

BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, January 9, 2022
4:00 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: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZKdksrQ11Q>.

FINAL MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, Selectman Thomas M. Flynn, Selectwoman Nancy E. Lefkowitz

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Finneran, Virginia Klinga, Dave Henry, Purchasing Director Gerald Foley, Engineering Manager Bill Hurley, Engineer Raymond Smith, WPCA Vice-Chair Joe D'Avanzo, WPCA Project Manager Christine Pacelli, Town Attorney James Baldwin, Attorney Rick Aiken, Fair TV, members of the public

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
First Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.
- 2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
First Selectwoman Kupchick led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) APPOINTMENTS
 - a) Fire Commission
 - i. Michael Finneran (U) 213 Springer Road, term 11/22-11/27
(to replace Beverley G. Vanier (U) whose term expired)
 - ii. Virginia A. Klinga (D) 208 White Oak Road, term 11/22-11/27
(to replace William J. Fitzpatrick, III (D) whose term expired)

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to appoint Michael Finneran and Virginia Klinga to the Fire Commission. First Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Selectpersons thanked Beverley Vanier and William Fitzpatrick for their service and thanked Mr. Finneran and Ms. Klinga for their willingness to serve. Both appointees spoke about their commitment to the Town.

- b) Harbor Management Commission Alternate (*requires RTM approval*)
Dave J. Henry (D) 47 Edgewood Road, term 11/21-11/23
(to fill a vacancy created by Elizabeth M. Tritschler -R)

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to appoint Dave Henry to the Harbor Management Commission as an Alternate. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Selectpersons thanked Elizabeth Tritschler for her service and thanked Mr. Henry for his willingness to serve. Mr. Henry spoke about his history in the Town and how he is looking forward to being part of the Harbor Management Commission.

4) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with AKRF to provide on-call transportation engineering services as detailed in Bid #2023-33R for a total fee not to exceed \$48,480.00 [Org: 14501010; Object: 59996; Project 81014].

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to approve Item 4. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion.

Purchasing Director Gerald Foley presented this item and discussed background of the bid. He said there were six submissions - three of which were shortlisted and AKRF was recommended for the award. Town Attorney James Baldwin said he has some minor changes to the agreement, but advised the Board to approve the item. There was a discussion about the project. Engineering Manager Bill Hurley said this will straighten traffic patterns and timing of traffic lights.

There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

5) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Tucker Mechanical, Inc to provide repairs of the primary digester tank at the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) as detailed in Bid #2023-85 for a total fee not to exceed \$1,430,753.00 with additional authority to execute change orders to said contract in an amount not to exceed \$143,000.00; for a combined grand total amount not to exceed \$1,573,753.00. [Account #13011110-59500 – Operating Fund - Authorized Appropriation from WPCA surplus].

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to approve Item 5. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion.

First Selectwoman Kupchick said WPCA is ready to start moving ahead with the repair of the digester. Mr. Foley said the digester has been cleaned and a consultant inspected the inside of the tank to see what is needed to be done to fix the digester in a complete and appropriate way. He said the repair costs are much less than originally estimated.

There was no public comment.

The motion carried unanimously.

6) **ENGINEERING MANAGER (*requires BOF and RTM approval*)**

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Engineering Manager:

“RESOLVED, that First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, be, and hereby is, authorized to accept, on behalf of the Town of Fairfield, a 2022 Connecticut STEAP Grant in the amount of \$500,000 for sidewalk rehabilitation and extension; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, is hereby authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain said 2022 STEAP Grant with the State of Connecticut.”

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to approve Item 6. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion.

Engineering Manager Bill Hurley introduced Engineer Raymond Smith. Mr. Hurley said this item is to approve using STEAP grant funds to fix and extend sidewalks and connect them to the downtown area in the Town. He said the residents in the Round Hill Road and Reef Road areas have been waiting for this project. Mr. Hurley said due to the time sensitive nature of this grant, it is being presented for approval and then he will go back to the boards for approval of the 20% matching funds. He said the Town will hire a contractor to do the work.

The motion carried unanimously.

7) **ENGINEERING MANAGER (*requires BOF and RTM approval*)**

To hear, consider and act upon the following resolution as recommended by the Engineering Manager:

“RESOLVED, that First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, be, and hereby is, authorized to accept, on behalf of the Town of Fairfield, a Connecticut Communities Challenge Grant (Round2) in the amount of \$3,000,000 for replacement of a 2,800-foot section of the East Trunk Sewer Line; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, is hereby authorized to enter into and execute any and all agreements, contracts and documents necessary to obtain said Connecticut Communities Challenge Grant with the State of Connecticut

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to approve Item 7. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion.

Engineering Manager Bill Hurley gave background information on this project. He said the current sewer line will not accommodate the developing area and needs to be replaced. He said it will also increase capacity for future development. Mr. Hurley said the project will take approximately 18 months. He said alternatives were investigated, but this is more practical. He said it should have a 75-year service life. Mr. Hurley said he will have to go back to the boards for additional funding, but this is to approve the \$3,000,000 grant. There was a discussion about the project.

The motion carried unanimously.

8) FIRST SELECTWOMAN

To hear, consider and approve dates for Calendar Year 2023 for Board of Selectmen meetings at 4:00 pm via Webex and In-Person in the First Floor Conference Room in Independence Hall, 725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT:

January 30	July 10 & 17
February 6 & 13	August 7 & 21
March 6 & 27	September 11 & 18
April 3 & 17	October 2 & 16
May 1 & 15	November 13 & 20
June 5 & 19	December 4 & 18

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to approve Item 8. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion.

First Selectwoman Kupchick said the budget meeting dates are not included as they will be approved at the next meeting. The Board agreed that keeping the meetings hybrid is very helpful.

The motion carried unanimously.

9) TOWN ATTORNEY

a) Executive Session – Pending Litigation – Richard Felner vs. Town of Fairfield with Attorney Rick Aiken and Town Attorney James Baldwin

b) Executive Session – Pending Litigation – Kathleen Casertano vs. Town of Fairfield with Attorney Rick Aiken and Town Attorney James Baldwin

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to go into Executive Session at 4:55 pm. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Selectman Flynn made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 5:14 pm. Selectwoman Lefkowitz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to proceed with the settlement agreements at the recommendation of counsel. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

10) Adjourn

Selectwoman Lefkowitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm. Selectman Flynn seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary