

TOWN OF DURHAM



Office of the First Selectman

P. O. Box H

Durham, Connecticut 06422

REC'D 1-28 1982 AT 2:30 A.M.
ATT: TOWN CLERK

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING January 21, 1982

The January 21, 1982, Board of Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. by First Selectman M. Foster Mather; Board members present: Maryann P. Boord, Gregory G. Curtis. Townspeople present: C. Otte, F. Garigliano, J. Clifford, P. Reynolds, G. Reilly, M. Schmitt, L. Bristol, C. Parmelee, N. Higgins, H. Coe, M. Clark, J. Libby, T. Woolfe, D. O'Neal, P. Berten, B. Ruggiero.

The First Selectman introduced Richard Prendergast, Chief, municipal section of the State Tax Department. Members of the proposed committee to study tax relief for the elderly (B. Ruggiero, J. Salva, C. Smith, C. Parmelee, F. Garigliano, H. Coe, L. Bristol) were acknowledged. Mr. Prendergast stated that Section 12-129(n) of the General Statutes clearly sets out the rules governing the appointment and responsibilities of a committee to study this tax relief. Once the committee is established, it has 60 days to present its recommendations to the Board of Finance. These recommendations must contain a study of the fiscal effects on the community and the application form to be used by applicants. The question was asked if liens would be placed on the properties. Mr. Prendergast replied that Section 12-129(n)(f) does say a lien may be placed, however, in the 3 case towns he cited, there is no proviso for a lien. It has been his experience that elderly citizens will not take advantage of this or any tax relief if there is to be a lien. The placing of income limits of applicants must also be addressed by the committee. The First Selectman suggested, and Mr. Prendergast concurred, that the Board of Selectmen first charge the proposed committee in writing, select an Acting Chairman to get organized, do some groundwork and then officially appoint the committee.

Motion by G. Curtis to approve the minutes of the December 30, 1981, Board of Selectmen's meeting; seconded by M. Boord; 3 ayes.

F. Mather read the resignation of Jack B. Tinkel as RDO, effective immediately.

F. Mather reported that the new grand list is up 2 million dollars over the previous one, subject to Board of Tax Review; presently at \$76,986,000+. He also noted that the unemployment rate in Durham is 3.4.

The Board discussed using an available amount of the \$6,587.04 in monies from the Mary Weber fund to purchase a van for the Dog Warden with an estimated cost of \$3,700. The consensus of the Board was to proceed with the purchase.

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APPOINTMENTS

Motion by F. Mather to appoint Henry Coe to the GEORGE WASHINGTON TRAIL COMMITTEE; seconded by G. Curtis; 3 ayes.

F. Mather nominated Russell Hill, William Penders, Peter Shuler, John Stahl, Thomas Tencza, Betsy Bielefield, Joseph Venuti to the RECREATION COMMITTEE. In addition, G. Curtis nominated Robert Reilly, Nona Aubin. Vote: yes (Curtis, Boord) no (Mather); passed.

F. Mather nominated Vincent Marino (as spokesman), Joseph Carney, Carroll Caffrey, Roger Quinley (upon his acceptance of the nomination) as members of the TOWN'S NEGOTIATING TEAM for the 1981-1982 contract; seconded by M. Boord; 3 ayes.

F. Mather inquired if the board members had any suggestions for filling the vacancy of RDO. There were none.

Re: Tax Relief Committee: F. Mather asked if one of the seven members could be recommended to be Acting Chairman. Discussion. G. Curtis noted that he had suggested Jim Gibbons to be on the committee and advised that when the time comes he will move that Mr. Gibbons be named as a member of the committee. M. Boord suggested that Beverly Ruggiero be asked to be Acting Chairman. G. Curtis stated he wants Jim Gibbons included in the first meeting of the committee -- to be involved from day one. B. Ruggiero agreed to be Acting Chairman.

G. Curtis reported that Ken Hampton had contacted him in reference to the Connecticut Valley Tide Water Council -- hopes in the next few weeks the matter can come to town meeting. G. Curtis further noted correspondence from Joyce Urban, Middlesex Community College, Committee on Aging, as to what courses or workshops could be given at the college that would be of interest to senior citizens.

The First Selectman asked for comments from the public.

P. Reynolds reviewed prior correspondence to and from the Board of Selectmen, stating she has been discriminated against, never answered, never acknowledged. She said the letter from the Board of Selectmen did not answer one question. She demanded to know all insurance figures relative to the Miller case. The First Selectman answered that the insurance company does not divulge how much they settle a claim for.

The First Selectman asked for further comments from the public. M. Boord responded to P. Reynolds that she has not ignored her, that she has responded to her questions at the meetings and that the Board's letter attempted to deal with P. Reynold's questions that dealt with town affairs. M. Boord stressed that F. Mather's letter of 12/1/81 answered each question separately and clearly. P. Reynolds replied that she's had no answers. F. Mather asked if the public had further comments. There were none.

Motion by M. Boord to adjourn at 9:10 P.M.; seconded by G. Curtis; 3 ayes.

Donna White
Secretary