

# May 12, 2011

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

**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen James L. Brinton and Nicholas N. Solley.

**Public:** Dick Carey, John Meeker, Chris Collum, Wayne Hileman, Chris Charles.

## **Call to Order:**

First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

## **MOTION:**

To add subsequent business not already on the agenda.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton.

Discussion –

additional business would be:

1) to possibly make an appointment to the Planning Commission;

2) read a letter received from David Plourde – at his request.

The motion passed unanimously.

## **Minutes:**

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the April 28, 2011 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the minutes of the May 5, 2011 and May 6, 2011 Special Meetings of the Board of Selectmen.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

## **Communications:**

### Letter from Lori Carusillo re: discontinuance of a portion of Clark Road:

Mrs. Carusillo has written the Board of Selectmen to request the Town “change the classification of Clark Road from a public road to a discontinued road”. She explained that her late husband accepted responsibility for the road when a two-lot subdivision was created. An abutting property owner is interested in purchasing the lower lot on Clark Road if it is classified as discontinued. Nick Solley explained that he met with the neighbor, Linda Allard, and her attorney who will be discussing the matter further with Town Attorney, David Miles. As there is an interior lot, discontinuance may not be feasible. Mark Lyon explained that although a portion of Clark Road had been abandoned, it was not discontinued and Mr. Carusillo signed an agreement that he would be responsible for improving the road and he, in turn, could use the right-of-way. Should it be determined that the portion of Clark Road in question could be discontinued, it would need to go to Planning and then Town Meeting.

### Letter from Clifford Woodruff re: Land Use matters:

Mr. Woodruff delivered a letter to the Selectmen’s Office and requested it be read into the minutes. A copy of his letter is attached to these minutes filed with the Town Clerk. After reading the letter, Mark Lyon explained that he has spoken with Mr. Woodruff and subsequently met with Mike Ajello and Janet Hill from the Land Use office regarding Mr. Woodruff’s concerns, dealings (particularly with Mike Ajello) and statements made in his letter. Mike and Janet reported and explained actions taken by their office. It was determined that all further dealings with Mr. Woodruff and issues regarding his property and the property of Roberta Smith be handled by Janet.

### Letter from David Plourde re: Land Use matters:

Mr. Plourde emailed a letter to the Selectmen's Office and requested it be read into the minutes. A copy of his letter is attached to these minutes filed with the Town Clerk. He raises similar concerns and statements similar to those of Mr. Woodruff regarding his dealings with the Land Use Office, particularly with Mike Ajello. Mark will follow up with Mr. Plourde.

### **Appointments and Resignations:**

#### **Appointment to the Planning Commission:**

Daryl Wright and Thomas Osborne had both indicated an interest in serving in the Planning Commission – they were asked to submit this in writing. Tom has written. The Planning Commission is in favor of appointing him at this time.

#### **Motion:**

To appoint Thomas Osborne as an alternate to the Planning Commission until 12/31/13.

By Nick Solley, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

### **First Selectman's Report:**

Mark Lyon reported the following:

Conservation Commission has had volunteers working on the Moore Property on New Milford Turnpike to eradicate invasives. This is a continuation of work done by the Town's Highway Department. Thank you to those who have given their time.

#### **Birch Hill Run/Peter Pappas:**

as a follow up – one of the conditions requested by the Selectmen in order for the Town to accept Birch Hill Run as a town road was to install "monuments" to mark the boundaries of the road. Mr. Pappas has requested permission to install iron pins instead of cement monuments. As this is an accepted practice, the Selectmen agreed. Nick Solley also stated that in addition to accepting the road at a Town Meeting, once all conditions are met, Mr. Pappas would also need to deed over the right-of-way to the Town. Mark agreed to communicate this to Mr. Pappas.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Setting the Agenda for the May 19, 2011 Annual Town Meeting:**

