

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD
June 27, 2022

[RTM 6-27-2022 Regular Meeting - YouTube](#)

A meeting of the Town of Fairfield was held on Monday, June 27, 2022 at 8 PM via Webex/phone.

The meeting was called to order at 8 PM by Moderator Mark McDermott.

PRESENT: 34 ABSENT: 6 VACANCY: 0

PRESENT: Bateson, Furey, Longo, Gerber, McCormack, Perham, Durrell, Galdenzi, Lambert, Pistilli, Karson, Kelly, Spolyar, Zezima, Siebert, Wolk, Berecz, Gale, Graceffa, Havey, Kuhn, McDermott, Vergara, Ference, Iacono, Messina, Meyers, Brown, Horton, Scinto, Astarita, Britton, Petise, S. Tallman

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

Moderator McDermott led the Body in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pamela Iacono announced the appointment of Jim Meyers to fill the vacancy created by Peter Tallman's resignation in District 8.

Consent Calendar: The Moderator announced that items 6 7, 8, 11 & 14 were eligible for the Consent Calendar.

VOTE: The Consent Calendar was unanimously approved.

ITEM NO. 2 ON CALL: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2022 & MAY 23, 2022

Cindy Perham, District 2 moved this item as distributed with the Call, duly seconded.

VOTE: The minutes of the May 10 & May 23, 2022 meetings were approved unanimously.

**ITEM NO. 3 ON CALL: ASSESSOR'S REPORT ON TAX RELIEF FOR THE ELDERLY AND
DISABLED HOMEOWNERS**

This report was heard in Committee.

**ITEM NO. 4 ON CALL: REPORT ON THE SEARCH FOR A NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF
SCHOOLS**

This report was heard in Committee.

**ITEM NO. 5 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN: "RESOLVED,
THAT THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED UNDER THE NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSISTANCE ACT (NAA) PROGRAM ARE HEREBY APPROVED, AND
THAT THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT IS HEREBY DESIGNATED AS THE MUNICIPAL LIAISON
OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD FOR THIS PROGRAM."**

Joe Siebert, District 5 moved this item as distributed with the call, duly seconded.

Hannah Gale, District 6 thanked Mark Barnhart for the additional information he had provided and asked

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the number of not-for-profits in town and if there is a support for such organizations. Mr. Barnhart indicated he did not know the number or if there is such a resource, but they do try to contact as many as possible to participate in this program.

Pamela Iacono, District 8 suggested bringing this program to the Economic Development Commission as an agenda item so perhaps they can outreach and have something on the Town website to register their not for profit so they will be part of a distribution list. Mr. Barnhart welcomed the suggestion.

VOTE: The NAA program resolution was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM NO. 6 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN: "RESOLVED, THAT THE PROGRAM YEAR 48 (OCTOBER 1, 2022 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2023) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) IS HEREBY APPROVED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$592,000, WHICH INCLUDES ENTITLEMENT GRANT FUNDS OF \$525,640 AND PROGRAM INCOME OF \$66360, AND
FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT BRENDA L. KUPCHICK, FIRST SELECTWOMAN OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, BE, AND HEREBY IS, AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS THAT FACILITATE THE TOWN'S PARTICIPATION IN SAID CDBG PROGRAM."

This item was on the Consent Calendar.

ITEM NO. 7 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 APPROPRIATING \$3,088,000 FOR THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSTRUCTION OF BERM AND PUMPING STATION AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION" TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF THE APPROPRIATION TO \$10,007,765 AND TO ACCEPT A FURTHER STATE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000,' BE, AND HEREBY IS, APPROVED."

This item was on the Consent Calendar.

ITEM NO. 8 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE: "WHEREAS, FEDERAL MONIES ARE AVAILABLE UNDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT - DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM, ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 93-383, AS AMENDED; AND WHEREAS, PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 127C, AND PART VI OF CHAPTER 130 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, THE COMMISSIONER OF HOUSING IS AUTHORIZED TO DISBURSE SUCH FEDERAL MONIES TO LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES; AND WHEREAS, IT IS DESIRABLE AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD ACCEPT FROM

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THE STATE \$400,000, ONE HUNDRED PERCENT (100%) OF SAID FUNDS TO BE REIMBURSED BY THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING, IN ORDER TO UNDERTAKE A COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT-DISASTER RECOVERY - TRANCHE 2 PROJECT, FAIRFIELD WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT HARDENING, AND TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT THEREFORE, SHOULD ONE BE OFFERED; AND WHEREAS, THE FUNDING IS COGNIZANT OF THE CONDITIONS AND PREREQUISITES FOR STATE ASSISTANCE IMPOSED BY PART VI OF CHAPTER 130 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT FIRST SELECTWOMAN BRENDA L. KUPCHICK BE, AND HEREBY IS, AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT IN THE NAME OF AND ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$400,000 FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING; AND FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRST SELECTWOMAN IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED, ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, TO SIGN AND EXECUTE ANY AND ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS TO SECURE SAID GRANT AS WELL AS PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO EXECUTE ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO EXECUTE AN ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IF SUCH AN AGREEMENT IS OFFERED AND TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, RESCISSIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO, AND TO ACT AS THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD.”

This item was on the Consent Calendar.

