

October 10, 2013

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectman Richard O. Carey.

Public: Nick Solley, Liddy Adams, Leslie Anderson.

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 September 12, 2013 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the minutes of the September 20, 2013 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

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

Communications:

Mark Lyon reported on the following communications:

* Jean Suddaby Thank You Note:

A family reunion was held at the River Walk Pavilion – Ms. Suddaby thanked the Town, Pavilion Attendant Liz Gugel and the Parks and Recreation Commission for this “great asset” to the Town. Compliments to all!

* Salem Covenant Church:

The new Pastor, Linda Williams, thanked First Selectman Lyon for attending and speaking at her installation service. Pastor Williams is also the new chaplain for the Washington Volunteer Fire Department.

* Michael Caroe re: Gunn Library & Museum:

Mr. Caroe has written to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance regarding his concerns for the handling of funds for the Gunn Museum and of future plans for the Museum. He has written of his concerns to the Library Board and President and has not received any replies. He has been told that gifts cannot be made that are restricted to the Museum. Mr. Caroe expresses his concern for the future of the Museum. As the Town currently contributes just under 25% of the Library’s budget, he is appealing to the Town to stress the importance of the Museum.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

First Selectman’s Report:

Mark Lyon reported the following:

* Road Projects are finishing up.

* Moving of purchased road materials from the Titus Road site to the foundation of the Highway Garage that burned will be one of the Highway Department's next projects.

* Solar initiatives will be available to citizens of Washington. Mark attended a meeting and more details will be available in the coming weeks.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Housing Commission re: Down payment Assistance Program:

Chairman of the Housing Commission, Liddy Adams, as well as Commissioner Leslie Anderson, attended this evening's meeting to present a program they would like to see offered to the Town of Washington that would address the issue of down payments for the purchase of a home. The program would be done in conjunction with the CT Housing Development Fund. Applicants would need to attend an educational program and would need to prove that they are "mortgagable". Applicants would come to the Town first for information, etc. and then referred to the Housing Development Fund to determine if they meet the necessary guidelines. Any monies approved would be a loan – not a grant or subsidy – and would need to be paid back to the Town when the property was sold or the mortgage was paid off. The Housing Commission is proposing grants up to \$10,000 per applicant – taking \$100,000 of their allotted funds and putting it in a special account for just this program. Once the contract draft is received from the Housing Development Fund, it will be reviewed by Town Attorney David Miles and then presented at a Special Town Meeting for approval by the Town.

Visitors: None.

Adjournment:

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Secretary