

Planning and Zoning Commission Caucus
January 5, 2009
Long Hill Room, Trumbull Town Hall

Attendees: First Selectman Raymond G. Baldwin, Jr.
Town Council Chairman Mark Altieri
Town Council Member Matt Reale
Town Council Member Mary Beth Thornton
P&Z Member Chris Costa
P&Z Member Anthony Silber
P&Z Member Don Scinto
Economic Development Director Deborah Cox

Agenda Item: Discussion of Proposed Planning and Zoning Fees

The meeting was convened at 5:40 p.m. by First Selectman Baldwin. He explained that a proposed set of Planning & Zoning Fees were on the Town Council Agenda for consideration that evening, January 5, 2009, (Resolution TC22-143) He went on to say that despite a presentation at the Legislation and Administration subcommittee by P&Z Chairman Timothy Herbst, questions still remain about the reasons for some of these fees and the amounts being proffered.

Mr. Herbst had represented at the L&A subcommittee meeting that the new fees had been provided by "staff"; however, it was learned that acting P&Z Director, Richard Eigen, was away in Florida; and, therefore, unable to attend and explain the fees to the subcommittee members.

P&Z member Chris Costa said he was unaware of any proposed P&Z fees going to the Town Council and, furthermore, that the Commission had never discussed new fees at any length at any of their meetings. He also stated they certainly hadn't voted to recommend any fees to the Town Council. P&Z alternates Don Scinto and Tony Silber both concurred with Chris Costa's recollection.

Deborah Evans Cox, the Director of Economic Development, was invited because the proposed fees would have an effect on commercial businesses. She had researched area towns to obtain a schedule of their fees in order to compare them to the ones being recommended. She verbally shared some of those fees with those in attendance.

Mr. Eigen was out of state and unable to attend this meeting.

Discussion then ensued among those in attendance about the necessity of passing these new fees at that evening's Town Council meeting. Though no formal motion was made or seconded by anyone, the consensus among the Town Council members (Altieri, Reale and Thornton) was that the matter should be referred back to the Legislation and Administration subcommittee and to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further review.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Raymond G. Baldwin, Jr.
First Selectman