ITEM NO. 9 ON CALL:

TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE: “RESOLVED, THAT THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH REQUESTS AN INCREASE IN THE ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR STATE GRANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$252,155.11 TO COVER THE COST OF FAIRFIELD'S CONTINUED EFFORTS TO FURTHER FAIRFIELD HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19 AND OTHER EMERGING INFECTIONS; AND FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRST SELECTWOMAN IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE, EXECUTE, AND APPROVE ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, ANY AND ALL CONTRACTS OR AMENDMENTS THEREOF WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (DPH) TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED IN THE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY ENHANCING DETECTION COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH AN ANTICIPATED CONTRACT PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2022 - FEBRUARY 29, 2024. THESE COSTS ARE 100% REIMBURSABLE.”

Margaret Horton, District 9 moved this item as distributed with the call, duly seconded.

Hannah Gale thanked Mr. Cleary for the grant explanation he had emailed and asked about the additional testing and case evaluation for Covid-19.

Health Director Sandy Cleary said in their grant application there were 9 areas they would cover. They did not stipulate that they would promote asymptomatic testing. His understanding is the State of CT applies for and receives funding from the CDC which is distributed to local health departments. Under the State

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contract the language is case investigation not contact tracing.

Sharon Pistilli, District 3 asked how this will help with the changing Covid-19 landscape. Mr. Cleary said this is public health in action; the intent is to pay for the additional work that is going on as the department transitions back to its “normal” staff work.

VOTE: The resolution for the state health grant for further responses to Covid-19 and other emerging infections was approved with 33 in favor 0 opposed and 1 abstention (Gale).

ITEM NO. 10 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE:“RESOLVED, THAT THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH REQUESTS AN INCREASE IN THE ESTIMATED REVENUE FOR FEDERAL GRANTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$50,000 TO COVER THE COST OF FAIRFIELD'S CONTINUED EFFORTS TO FURTHER DEVELOP THE FAIRFIELD MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS (FMRC) AND TO CONTINUE TO PROMOTE THE INTEGRATION OF THE MRC UNIT INTO THE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE SYSTEM; AND FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT THE FIRST SELECTWOMAN, IS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE, EXECUTE, AND APPROVE ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFIELD, ANY AND ALL CONTRACTS OR AMENDMENTS THEREOF WITH THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AND CITY HEALTH OFFICIALS (NACCHO) TO CONDUCT ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED IN THE NACCHO-MRC RISE AWARD WITH AN ANTICIPATED CONTRACT PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2022 - DECEMBER 21, 2022. THESE COSTS ARE 100% REIMBURSABLE.”

Pamela Iacono moved to waive the reading of the item duly seconded and carried unanimously.

VOTE: The resolution regarding the \$50,000 increase to cover the FMRC was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM NO. 11 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 AUTHORIZING APPROPRIATION OF FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$15,000,000) TO REFUND CERTAIN OF THE TOWN'S OUTSTANDING BONDS AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REFUNDING BONDS TO FINANCE SUCH APPROPRIATION,’ BE, AND HEREBY IS, APPROVED.

This item was on the Consent Calendar.

ITEM NO. 12 ON CALL: THE MODERATOR HAS REFERRED AN ORDINANCE CREATING AN ARTS COMMISSION, SPONSORED BY JEFF STEELE, DISTRICT 2; SHARON PISTILLI, DISTRICT 3; MARCY SPOLYAR, DISTRICT 4; HANNAH GALE, DISTRICT 6; JILL VERGARA, DISTRICT 7 AND KAREN WACKERMAN, DISTRICT 7 TO THE LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE UNDER RULE 32 OF THE RTM RULES TO REGULATE.

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Moderator McDermott reported this item is under consideration by L&A.

ITEM NO. 13 ON CALL: THE MODERATOR HAS REFERRED AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL TURF CONTAINING RUBBER INFILL, SPONSORED BY CINDY PERHAM, DISTRICT 2; JEFF GALDENZI, DISTRICT 3; SHARON PISTILLI, DISTRICT 3; LAURA KARSON, DISTRICT 4; WILL DIAZ, DISTRICT 5; HANNAH GALE, DISTRICT 6; ANDREW GRACEFFA, DISTRICT 6; MARK MCDERMOTT, DISTRICT 7; JILL VERGARA, DISTRICT 7; CHRISTINE BROWN, DISTRICT 9; AND DRU GEORGIADIS, DISTRICT 9 TO THE LEGISLATION AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE UNDER RULE 32 OF THE RTM RULES TO REGULATE.

Moderator McDermott reported this item is under consideration by L&A.

ITEM NO 14 ON CALL: TO HEAR, CONSIDER AND ACT UPON THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF FINANCE: RESOLVED, THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH A RECOMMENDATION FROM THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY (WPCA), AN APPROPRIATION OF \$300,000 BY MADE FROM THE WPCA FUND BALANCE FOR THE DESIGN TO UPGRADE THE FAIRFIELD BEACH PUMP STATION AND FORCE MAIN.”

This item was on the Consent Calendar.

ITEM NO. 15 ON CALL: REPORT ON THE PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN

This report was heard in Committee.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth P. Browne, MMC, MCTC
Town Clerk