

December 19, 2002

Present:

Selectmen: Elaine Luckey, Nick Solley, Harry Wyant

Guests: Ellen Tracy and Rabbit Hill Road Residents

Press: David Lambino, Litchfield County Times; Mark Daft, Voices

Elaine Luckey called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m. in the Land Use Room.

Minutes:

Elaine Luckey made a motion to accept the minutes of the November 21, 2002 Selectmen's meeting. This was seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

GUESTS:

Cell Towers:

Ellen Tracy, Diane Dupuis, Tamara Sachs and Hank Dutton came to discuss the proposed cell tower installation in Warren. The tower would be closer to the Washington houses on Rabbit Hill Road than any Warren houses. The Washington residents feel that site projections do not take Washington into account - only dealt with site lines from Warren. Mrs. Tracy has attended several forums on the subject and feels that she has learned a great deal on the subject and pointed out various issues that should be taken into account in this case - difficult topography, zoning regulations of both Towns, other proposed towers in the area and possible sites and need for more towers. She and other residents expressed the concern that the Siting Council does not take health and/or environmental issues into account. (The Council is not allowed to by State Statute.) The group was asking the Selectmen to have the Town of Washington become an intervener in this application by hiring an attorney and an RF engineer - possibly sharing the costs with Warren. Elaine explained that she can authorize the Zoning Commission to intervene and also look into the amount of money we have in the budget for such expenses. Nick Solley felt that Hank Martin and the Zoning Commission will want to get involved as this particular application is actually closer to the town line than the application for the Route 109, New Milford application. Hank is also looking into the proposed New Preston church steeple site.

Building and Property Committee:

John Allen did not attend today's meeting but has sent in a report. The Selectmen will look this over and discuss at the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

Kathy Weydig, Gunn Hill Road has sent a letter to the Selectmen regarding the run off of water on to their property. Harry Wyant explained that this is a problem that has been going on for quite some time and feels that Roger Cannavaro (Road Foreman) is aware of it. Harry will discuss with Roger. The suggestion was made to get the Weydigs, Selectmen and Roger together to discuss possible solutions after Harry speaks with Roger. Harry will report back to Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Elaine Luckey reported she had received a letter of resignation from the Inland Wetland Commission from Mark McGowan as he has moved from Town. Elaine moved that the resignation be accepted, Nick

Solley seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

Appointments and Reappointments:

Elaine Luckey made a motion to accept the following appointment and reappointments to:

Conservation Commission - Regular Members: Susan Payne and Joseph Gitterman, Alternate Member: Kelly Boling. All terms expire 1/1/06.

Historic District Commission - Regular Member: Peter Talbot and Alternate Member: Elizabeth Rives. Both terms expire 1/1/08.

Parks and Recreation Commission - Sheila Anson and Christopher Kersten. Both terms expire 1/1/06.

Planning Commission - Regular Member: Christopher Charles, term expires 12/31/07. Alternate Member: Dimitri Rimsky, term expires 12/31/05.

Harry Wyant seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Conservation Easement:

George Nassar, Linda Uruburu and Helen Schneider have given a conservaiton easement for property on West Church Hill Road to Town of Washington. This is a sub division and the Planning Commission has requested a certain amount of land be given to open space. Elaine has received the easement from the above named property owners in the name of the Town of Washington and would like to turn over the **management** of it to the Conservation Commission. Elaine explained that there was also discussion of giving this to Steep Rock but they did not want it. There is no transfer of land, just the conservation easement. Taxes on this property will be received. The Town has the right to monitor it but it is not for public use. Nick Solley brought up concern about there possibly being many little parcels to manage in the future. Should perhaps discuss further. Elaine made the motion to turn the management of the above mentioned easement over to the Conservation Commission, Harry seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

2003 Meeting Schedule:

Nick made the motion to accept the dates for the 2003 Selectmen's Meetings, Harry seconded it and it was unanimously approved.

Shepaug Community Service Projects:

The Selectmen discussed some possible projects - (monitoring road signs, painting plows, etc.) Christine Yanielli at Shepaug should be contacted for guidelines - 868-6232 before giving specific projects.

Discontinuance of Roads:

Nick reported that he and a small committee are looking into 4 roads in the Town to be possibly discontinued by Town Meeting. They are getting legal council and will get together again in January to discuss legal terms, ownership, trails, etc.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene