

**MINUTES OF THE
HVCEO
REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 8,1999
AT NEW MILFORD, CT TOWN HALL**

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES IN ATTENDANCE

Bethel. First Selectman Charles Steck and Alternate John Thiele
Bridgewater. First Selectman William Stuart and Alternate Robert Brown
Brookfield. First Selectman Bonnie Smith
Danbury Mayor Gene Eriquez
New Fairfield. First Selectman Patricia Gay
New Milford. Mayor Arthur Peitier and Alternate Patrick Maguire
Newtown. First Selectman Herbert Rosenthal
Redding. First Selectman Henry Bielawa
Ridgefield. First Selectman Abraham Morelli
Sherman. First Selectman Donna Tuck

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

State Senator David Cappiello, State Representatives Jeanne Garvey, Julia Wasserman, Scott Santa-Maria, Lewis Wallace, John Frey and Mark Boughton.

Raul DeBrigard, William Stax and George Breitwieser of the CL&P, Bruce Lockhart, Larry Marsicano and Harold Mayer of the Candlewood Lake Authority, Elaine LaBella and Ruth Malins of the Housatonic Valley Association, and Julie Bailey of Power Alert.

Also Richard Martinez, Bruce Garrett, Francis Zapatka and Kathryn Husband of CT DOT, Ruth Bonsignore of VHB, John Chesto of the News Times, Scoft Rutherford of WLAD, Andy Gorosko of the Newtown Bee, New Fairfield consulting attorney Daniel Casagrande, Lynn Waller of Danbury, other citizens, HVEDP Director Peg Daley, Candy Acquanita, David Hannon and Jonathan Chew of the HVCEO staff.

CALL TO ORDER AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The regular meeting was called to order by Chairman William Stuart at 10:25 A.M. Attendees at the meeting introduced themselves.

During the public comment period a representative of Power Alert in New Milford spoke against the proposed natural gas to electrical energy plant in that community. Elaine LaBella of HVA spoke to the need for additional state open space funds. Ruth Malins of HVA spoke to the inadequacies of state regulation of new electric generation facilities.

DISCUSSION WITH LEGISLATORS

Members reviewed the issues list that had been forwarded to legislators with the agenda. Issues included CL&P properties, DEP open space funding, strengthening tourism districts, passenger rail service expansion, education cost sharing formula revisions, municipal immunity for injuries on recreational land, the creation of a regional asset district, and other topics.

CT DOT PRESENTATION OF ACTION PROGRAM FOR 1-84 IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Richard Martinez, CT DOT Bureau Chief of Policy and Planning, presented and overview of the upcoming improvement study of 1-84. The effort will include all of 1-84 in the Region and intersections at ramps.

Once completed, this key roadway will qualify for improvement funds, he said. The planning effort is very comprehensive and detailed and will cost about \$750,000, with the firm of VHB serving as consultant to CT DOT. A question and answer period followed.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 P.M.

**MINUTES OF THE
HVCEO
SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 8,1999
AT NEW MILFORD, CT TOWN HALL**

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Brookfield.First Selectman Bonnie Smith
Danbury. Mayor Gene Eriquez
New Fairfield. First Selectman Patricia Gay
New Milford. Mayor Arthur Peitler
Sherman.First Selectman Donna Tuck

**DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED CONSERVATION
EASEMENT FOR CANDLEWOOD LAKE**

The meeting started at 9 A.M. with Vice Chairman Arthur Peitler serving as Chair. With five members in attendance a quorum of HVCEO was not present. Members held a discussion of the conservation easement issue with the staff of CL&P.

Attorney Dan Casagrande presented a draft conservation easement for the boftomland of the Lake, also a right of first refusal to purchase. There was much discussion of the draft. It was preferable that next steps include 1) receipt of detailed comments from CL&P specifying their concerns and 2) municipal attorneys meeting together to review the draft.

J. Chew of the HVCEO staff was authorized by the five members present to write a letter on their collective behalf as a response to the 12/10/1998 correspondence each received from William Nadeau of Northeast Utilities, which outlined an option to purchase Candiewood Lake bottomland and beach areas. It was understood that while negotiations are not complete, it would be necessary to respond before the January 31, 1999 deadline included in the NU letter.

J. Chew is also to write a letter outlining a proposed mechanism for sharing legal research costs currently being borne by New Fairfield on behalf of all five municipalities. This will be used as background when invoices from New Fairfield for 20% cost shares are received and considered for payment.

During the special meeting no votes were taken. The special meeting ended at 10:10 A. M.