

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Wednesday, April 10, 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 4/10/24](#).

Backup documents for this meeting can be found here: [BOS Regular Meeting Backup Packet](#).

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Bill Gerber, Selectman Christine Vitale, Selectwoman Brenda Kupchick

OTHERS PRESENT: WPCF Superintendent John Bodie, Purchasing Director Adam Tulin, Senior Civil Engineer Megha Jain, 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
Megha Jain led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3) FIRST SELECTMAN - To hear updates from the First Selectman
 - Great progress with the WPCA investments. The BOS approved major projects with estimated costs of \$30 million. Still has to go to the BOF and RTM, but if this passes, the next step is to get in depth designs to get a better cost estimate.
 - The Town had \$100 million in just one bank and it was uninsured. A significant amount was moved to treasury funds. There will be cash flow projections for expenses.
 - The BOF cut \$100,000 from the First Selectman's budget for the Charter Revision. First Selectman Gerber will appeal this to the RTM to put back into the budget.
- 4) RESIGNATIONS (*for information only*)
 - a) Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
David E. Dembowski (R) 300 Sturges Road, term 11/20-11/24
(resigned March 21, 2024)
 - b) Parks and Recreation Commission
Robert M. Jameson, IV (R) 501 Wilson Street, term 11/20-11/25
(resigned March 20, 2024)

These items were for information purposes only. The Selectpersons thanked Mr. Dembowski and Mr. Jameson for their service to the Town.

5) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed master agreement with Yankee Electric, of Fairfield, CT to provide labor, materials, equipment and all else necessary to perform inspection and on-call maintenance electrical services in municipal buildings within the Town of Fairfield, per Town Bid 2024-61 and the Yankee Electric bid submission dated April 3, 2024.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve Item 5. First Selectman Gerber seconded the motion.

Purchasing Director Adam Tulin said this is not for one specific project, but this will be the first of several master agreements for contractors with codified labor rates. Purchasing will be using other services as well and it can only be used for contracts under \$100,000.

The motion carried unanimously.

6) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed agreement with Tighe & Bond, Inc., of Shelton, CT for design and traffic engineering services related to State Project No. L050-0004 Pedestrian Improvements along Kings Highway and Tunxis Hill Road, per Town RFP 2024-49 and Tighe & Bond fee proposal dated March 13, 2024. The base contract covers Tasks 1 through 5 for a proposed lump sum fee of \$241,500. Funding for this project is available in account 22505030-57049 – Kings Highway Pedestrian LOTCIP Grant.

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

Mr. Tulin explained that this is a process through the state. The bid was sent to a state list of engineering firms. There was one response out of the 64 firms contacted and it was Tighe & Bond. The department reached out to five more, but they weren't interested in responding so Tighe & Bond was selected. This is an extension of Phases 1 & 2 which were completed by Tighe & Bond. There is \$300,000 from non-recurring toward the design phase only. This is within the budget and there will be a public meeting once the design is complete.

The motion carried unanimously.

7) PURCHASING AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the Purchasing Authority to enter into the proposed agreement with Palmieri Farm, LLC., of Easton, CT to provide labor, materials, equipment and all else necessary to perform four culvert repair projects at Hill Side North of Verna Hill, Merwins Lane, Greenfield Hill Road and Governor's Lane, per Town Bid 2024-54 and Palmieri bid proposal dated March 6, 2024, for a total contract amount of \$77,020.00 with additional authority to enter into approved change orders up to 10% of the original contract value. Funding for this project is available in account: 10005030-57150-80080 - Storm Ida Repairs.

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

Mr. Tulin said there were three responses. A scope review was performed and everyone felt comfortable with Palmieri Farms, the low bidder. The award was made and this is funded through FEMA. The project is under \$100,000 and will not require prevailing wages.

The motion carried unanimously.

8) WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing a Service Agreement between the WPCF and Trojan Technologies Group, LLC.

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

WPCF Superintendent John Bodie said this is a service contract to cover the disinfected system that was installed in 2000 and is no longer supported and needs an upgrade. The cost is \$8,046 per year. This is critical and on the high priority list.

The motion carried unanimously.

9) WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (*requires BOF and RTM approval*)

To hear, consider, and act on appropriating funding of up to \$106,000 from the WPCA fund balance for the purchase of 15 Smart Cover flow monitoring devices.

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

Mr. Bodie explained that this is something that the Town can purchase and attach to manholes to monitor and measure rainfall. The collected data will help the WPCF make decisions.

The motion carried unanimously.

10) FIRE CHIEF

To hear, consider, and act on authorizing the First Selectman to enter into an Equipment Rental Agreement between the Town of Fairfield and Sea Support, Inc. for the lease of a 2005 SAFE Boats International 25-Foot Defendant and a 2015 EZ Loader Trailer. Funding for this agreement is available in account 36001330-58380 – Risk Fund.

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

The lease agreement was reviewed by the Town Attorney. This boat will not be available for service this year. The boat will be back for next year. There were many factors leading up to the

boat taking on water and it began to sink. The Fire Department is waiting for the final estimate for repair.

The motion carried unanimously.

11) REFUNDS - TAX COLLECTOR

To consider and act upon tax refunds as recommended by the Tax Collector in the amount of \$12,291.75

Selectman Vitale made a motion to approve Item 11. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

First Selectman Bill Gerber recessed the meeting at 4:48 pm. First Selectman Bill Gerber resumed the meeting at 5:04 pm

12) TOWN ATTORNEY

Executive Session with Town Attorney Philip Pires to discuss pending litigation: Garden Homes Management Corporation et al. v. Fairfield Town Plan and Zoning Commission.

Selectman Vitale made a motion to go into Executive Session at 5:04 pm. Selectwoman Kupchick seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Selectwoman Kupchick made a motion to come out of Executive Session at 5:29 pm. Selectman Vitale seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

13) Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary