

BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, December 11, 2023, 3:00 pm
Via Webex & In-Person in the
First Floor Conference Room, Independence Hall
725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT 06824

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [BOS Special Meeting 12/11/2023 3:00 pm.](#)

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman William A. Gerber, Selectwoman Christine Vitale,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick

OTHERS PRESENT: Assessor Ross Murray, Internal Auditor Connie Saxl, Tax Collector David Kluczowski, Tree Warden Jeff Minder, Forestry Committee Chair Mary Hogue, resident Judy Ewing, Carolyn Trabuco, Purchasing Director Adam Tulin, Engineering Manager Bill Hurley, Senior Engineer Megha Jain, Director of Construction and Energy Services for Fairfield Public Schools Sal Morabito, HVAC Indoor Air Quality Building Committee Chair David Becker, Colliers Principal Associate Chuck Warrington, Colliers Senior Project Manager Jesse Vose, Police Chief Robert Kalamaras, Town Attorney Philip Pires, Attorney Ryan McKone

1) CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

First Selectman Bill Gerber, who was home sick, attended remotely and asked Selectman Vitale to run the meeting. She called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and the roll was called.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Judy Ewing led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) RESIGNATIONS (*for information only*)

a. Board of Library Trustees

Jill W. Brown, 1112 Holland Hill Road, term 07/01/2019 - 06/30/2025
(resigning December 31, 2023)

b. Historic District Commission

Christopher Shea (R) 1316 Cross Highway, term 11/2021 - 11/2026
(resigned 11/27 due to being elected to RTM on November 7, 2023)

First Selectman Gerber thanked both Jill Brown and Christopher Shea for their service.

4) REAPPOINTMENTS

To hear, consider and act upon the following reappointments:

Assessor - Ross D. Murray, term 11/23-11/27

Internal Auditor - Concetta M. Saxl, term 11/23-11/27

Tax Collector - David Kluczowski, term 11/23-11/27

Tree Warden – Jeffrey Minder, term 11/23-11/24

Selectman Gerber made a motion to reappoint the above employees to their respective positions. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion. Selectman Gerber invited those in attendance to speak.

Public Comment:

- Judy Ewing – 98 Sasco Hill Terrace – Ms. Ewing urged the Selectman to take no action on this Item and read a statement that she also presented to the Selectmen.
- Mary Hogue – 165 Stonewall Lane – As Chair of the Fairfield Forestry Committee, she read a statement recommending reappointment of Tree Warden Jeff Minder.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) **FIRST SELECTMAN REAPPOINTMENT (*for information only*)**
Employees Retirement Board (*requires RTM approval*)
Carolyn L. Trabuco (D) 111 Lookout Drive South, term 11/23-11/28

First Selectman Gerber said the JRIB is more stable and solid since Ms. Trabuco has been involved. He is appreciative of her wanting to serve again.

- 6) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**
To hear and consider and act upon authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Luchs Consulting Engineers, to provide all engineering services necessary to perform Construction Administration and Inspection Services for Phase 1 – Fairfield Metro East Trunk Line Sanitary Sewer and Crossing, as outlined in their proposal dated July 31, 2023, from the MetroCOG RFQ for On-Call Engineering Services in an amount not to exceed \$490,230. Funding for this contract is available in account 2260-5070-57054-80077 - East Trunk Wetland Crossings.

Selectman Gerber made a motion to approve Item 6. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion.

Purchasing Director Adam Tulin explained the process. Luchs is a member of the MetroCOG On-Call list. The contract was given to the Town Attorney. The money has already been approved by Town boards. Today's approval is to start the process. Both Engineering Manager Bill Hurley and Senior Engineer Megha Jain spoke about the phases of this project.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 7) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**
To hear and consider and act upon authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Luchs Consulting Engineers, to provide all engineering services necessary to perform Construction Administration and Inspection Services for Phase 2 –East Trunk Interceptor Sewer, as outlined in their proposal dated November 8, 2023, from the MetroCOG RFQ for On-Call Engineering Services, in an amount not to exceed \$421,900. Funding for this contract is available in account 2641-3010-57150 – East Trunk Replacement.

Selectman Gerber made a motion to approve Item 7. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

- 8) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**
To hear and consider and act upon authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Luchs Consulting Engineers, to provide all engineering services

necessary to perform Construction Administration and Inspection Services for Phase 3 –Turney Creek Culverts and Tide Gates, as outlined in their proposal dated November 8, 2023, from the MetroCOG RFQ for On-Call Engineering Services, in an amount not to exceed \$513,385. Funding for this contract is available in accounts 2630-5070-57050 – Sewer Siphon and 2630-5070-57160 Tidegates.

Selectman Gerber made a motion to approve Item 8. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion.

This Item is for the third phase and combines tidegates/culverts/siphons.

The motion carried unanimously.

9) **SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS (*requires RTM approval*)**

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as requested by the Superintendent of Schools:

"RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfield authorizes the Board of Education of the Town of Fairfield to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject a grant for the Riverfield Elementary School – Library Media Center RTU (Rooftop Air Conditioning Unit) Replacement Project at Riverfield Elementary School; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Riverfield Elementary School – Library Media Center RTU Replacement Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the Riverfield Elementary School – Library Media Center RTU Replacement Project at Riverfield Elementary School; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfield hereby authorizes at least the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Riverfield Elementary School – Library Media Center Replacement Project at Riverfield Elementary School."

Selectman Gerber made a motion to approve Item 9. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion.

Director of Construction and Energy Services for Fairfield Public Schools Sal Morabito explained the requirements for filing for the grant. This is “round two” funding and the work is already complete. This is a retroactive requirement. Assuming the grant is approved, they will be able to apply for the grant for the work that has been done and if the BOS wanted, they could assign this to another building committee.

The motion carried unanimously.

10) **HVAC INDOOR AIR QUALITY BUILDING COMMITTEE (*requires BOF and RTM approval*)**

To hear, consider, and act upon a resolution amending and restating a resolution entitled, “A resolution appropriating \$22,701,443 for the costs associated with Phase I of the Air Conditioning upgrade project at various schools, authorizing grants to reimburse \$1,116,320 of such appropriation and authorizing the issuance of bonds to finance the remaining portion of such appropriation” to increase the appropriation by \$16,402,557 to \$39,104,000 and the bond authorization from \$21,585,123 to \$37,987,680. (*20-Year*)

Selectman Gerber made a motion to approve Item 10. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion.

HVAC Building Committee Chair David Becker presented this Item and referred to the backup documents in the packet. Mr. Becker explained that this is an indoor air quality project with an AC element as well. There has been massive inflation and supply chain issues since this project started prior to COVID. Selectman Vitale spoke about the project as well and how supply chain issues heightened during the pandemic. There was a very detailed discussion on this project which is available by accessing the link to the meeting at the top of this document.

The motion carried unanimously.

11) TOWN ATTORNEY

Executive Session concerning pending claim/litigation: (PDCA)--CHRO 2220050, Anand Iyer v. Fairfield Police Department, with Town Attorney Philip Pires, Attorney Ryan McKone and Police Chief Robert Kalamaras; possible action to approve settlement agreement after Executive Session.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to go into Executive Session at 4:11 pm with First Selectman Gerber, Town Attorney Pires, Police Chief Kalamaras and Attorney Ryan McKone. First Selectman Gerber seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

First Selectman Gerber made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 4:50 pm. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

No votes were taken during Executive Session.

First Selectman Gerber said he joined Fairfield Beach Resident Association members at SantaCon on Saturday and was very upset about the garbage left on the beach, the size of the crowd and noted that several young adults required medical services.

12) Adjourn

Selectman Gerber made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary