

December 22, 2011

Minutes are subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen Dick Carey and Susan Jahnke.

Press: Rick Harrison, Jim Shannon – Waterbury Republican; Ann Compton – VOICES>

Public: Tony and Sharon Bedini, Gary Fitzherbert, Tom Osborne, Joan Lodsins, Janet Wildman, Ray Reich, Lillian Lyon, Rod Wyant, Andy Shapiro, Carolyn Setlow, Rocky Tomlinson, Mike Sivick, Leslie Anderson, Frank Adams.

Call to Order: First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the December 8, 2011 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the December 8, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Susan Jahnke and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

Motion:

To reappoint the following to the Conservation Commission:

Susan Payne and Diane Dupuis as regular members until 1/1/15 and Randolph Bernard as an alternate member until 1/1/15.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

Motion:

To reappoint the following to the Historic District Commission:

William Smith as a regular member until 1/1/17 and George Krinsky as an alternate member until 1/1/15.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

Motion:

To reappoint the following to the Parks and Recreation Commission:

Sheila Anson and Christopher Kersten until 1/1/15.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Susan Jahnke and unanimously approved.

Motion: To reappoint the following to the Planning Commission:

Paul Frank as a regular member until 12/31/16 and Dick Carey as an alternate member until 12/31/14.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Susan Jahnke. Dick Carey abstained and the motion passed.

Motion:

To reappoint the following constables:

Patrick Kessler and Scott Flaton as full time and Thomas Accousti as part time until 12/31/13.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

Motion:

To appoint Anthony Bedini as Selectman until 11/13 to complete the term of Susan Jahnke who resigned.
By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey.

Discussion: Mark Lyon explained that he and Dick Carey considered a large field of potential candidates, all of who needed to be Democrats, for the Board of Selectmen. They narrowed the list to four candidates and conducted interviews with each. The motion passed unanimously.

The Selectmen thanked and commended Susan.

* Resignation of Donald Etherington as Fire Marshall:

The Board of Selectmen received a letter of resignation from Donald Etherington, Fire Marshall, effective January 1, 2012.

Motion:

To accept the resignation of Donald Etherington as Fire Marshall, effective January 1, 2012 with deep gratitude for his decades of service to the Town and for his overseeing the safety of generations of Town of Washington residents.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

* Appointment of Acting Fire Marshall:

Mark Lyon explained it is now up to the Board of Selectmen to appoint an Acting Fire Marshall. The Town currently has two Deputy Fire Marshals – Tom Osborne and Brian Ohmen, George Steiner is a Fire Investigator for the Town. Motion: To appoint Thomas Osborne as Acting Fire Marshall.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey.

Discussion: The Selectmen will have 180 days to appoint a Fire Marshall. They will meet with Tom Osborne, Brian Ohmen, George Steiner and Donald Etherington and discuss the appointment further. The position may be opened to other applicants if they see fit to do so.

The motion passed unanimously.

* Resignation of Patte Doran from the Housing Commission:

The Board of Selectmen received a letter of resignation from the Housing Commission from Patte Doran, effective immediately.

Motion:

To accept the resignation of Patte Doran from the Housing Commission with gratitude for her years of service.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Susan Jahnke and unanimously approved.

Mark explained that the Housing Commission has had several resignations or requests not to be reappointed. Anyone interested should contact the Selectmen's Office.

First Selectman's Report:

First Selectman Mark Lyon reported the following:

* Thank you for all the cookies and goodies that have been received at the Town Hall.

* Highway Department update: The Highway crew has been busily patching and paving before the winter weather and storms set in. The severe storms have caused a great deal of road damage and clean up from both major storms continues as well.

* Region #12 Survey is posted on the Town's website and the public is urged to complete – deadline is early January.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Visitors:

* Frank Adams thanked the Highway Department for the excellent job they did cleaning up West Morris Road after Storm Alfred. He also asked the Selectmen and the Highway Department to check on the intersection of West Morris and Romford Road – a constant water problem caused icing at this intersection that can make it impossible to stop when exiting West Morris – a very dangerous situation given the fact that Romford Road is heavily used with Rumsey Hall traffic. Mark Lyon will speak with Kevin Smith, Highway Director. Frank asked that if at the very least, could the intersection be sanded prior to morning Rumsey traffic.

* Tony Bedini thanked Mark Lyon and Dick Carey for their vote of confidence and will “do his best” to serve the Town of Washington.

Adjournment:

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. with wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday Season!
By Dick Carey, seconded by Susan Jahnke and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted:
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen’s Secretary