

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 4:00 pm
Via Zoom & 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 Regular Meeting 2/21/2024](#).

FINAL MINUTES

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Police Chief Eddie Weihe, Jim Accomando, Purchasing Director Adam Tulin, Engineering Project Manager Eli Ghazal, WPCF Superintendent John Bodie, Fire Chief Denis McCarthy, Community & Economic Development Director Mark Barnhart, FairTV, members of the public

1) CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

First Selectman Bill Gerber called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and the roll was called.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Jim Accomando led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) FIRST SELECTMAN

To hear updates from the First Selectman

First Selectman Gerber said he will be releasing his budget tomorrow.

4) POLICE CHIEF

- a. To hear, consider, and act on authorizing an Annual Software Maintenance agreement between Nexgen and the Town of Fairfield Police Department for Law Enforcement Administrative Software CAD/RMS services for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. This approval includes the authorization to enter into renewals on similar terms and conditions.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 4a. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Deputy Chief Eddie Weihe requested this be approved and explained there is a 3% discount given. There was a discussion about tracking data with this system. The cost is \$20,701.76.

The motion carried unanimously.

- b. To hear, consider, and act on authorizing an Annual Software Maintenance agreement between IDEMIA and the Town of Fairfield Police Department for Law Enforcement Administrative Software for the period of July 26, 2024 through July 25, 2025. This approval includes the authorization to enter into renewals on similar terms and conditions.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 4b. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Deputy Chief Weihe said this software is for ID and criminal status. The cost is \$5,334.

The motion carried unanimously.

- c. To hear, consider, and act on authorizing an Annual Software Maintenance agreement between Bosch Crash Data Group and the Town of Fairfield Police Department for Law Enforcement Administrative Software for the period August 22, 2024 through August 22, 2025. This approval includes the authorization to enter into renewals on similar terms and conditions.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 4c. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Deputy Chief Weihe said this software is used for crash reconstruction. It can retrieve the black boxes in most vehicles. This renewal is \$1,500.

The motion carried unanimously.

5) APPOINTMENT

To hear, consider and act upon the following appointment:

Historic District Commission Alternate (*requires RTM approval*)

James Accomando (U) 220 Jeniford Road, term 11/19-11/24

(to replace Alyssa G. Stack (U) who resigned)

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve the appointment of James Accomando to the Historic District Commission. First Selectman Gerber seconded the motion.

Mr. Accomando spoke briefly.

The motion carried unanimously.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to add an item to the agenda. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

The following item was added:

PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Terry Contracting and Materials, Inc., to provide all materials, labor, and equipment necessary for the Turney Creek culvert replacement, including the base bid and Alternate Number 3 as detailed in Bid #2024-44 for a total contract value of \$5,666,928.00, with further authorization to execute Contract Change Orders up to 10% of the contract value. Funding for this contract is available in account 26305070-57160 Turney Creek/Riverside Drive Tidegate Expenses.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve this item. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Purchasing Director Adam Tulin and Engineering Project Manager Eli Ghazal presented this item. The bid is 2024-44. There were three bids submitted in January. There were scope reviews and it was awarded to Terry Contracting with alternative #3. The detour plan is being prepared as this will take 14-16 months to complete. Letters will go out to the area residents.

The motion carried unanimously.

6) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed contract with Wright-Pierce, to provide all engineering services necessary for design, bidding, and construction administration for Phase 5 Sewer and Manhole Rehabilitation Project for the Water Pollution Control Facility as detailed in the Wright-Pierce proposal dated January 22, 2024, for an amount not to exceed \$262,600.00. Funding for this contract is available in Account # 13013010-54360, Inflow & Infiltration Correctional Improvements. Pending Town Attorney's final review.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 6. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Town Attorney Phil Pires said he has the contract, but didn't have time to fully vet it for this meeting. Mr. Tulin is looking for approval pending the Town Attorney Pires' approval of the contract. Interim DPW Director John Marsilio said the WPCA did a study of the sewers in town. There is an incredible amount of external water putting a burden on the system. The issues need to be addressed. There is a contract pertaining to those issues in Phase 5. There was a discussion about manholes and water that gets into the system.

The motion carried unanimously.

7) FIRE CHIEF

To hear, consider, and act on a Services Agreement between PoliceApp.com, d/b/a FireFighterApp.com and the Town of Fairfield Fire Department to recruit and register applicants for the screening test provided by another provider (Fire Police Selection Inc). This approval includes the authorization to enter into renewals on similar terms and conditions.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 7. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion.

Fire Chief Denis McCarthy said this will make the restructure, recruitment and assessment process better. There is a consortium with the state for a statewide test. The Fire Department has recently hired three female firefighters.

The motion carried unanimously.

8) COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

To hear an update on the Bird-E Scooter Shared Mobility Program Pilot

Community and Economic Development Director Mark Barnhart gave the update on the Bird-E Scooter program. This was a pilot program and in December 2023, Bird filed for Bankruptcy Chapter 11. They will still operate in the U.S. The scooters are trackable, and the rides have increased. Mr. Barnhart is getting positive feedback from residents. There are negatives as well, but the company has fixed many of the complaints. If the Town wants to continue the program, there should be an ordinance and/or a regulatory scheme. There was a discussion about e-bikes. If the town chooses to cancel the program, Bird will need to be notified by March 20, 2024.

9) PENFIELD PAVILION

To Hear an Update on Penfield Pavilion

Mr. Ghazal said there was a meeting with all the subcontractors to understand constraints and needs. Equipment is being mobilized now. The deck and railings will be down by the end of the

month and there will be a full-time Bizmark Superintendent. The hot spots were accelerated, and the dirt was put into containers while waiting for approval from the disposal facility.

10) REFUNDS - TAX COLLECTOR

To consider and act upon tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$7,702.66

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve item 10. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

11) Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary