

The Fairfield Hills Authority held a Special Meeting on Thursday, August 28, 2014 at 5:30 pm in Meeting Room #3 at the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

These minutes are subject to the approval of the Fairfield Hills Authority

Present: Ross Carley, Michael Holmes, Terry Sagedy, Andrew Willie and James Bernardi (via speaker phone); **Absent:** Renata Adler and Thomas Connors; **Also Present:** Pat Llodra, First Selectman; George Benson, Deputy Director of Planning and Land Use, Christal Preszler, and Tammy Hazen, Clerk.

Mr. Holmes called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.

Discussion and Possible Action on Lease and Allocation of Repair Funds for the Engineer's House

Mr. Holmes opened discussion and asked for a motion regarding the proposed lease for the Engineers House for a period of 18 months between the Town and the Newtown Recovery and Reliance Team. Mr. Willie motioned to approve the proposed lease for the Engineers House for a period of 18 months between the Town of Newtown and the Newtown Recovery and Reliance Team. Mr. Sagedy seconded the motion. Mr. Holmes opened discussion and explained that it is a short term lease of 18 months for \$1,000 per month funded by the Department of Justice. The Newtown Recovery and Resilience Team have been temporarily housed in the building. Improvements have been made and are billed to the grant subject to everyone's approval and acceptance of the lease. The lease may be extended, if necessary, and the building will have improvements with no cost to the town.

Ms. Llodra explained that the team is working on executing a mental health program for the town. The timeframe in which the grant and contracts were received posed difficulties. She had no intention of usurping the authority and felt it was in the best interest of the town. She assured that the grant money will be used towards the building's renovation. The building will end up being a substantially improved facility and viable for other purposes with upgraded technology and utilities separated from the Town systems. The materials used to fix the porch totaled \$1,000 but Town workers provided in-kind labor efforts as it is considered a municipal building.

For the record, Mr. Carley wanted it noted that the renovations contributed by the Town and its workers were only allowed because the building has been historically used as a municipal building. It is not to be construed that the Town of Newtown will contribute to the renovation of any future buildings.

Ms. Llodra said if the Authority approves the lease it will then be sent to the Board of Selectman as an approved lease and a public hearing has been scheduled. If the public hearing is successful, then the Board of Selectmen will certify that the lease is approved. Mr. Holmes then asked for everyone's votes and **all were in favor.**

Mr. Holmes then opened discussion on possible allocation of repair funds for the building. Ms. Llodra discussed the money from the grant spent to date and that there is still painting that needs to be done. With the cost of the painters will leave only \$3,200 out of the grant money for utility payments and insurance. Mr. Holmes suggested that the Authority share in the cost of the painting bill by allocating \$5,000 from reserve fund. It was noted that there will be no precedent set with this decision. There were three quotes received and the painters chosen volunteered to work after hours and on the weekends to eliminate interrupting the team. After discussion, Mr. Holmes motioned to contribute up to \$5,000 from the Fairfield Hills Authority reserve account for purposes of sharing the cost of painting the interior and exterior of the Engineer's house. Mr. Bernardi seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Mr. Bernardi motioned to adjourn at 5:47 pm. Mr. Carley seconded the motion and all were in favor.