

Town of New Haven Selectboard Meeting

7:00 pm

Town Offices

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Present: Roger Boise, Pam Marsh, Pat Paquette, Kathleen Ready, Treasurer, Barb Torian and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Absent: Keith Hall

Visitors: Angela Dunbar, Cris Messerle, Tim Bouton, Alan Mayer, Dean Gilmore, Gail Smith, Steve Dupoise, Marcia Dupoise, Mark Livingston, Candy Davidson and Sharon Koller

Pam Marsh called the meeting to order. **Under new business** on the agenda is the letter of resignation from Keith Hall, who has decided to resign due to health issues. Kathleen Ready made a motion to accept with regret Keith Hall's letter of resignation, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no

Roger Boise made a motion to appoint Pam Marsh as Chair of the Selectboard, seconded by Pat Paquette. 3 yes / 0 no (Marsh abstained.)

AGENDA RESULTS:

VISITORS BUSINESS:

1. **Angela Dunbar** – Is interested in the vacant position on the Planning Commission. She has attended several P.C. meetings and was approached by P.C. member, Jim Walsh. Pam Kingman said she did not receive a "formal" recommendation from the Planning Commission, but did swap emails with P.C., Chair, Al Karnatz who suggested Angela Dunbar would be a good choice. Pat Paquette made a motion to appoint Angela Dunbar to the Planning Commission for the remainder of the term (ending 2010), seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
2. **New Haven Volunteer Fire Dept. Chief, Alan Mayer along with members Dean Gilmore and Mark Livingston** – Keith Hall had spoken with Mr. Mayer about budget items that the Selectboard would like to discuss, including the **Fire Dept.'s insurance** and working on an **agreement between the Town and Fire Dept.**
One of the Fire Dept.'s main concerns about the **vehicle insurance** is to make sure they have an agreed "replacement value" on all of the vehicles. The current policy has an agreed value on the vehicles. This amount is probably less than actual replacement value, but guarantees an agreed amount in case of a loss. The Selectboard would like to get quotes from other insurance agencies and possibly put the insurance out to bid. The Fire Dept. asked them to get compatible quotes and run them by VFIS (Volunteer Fire Insurance Services), as VFIS can look at all the quotes and make suggestions. Alan Mayer – suggested the **Town Garage and Fire Station have a shared alarm system / carbon monoxide and**

burglar alarm. They don't have any quotes for a system yet, but will provide them to the Selectboard when they are available.

Also discussed:

- Reviewing the relationship between the Fire Dept. and the Town, Both agreed this can be done sometime early 2010.
- Fire Dept. truck replacement schedule – they try to stagger years
- Thermostat in Fire Dept. – Sometimes way too high when no one is in the building. Possibly put a cage over it.
- Helping the road crew with clogged culverts
- Possibly raising amount that goes into truck fund
- Energy Audit for the town garage and fire station
- Installation of a dry hydrant on Plank Road – ready to be installed. Some discussion regarding who will do the work. Mark Livingston will contact Roger Bosie when the installation is to be done.

3. Zoning Administrator, Cris Messerle stated that he will no longer handle any issues for the Development Review Board. He has done extensive research for the DRB, placed calls to VLCT, the town attorney and Regional Planning, but he feels that the DRB tends to ignore the advice. He feels it is no longer an efficient use of his time. The last straw was when he and an attorney for another party were called liars in a public meeting by a DRB member. As a Zoning Administrator he is responsible for issuing permits that come under the by right use. The DRB is responsible for conditional uses. Cris Messerle is willing to appear at meetings, for such things as violations and appeals. Mr. Messerle said the DRB doesn't always follow the criteria they have created making their decisions inconsistent.

He would like th Board to hire someone else to do the clerical aspects, such as warning meetings and notifying adjoining landwoners. Cris Messerle is willing to help out in the interim. DRB Chair, Tim Bouton said he did not feel a member of the DRB should take on this clerical role as it could be conflict of interest. The Selectboard would like to set up a meeting with the DRB and P.C. to discuss the Town Plan, Zoning Regulations and possibly amending bylaws to address issues in the application process that may be causing some of the tension between the ZA and DRB. A meeting between the Selectboard, Development Review Board and Planning Commission has been tentatively set for Saturday, January 9, 2010, at 10 am, in the Town Offices.

4. Gail Smith – She and her husband own two houses on North St. One of which is across the street from the new Town Office building. With recent culvert work on North Street, she has concerns that more water will flow across her property and may create a problem with her aging septic system. She is asking that nothing further be done to this until the spring

so there is ample time to see what happens through the winter. It was agreed to meet with all the neighbors in that section of North Street in the spring before doing any more work in that area.

5. **Sharon Koller** – Town Hall Application to have a speaker on Substance Abuse on March 3, 2010 in the gym, from 6 – 9 pm. This event is free and open to the public. New Haven residents who teach at Mt. jAbe are involved in this event. Pat Paquette made a motion to approve the application and to waive the rental fee, seconded by Kathleen Ready. 4 yes / 0 no

TOWN OFFICE:

1. **Thermostat Key for the Town Hall** – Since the Town Offices have moved, Beeman Elementary School has requested a key to the thermostat in the Town Hall Cafeteria. Roger Boise made a motion to approve of Beeman Elementary School having a key to the thermostat in the Town Hall Cafeteria, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no

TREASURER’S REPORT:

1. Payroll – Pam Marsh made motion to approve payroll, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no
2. Pay Orders – Kathleen Ready made motion to approve the pay orders, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no
3. Barb Torian asked the Board to make a motion that would allow two Selectboard members to sign payroll and payorders for the month of November because so many members will not be available. Pam Marsh made a motion because of being shorthanded in November 2009; no less than two Selectboard members approve and sign for payroll and pay orders, seconded by Roger Boise. 4 yes / 0 no
4. Naylor & Breen final payment – Pam Marsh made a motion to approve the final payment to Naylor & Breen, including the balance due under the contract and the balance due from the Park n Ride grant. Seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Pat Paquette made a motion to approve the minutes from October 6, 2009, seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no

MISC. CORRESPONDENCE:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Kathleen Ready made a motion to move into executive session at 9:10 pm in regards to a personnel issue, seconded by Pat Paquette. 4 yes / 0 no

Kathleen Ready made a motion to adjourn from executive session at 9:30 pm,
seconded by Pam Marsh. 4 yes / 0 no

Adjourn: 9:30 pm
Respectfully submitted:
Pam Kingman

Pam Marsh, Chair

Roger Boise

Pat Paquette

Kathleen Ready