

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

SPECIAL MEETING

October 16, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT: Judy Neville, First Selectman; Johnny Potts, Selectmen.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Giusti

ALSO PRESENT: Pamela Flynn, Executive Assistant; Gary Conrad, Chief Financial Officer; Lew Annunziato, Town Council Chairman; Tiger Mann, Senior Engineer; Bill Oestmann, Highway Superintendent of Administration; Mose Saccary, Highway Superintendent of Operations; John Howe, Parks Superintendent; Ken Campbell, Council Member; Roger Rothballer, P&Z Commission; Jerry Ellis; Richard Stowe; Rachel Kirkpatrick, New Canaan Advertiser; Kristiana Glavin, New Canaan News-Review.

Judy Neville called the meeting to order at 10:07 am and took the roll, noting the absence of Mr. Giusti. She asked that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 2, 2007 be approved and, after a minor correction requested by Mr. Potts, they were approved unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Potts and the second of Ms. Neville.

Mr. Oestmann presented a request from the Public Works Department to purchase a new roadside curbing machine from the lowest of 3 bids, East Coast Sign and Supply, for \$7,675.00. This will replace the current 30 year old machine. Mr. Oestmann stated that the funds are available in the road maintenance account and, after some limited discussion; the request was approved unanimously, on the motion of Mr. Potts and the second of Ms. Neville.

Mr. Howe then presented a request from the Parks department to purchase a new Camoplast SW48HY Sidewalk Plow from Chadwick-BaRoss of Chelmsford, MA, an established dealer for \$110,000. This is a budgeted item. The machine is powerful, has rubber tracks and a small width, which will allow for easy plowing of many sidewalks. Mr. Howe explained that they will sell or trade in the old plow. The value is estimated at less than \$500.00. After a question was raised regarding the plow's omissions and noise, Mr. Howe assured everyone that the new plow is a state of the art machine. On the motion of Mr. Potts and the second of Ms. Neville, the request was approved unanimously.

Ms. Neville explained that an Alliance of Towns had been formed to fight the FAA airspace redesign and then asked the Selectmen to approve a memorandum of Understanding between the Towns of New Canaan, Greenwich, Darien, Redding, Ridgefield, Weston, Westport, Wilton, Pound Ridge, NY and the Cities of Norwalk and Stamford to all enter into an agreement with Attorney Steve Pflaum of McDermott, Will and Emery in Chicago (\$500,000).

As well as a contract with Timmons and Company of Washington D.C. for lobbying services (\$180,000).

As well as a Contract with OnPoint Advocacy, a grass roots firm based in Alexandria Virginia (\$240,000) for Phase I through March 2008; Total \$920,000.

Ms. Neville then concluded by saying that the total Appropriation requested is for \$75,000. (\$64,400) based on the attached schedule (7%), plus a Contingency of approximately \$10,000. \$75,000 is the total of New Canaan's share.

Mr. Ellis explained more about the credibility of the law firm and he reviewed the differences in services between lobbyists and grassroots firms. A question was raised regarding Attorney General Blumenthal's standing on this. Ms Neville stated that his office is looking into whether they have standing and they will advise us. Discussion continued on the importance of this case, not only on a regional level, but also a national one.

Ms Neville explained the process and timing of filing this case, concluding that the best results would be for it all to go back to the FAA for review. Mr. Potts complimented the First Selectman for her leadership in the Town's efforts in opposing the FAA airspace redesign. On the motion of Mr. Potts and the second of Ms Neville, the memorandum and appropriation was approved unanimously.

There being no further business, the Selectmen voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:39 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela M. Flynn, Recording Secretary.

