman Tymniak seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 3-0.

#) TOWN ATTORNEY Private Executive Session – Pending Litigation

Selectman Tymniak motioned to enter into Private Executive Session at 5:34 p.m. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 3-0.

Selectman Tymniak motioned to reconvene into Public Session at 6:00 p.m. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 3-0. No votes were taken or motions made.

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

Selectman Bateson thanked First Selectman Tetreau for the Penfield FEMA reimbursement update at last night’s Board of Finance meeting. He said First Selectman Tetreau and the experts did a good job presenting. He said he would like to meet with Kevin Chamberlain. First Selectman Tetreau said all related documents are on the Town website.

10) ADJOURN

Selectman Tymniak motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. Selectman Bateson seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Tesei, Recording Secretary