

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
December 14, 2015**

A meeting of the Town of Fairfield was held on Monday, December 14, 2015 at 8 PM at the Education Center, 501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield.

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 PM by Moderator Pamela Iacono.

PRESENT: 38 ABSENT: 2 VACANCY: 0

PRESENT: P. Ambrose, Bateson, Varian, Gerber, Lynch, Newman, Perham, Dean, Durrell, Harrison, Orriss, Gottlieb, Hochberg, Pires, Zezima, Garskof, Smey, Way, Wolk, Gale, Neuberger, Solomon, McCarthy, McDermott, Vergara, Wackerman, Ference, Iacono, Messina, Tallman, Farnen, Georgiadis, Lee, Perugini, Cargill, Fattibene, Herley, Sundman

ABSENT: McCullough, M. Ambrose

ITEM NO. 1 ON CALL: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE & MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moderator Iacono led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ITEM NO. 2 ON CALL: REAPPOINTMENT OF BRIAN P. VAHEY (R) TO THE EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT BOARD, TERM NOV. 2015-2020

Julie Gottlieb, District 4, moved this item as distributed with the Call, duly seconded.

Mr. Vahey addressed the Body and noted that he has served on the Employees Retirement since 2008. There have been procedural changes made during his tenure, including a new investment policy statement and new portfolio managers. The focus of the board is on a targeted return. Mr. Vahey noted that there are great people on the board working for the good of the Town.

Heather Dean, District 4, noted that in the last session of the RTM, Mr. Vahey had given a report in Committee. She asked if Mr. Vahey would be able to give this report to the Body to which Moderator Iacono noted that this was a procedural item and not part of this item.

Tom McCarthy, District 7, applauded the work of the Board and was in support of Mr. Vahey's reappointment.

VOTE: Mr. Vahey's reappointment to the Employees Retirement Board was approved by unanimous voice vote. (P. Ambrose was not present to vote).

ITEM NO. 3 ON CALL: APPOINTMENT OF SCOTT H. POLLACK (U) TO THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD TERM NOV. 2011-2016 (TO FILL THE VACANCY CREATED BY THE RESIGNATION OF ROBERT MALARKEY (D))

Thomas McCarthy, District 7 moved this item as distributed with the Call, duly seconded.

VOTE: Mr. Pollack's appointment to the Employees Retirement Board was approved by unanimous voice vote. (P. Ambrose was not present to vote.)

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ITEM NO. 4 ON CALL:

TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE: "RESOLVED THAT THE BOND RESOLUTION ENTITLED 'A RESOLUTION AMENDING AND RESTATING A RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE TOWN MEETING ON FEBRUARY 3, 2015 ENTITLED 'A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING \$6,028,709 FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF THE REPAIR AND RESTORATION OF PENFIELD PAVILION AND AUTHORIZING THE USE OF \$1,750,000 OF INSURANCE PROCEEDS TO FUND SUCH APPROPRIATION AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FUND SUCH APPROPRIATION NOT FUNDED BY INSURANCE PROCEEDS', TO INCREASE THE APPROPRIATION TO \$7,446,999 AND BOND AUTHORIZATION TO \$5,696,999', BE AND HEREBY IS APPROVED."

Tom McCarthy, District 10, moved this item as distributed with the Call, duly seconded.

MOTION: Ed Bateson, District 1 moved a Sense of the Body Resolution relating to the February 2013 bond resolution for Sandy expenses previously approved by the RTM as follows: "Be it the Sense of this Body that the Town do not utilize any of those funds for the Penfield project" duly seconded.

Mr. Bateson stated that after Hurricane Sandy the RTM passed a \$5 million bond issue with \$1 million set aside for the repair and restoration of Penfield Pavilion. He wanted to ensure that any monies left from that original \$1 million not be used to supplement the \$7 million on tonight's agenda.

Josh Garskof, District 5, asked if the First Selectman could explain the monies spent in the original bond issue.

First Selectman Tetreau stated that the passage of the original bond issue in January 2013 happened less than 60 days after Hurricane Sandy. The Town used \$1 million initially for an engineering study and when the repairs to Penfield were approved in 2014 the Town stopped using the original monies authorized by the RTM. Mr. Tetreau said that the Town was currently approaching this project in the manner that the proposed sense of the body resolution intends.

AMENDMENT: Mr. Garskof moved to amend the resolution to "We will spend no additional funds from the initial account."

Mr. Bateson replied that he thought the balance of the 2013 appropriation would be added to these new monies so that there would be more than \$7 million in the account for the repair of Penfield, and that he wanted to be sure the taxpayers were aware of how much money was actually being budgeted.

Bob Mayer, CFO stated that the Town had spent \$366,000 from the \$5 million dollar bond issue that Mr. Bateson had referenced. The Town stopped using the money from this bond issue when the \$6.028 million dollar bond resolution was approved, and the current bond issue being presented does not include any funds from the original resolution.

Michael Herley, District 10 stated that the bond resolution for \$7,446,999 included \$1 million of insurance money. He further stated that the total grants and FEMA funds came to \$1.3 or \$1.7 million. Mr. Herley said that in January 2013, the RTM had approved a bond resolution which included \$1 million for the repair of Penfield Pavilion of which, \$366,882 had been spent on repairs, leaving encumbered funds of \$411,947.71. Mr. Herley asked Mr. Mayer if that \$411,947.71 was included in the total of monies to be spent on the repair of the Penfield Pavilion.

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Mr. Mayer concurred with Mr. Herley but the \$411,947 was not included in the monies in this bond resolution. Mr. Mayer stated that the total bond issue for the repair to the Penfield Pavilion would be \$7,446,999. The Building Committees numbers did include some part of the \$366,882 which had been spent on initial repairs, however these did not include work done by Allband (\$102,000), National Construction (\$20,000), Roman Construction (\$15,000), Martin Plumbing or Master Electric to secure the building immediately following Sandy.

Mr. Herley asked if Mr. Mayer could total the amount of money needed to repair Penfield to which Mr. Mayer responded \$7,600,000.

WITHDRAWAL: Tom McCarthy withdrew the motion to approve this item as distributed with the call, duly seconded.

MOTION: In response to the financial information presented, Mr. Bateson amended the Sense of the Body relating to the February 2013 Bond Resolution for Sandy Expenses “Be it the Sense of This Body that the Town does not utilize any of those additional dollars from this previously approved bond resolution,” duly seconded.

VOTE: The Sense of the Body passed with 26 in favor, 11 opposed (Gerber, Lynch, Newman, Perham, Dean, Gottlieb, Hochberg, Pires, Zezima, McDermott, Wackerman) and 1 abstention (Gale).

MOTION: Michael Herley, District 10, moved Item #4 as distributed with the Call, duly seconded.

Tom McCarthy, District 7, noted that this is very complicated and complex issue. He stated his concern that the numbers keep evolving and should be consistent when presented to the three bodies for approval.

Ian Bass, Lally Blvd. noted that the numbers were evolving throughout the presentations and cautioned against relying on the FEMA reimbursement.

VOTE: The bond resolution for the repair and restoration of Penfield Pavilion was approved with 34 in favor and 4 opposed (Bateson, Farnen, Lynch, Perugini).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth P. Browne, CMC, MCTC
Town Clerk

Recorded by: Frances Daly