

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Thursday, March 9, 2023, 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: [BOS Special Meeting 3.9.23.](#)

**FINAL MINUTES**

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Schools Superintendent Mike Testani, Executive Director of Operations for Fairfield Public Schools (FPS) Angelus Papageorge, Director of Construction and Energy Management for FPS Sal Morabito, Engineering Manager Bill Hurley, Purchasing Director Adam Tulin, Community and Economic Development Director Mark Barnhart, Police Chief Robert Kalamaras, Bird Rides Fleet Manager Nick Morabile, Parks and Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese, CFO Jared Schmitt

1) **CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectwoman Kupchick called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Selectwoman Kupchick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Silktown Roofing, Inc. to provide all labor, equipment and all else necessary to replace the roof at the Riverfield Elementary School as detailed in Bid #2023-90 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,208,000.00 with additional authority to execute change orders to said contract in an amount not to exceed \$120,800.00, for a combined grand total not to exceed \$1,328,800.00. Funding for this contract is available in Account #26108010-57005-RIVER.

Selectman Flynn made a motion to approve Item 3. Selectwoman Lefkowitz seconded the motion.

Fairfield Schools Director of Construction and Energy Management Sal Morabito said Riverfield Elementary School had a roof restoration 10 years ago and it is at the end of its life span. He said repairs have been done, but now the roof needs to be replaced. He said Silktown won the contract and it does excellent work and stays on schedule. Mr. Morabito said Silktown was also the low bid for the Sherman Elementary School roof replacement which is to be approved next in this meeting. He said this is the last step to getting the projects started. Mr. Morabito said the Town Attorney has approved the contracts. He said the Special Projects Standing Building Committee has approved Silktown for both projects and the architects, Silver Petrucelli, are preparing the ADA contract.

The motion carried unanimously.

4) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Silkdown Roofing, Inc. to provide all labor, equipment and all else necessary to replace the roof at the Roger Sherman Elementary School as detailed in Bid #2023-114 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,719,000.00 with additional authority to execute change orders to said contract in an amount not to exceed \$171,900.00, for a combined grand total not to exceed \$1,890,900.00. Funding for this contract is available in Account #26108010-57005-SHERM.

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

5) **PURCHASING AUTHORITY**

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Star Construction Corporation provide all labor, materials, equipment, and all else necessary to perform ADA Ramp and Sidewalk Reconfigurations as detailed in Bid #2023-50 in an amount not to exceed \$387,048.00 with additional authority to execute change orders to said contract in an amount not to exceed \$38,705.00 for a combined grand total amount not to exceed \$425,753.00.

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

Engineering Manager Bill Hurley said the bids came in higher than budgeted, but the Town was able to get a STEAP (Small Town Economic Assistance Program) grant for \$126,000. He said other funding is coming from CDGB (Community Development Grant Block), DPW and the Town Downtown Fund. Mr. Hurley said pre-COVID estimates were \$150,000 - \$200,000, but when put out to bid, the Town received five bids that were considerably higher. There was a discussion about the increase in cost.

The motion carried 2-1-0 (Flynn opposed).

6) **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

To hear, consider and reauthorize the pilot operating agreement between the Town of Fairfield and Bird Rides, Inc. to operate a stand-up electric scooter sharing system within the Town of Fairfield at no cost to the Town of Fairfield for additional one year starting April 21, 2023.

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

Community and Economic Development Director Mark Barnhart talked about the Bird Rides pilot program that was introduced last summer to Fairfield residents. He said the program ran from May 22, 2022 through December 22, 2022. He said there were 19,000 rides, 4300 riders and 31,000 miles during that period. Mr. Barnhart said there was generally positive feedback in Town, but there were also complaints.

He said Bird Ride was able to minimize the speed of the scooters and secure the ages of the riders. He said that this year, the company is hoping to have facial recognition for registered riders.

First Selectman Kupchick said when she had received email complaints and she contacted Bird Rides Fleet Manager Nick Morabile and he was responsive. Police Chief Kalamaras said there were a few minor accidents, but the Police were able to track down someone who left the scene by the technology from the process of the registration to use the scooter. Selectman Flynn said he was concerned about safety, but Chief Kalamaras said the scooters are no less safe than bikes or cars and many people in Town own and operate their own scooters. There was a discussion with Mr. Morabile regarding the new facial recognition and how these scooters are a benefit to the Town especially with the Fairfield University students.

The motion carried unanimously.

7) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Hinding Tennis, LLC to install new Pickleball courts at the Tunxis Hill Park as detailed in Bid #2023-55 for a total fee not to exceed \$187,765.00. Account #22809010-57000-024T9 – Tunxis Hill Pickleball Courts.

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

Parks & Recreation Director Anthony Calabrese said this project is Phase one of a larger project. He said this will replace the four courts that are currently not in full use.

The motion carried unanimously.

8) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Classic Turf Company, LLC to install new tennis courts at the Timothy Dwight Elementary School as detailed in Bid #2023-55 for a total fee not to exceed \$553,950.00. Account #22809010-57000-023T8 – Post Tension Tennis Dwight *and* Account #010-7080-53200 – Parks – Fees and Professional Services.

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

Mr. Calabrese and Purchasing Director Adam Tulin said this went through the normal bid process and came in slightly higher than budgeted. They said \$3,950 will be taken from Fees and Professional Services in the Parks budget.

The motion carried unanimously.

9) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Classic Turf Company, LLC to install new tennis courts at the Fairfield Woods Middle School as detailed in Bid #2023-55 for a total fee not to exceed \$522,000. Account #22809010-57000-024T8 – Post-Tension Tennis Courts – Fairfield Woods.

Selectman Flynn made a motion to approve Item 9. Selectwoman Lefkowitz seconded the motion.

Mr. Calabrese said Classic Turf was awarded this as well. He said this is exactly on budget and there is a 20-year guarantee on the life of the court with the post tension construction.

The motion carried unanimously.

10) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider and authorize the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed lease with Fairfield Indoor Tennis, Inc. to provide all labor, materials, equipment and all else necessary for the operation of a summer tennis program at the South Pine Creek Park, 210 Old Damn Road, Fairfield, CT. This is a one year lease with two (2) optional one (1) year extensions for a total term not to exceed three (3) summer lease periods; \$33,480.00 for the 2023 summer lease period, with subsequent summer lease periods under the agreement to be adjusted annually based on the US Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index.

Selectman Flynn made a motion to approve Item 10. Selectwoman Lefkowitz seconded the motion.

Mr. Calabrese said there is a 20-year lease in place for September – May and Fairfield Indoor Tennis used to clear it out in May. He said the Town hired seasonal staff for tennis in the summer. He said there was less income when staff ran the summer program.

The motion carried unanimously.

11) CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER (*requires RTM approval*)

To hear, consider and act upon amendments to the following cell tower lease:  
DISH WIRELESS L.L.C. – 100 Reef Road - Cell Tower Lease

Selectman Flynn made a motion to approve Item 11. First Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

CFO Jared Schmitt said DISH moved to a tower on Commerce Drive and now would like to move to the cell tower on Reef Road. He said DISH will pay for upgrades and repairs.

The motion carried unanimously.

12) TAX COLLECTOR

To consider and act upon tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$48,534.72

Selectman Flynn made a motion to approve Item 12. First Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

13) Adjourn

Selectman Flynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. First Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary