

## MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JULY 18, 2005

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 10 a.m., by First Selectman, Kevin J. Kopetz. Also present were Albert W. Cretella, III and Janet M. McCarty

Mr. Kopetz requested the observance of a moment of silence for the recent passing of Veteran, community leader and advocate, Wallace R. Bassett.

Mr. Cretella moved approval of the minutes of the regular Selectmen's Meeting of June 17, 2005. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz introduced correspondence from Don Sause of 6 Woodside Drive that was received on June 20, 2005. A wheelchair-bound individual, he remains concerned about businesses on Washington Avenue enforcing the ordinance that requires the removal of snow on sidewalks within twenty fours after a winter storm. The First Selectman responded in writing on June 29, 2005, and offered to correspond with the business owners before the winter season.

Gary Amato of 27 Pool Road, corresponded on July 8, 2005, seeking the opportunity to present petitions that he, Michael Mele and others circulated to taxpayers requesting the Board of Selectmen delay revaluation one more year to 2006, effective July of 2007. The group collected 1200 signatures. Mr. Mele addressed the Board and reiterated his frustration with the State Legislature for denying North Haven taxpayers the ability to call for a referendum because of the Town's Selectmen/Town Meeting form of government. He believes the results of a referendum would mandate a further delay, as this is a quality of life and a tax issue.

Mr. Kopetz read a prepared statement and outlined his reasons for proceeding with revaluation in 2005, effective July of 2006. He explained that while the purpose of revaluation is fairness and uniformity, he understands and shares residents' concerns regarding property taxes. He stated that the Town must continue to work with members of the community to increase revenue and reduce expenditures. Revaluation would result in a reduced mill rate, which would ease the tax burden of vehicles and personal property. About \$140,000 has been spent and would not be recovered, and the Town would likely be at the end of the queue with the revaluation company in the event of a further delay. In addition, delaying revaluation one more year would result in a postponement of the tax burden to the same year as the largest mill rate impact associated with the new high school. Mr. Kopetz believes it is best for long-term planning to stay the course. He acknowledged the hard work and effort of those circulating the petitions and those who signed them.

Ms. McCarty agreed with Mr. Mele that if the State law empowered North Haven taxpayers to call for a referendum on the timing of revaluation, it would produce a mandate for a further delay. Therefore, she believes the Board should delay revaluation one more year because of the effort behind the petitions. Mr. Cretella is most concerned about the question of fairness among all taxpayers, between

businesses and residents, as well as among all residents and feels that the State's decision to conduct revaluation more frequently than once every ten years is a positive one. He asserts the importance of a strong and diverse business community to the Town of North Haven and is concerned about the possibility of job losses if revaluation is not addressed.

Mrs. McCarty moved to delay revaluation one more year to 2006, effective July of 2007. Voted: Kopetz-no, Cretella-no, McCarty-yes

Mr. Kopetz moved to call a Special Town Meeting to be held on Monday, August 8, 2005, at 7 p.m., in the auditorium of North Haven High School. Qualified voters will discuss two land swaps. One is the possible trade of real property between CMB Capital Appreciation, LLC and the Town of North Haven, for an age-restricted residential development off Middletown Avenue. In the second matter, Forestland Homes, LLC, proposes a trade of real property with the Town, in order to develop a four-lot sub-division off Winchester Drive. Mr. Kopetz believes voting at a Town Meeting is sufficient for these matters, but understands that Ms. McCarty and others intend to pursue a referendum vote. The Town Meeting will consider a referendum date of August 16, 2005. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes ✓

Mr. Cretella moved this Day Care Food Program resolution that is renewed annually by the Board:

RESOLVED: that the First Selectman, Kevin J. Kopetz, is empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of this Contractor with the Department of Education of the State of Connecticut for a child and adult care food program and to affix the corporate seal. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Cretella moved the following property tax refunds:

Chase Auto Finance Corp., 900 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530, in the amount of \$396.89, Assessor's Correction #31978, and in the amount of \$458.53, Assessor's Corrections #31709 and #31710

Anthony and Dolores Malafrente, 511 Elm Street, Unit 4-4, North Haven, CT 06473, in the amount of \$17.83, Tax Collector Correction #14683

Kenneth Wright, c/o Eric I. Emanuelson, Esq., The Emanuelson Law Firm, PC, 1575 Boston Post Road, Bldg. B, Guilford, CT 06437, in the amount of \$181.99, Assessor's Corrections #31987, #31988 and #32005, and in the amount of \$163.95, Assessor's Corrections #31986 and #32006

VW Credit, Inc., 2333 Waukegan Road, Deerfield, IL 60015, in the amount of \$221.65, Assessor's Correction #31985

Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Cretella moved the following bond releases, which were recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission:

Chef Solution, 1000 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$3,000

Clintonville Road Pumping Station, Lot 3, 432 Clintonville Road, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$15,000

J&J of Connecticut, 380 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$5,000

Leon's Bakery, Inc., 1000 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$8,000

Mauro Associates, 600 Washington Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$25,000

Arpino Plumbing Supply, 300 Sackett Point, North Haven, CT 06473, Total Release in the amount of \$10,000

Shree Gopal, LLC, 88 Quinnipiac Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$20,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

The Wright Stuff, LLC, 280 State Street, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$50,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

North Haven Holdings Limited Partnership, 2 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$460,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

North Haven Holdings Limited Partnership, 2 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$190,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

North Haven Holdings Limited Partnership, 2 Universal Drive, North Haven, CT 06473, Partial Release in the amount of \$250,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000

Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes

Mr. Cretella moved the appointment of Timothy M. Doheny(R), 19 Knight Lane, to the Board of Finance, to fill the unexpired term of Gerald R. Longobardi(R), 8 Lincoln Street, term to expire 12/1/05. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes

The Selectmen agreed to conduct the next meeting of the Board of Selectmen on August 23, 2005, at 11 a.m. in Town Hall.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Cretella moved for adjournment at 11:00 a.m. Voted: Kopetz-yes, Cretella-yes, McCarty-yes