Following discussion, it was determined that the subject of putting to vote at the November 2011 General Election changing the terms of the Board of Selectmen, Tax Collector and Town Treasurer from two years to four, would not be on the agenda for this meeting as the Board of Selectmen can request it to be put on a ballot without Town Meeting approval. In the meantime, both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees will be asked to discuss further and give their feedback. The Selectmen discussed the transfer of funds to cover the overage in the Winter Maintenance budget line and what they will recommend to the Board of Finance – a combination of Town Aid Road funds and Fund Balance. There was lengthy discussion about the approval of STEAP Grant funds for an alternative pedestrian bridge in Hidden Valley. The Grant has been awarded but the spending of the funds (designated solely for the fabrication of the alternative pedestrian bridge) needs Town Meeting approval. Chris Charles strongly urged the Selectmen to give the townspeople an opportunity to review the information on the proposed

DOT pedestrian bridge, which would be completely funded by State DOT funds vs. the alternative bridge which would be funded by the STEAP grant and a private foundation – not Steep Rock or Town funds. He also felt that the Town should receive some assurances from Steep Rock that if the Legislative Body does not vote in favor of the STEAP Grant expenditure, that the balance of the cost of the alternative bridge will not be borne by the Town. In addition to the funding questions the pros and cons of both bridges – their placement, aesthetics, etc., should be discussed at a public forum. There is also the question as to whether or not the alternative bridge would require Planning Commission approval. There is then the need for IW approval. Mark Lyon explained that as of the present time the DOT pedestrian bridge is still part of the project and will not be removed until a change order is given. Following this discussion it was determined to “discuss” the bridge at the Town Meeting and not vote on the spending of the STEAP Grant.

Motion:

To set the agenda for the May 19, 2011 Annual Town Meeting as follows:

TOWN OF WASHINGTON, CONNECTICUT

ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET MEETING

The voters and electors of the Town of Washington are hereby warned that the Annual Town Budget Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. at Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, Connecticut to consider and act upon the following:

1. To consider and act upon the proposed General Fund Expenses and Transfers for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
  2. To consider and act upon the proposed Nonrecurring Capital Expenses for the 2011-2012 fiscal year.
  3. To consider and act upon the transfer of funds to cover the overage in the Winter Maintenance budget line of the 2010-2011 Budget.
  4. To nominate and elect two representatives to the Shepaug Regional School District Board of Education.
  5. Discussion of STEAP Grant funds for an alternative pedestrian bridge in Hidden Valley.
- By Jim Brinton, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

#### RFP for Engineering for Mygatt Road and Findley Road:

Motion:

To extend the following Requests for Proposal:

- 1) The Town of Washington requests Proposals for engineering services of a drainage plan for 1.03 miles of Findley Road from the intersection of Route 202 (New Milford Turnpike) to the intersection of New Preston Hill Road located in the Marble Dale section of the Town of Washington. The proposal shall include locations of potential easements for piping and storm water retention systems required for discharge of roadway runoff into adjacent watercourses.

To schedule a site visit or for more information, please contact the First Selectman's Office at 860-868-2259 or Kevin Smith, Highway Director, at 860-868-7986.

Sealed Proposals are due in the Office of the First Selectman, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, 2 Bryan Plaza, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794 by 4:30 p.m. on May 26, 2011. They will be opened at the Board of Selectmen's meeting at 5:30 p.m. on May 26, 2011.

- 2) The Town of Washington requests Proposals for engineering services of a drainage plan for .64 mile of Mygatt Road from the intersection of Route 202 (New Milford Turnpike) to the intersection of Scofield Hill Road and engineering and survey for potential realignment of the intersection of Mygatt Road with Scofield Hill Road and Sunset Lane. The proposal shall include locations of potential easements for piping and storm water retention systems required for discharge of roadway runoff and any land acquisition required for the realignment of the intersection at Scofield Hill Road.

To schedule a site visit or for more information, please contact the First Selectman's Office at 860-868-2259 or Kevin Smith, Highway Director, at 860-868-7986.

Sealed Proposals are due in the Office of the First Selectman, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, 2 Bryan Plaza, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794 by 4:30 p.m. on May 26, 2011. They will be opened at the Board of Selectmen's meeting at 5:30 p.m. on May 26, 2011.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Visitors:**

Chris Collum expressed his opinion that monies for the Gunn Library, Open Space, and Housing should not be built into the Town's budget and paid for by the taxpayers.

Wayne Hileman inquired about the agenda for the Special Selectmen's Meeting on May 6th. It was explained that that meeting went directly into Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter and no action was taken.

**Adjournment:**

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 7:03 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary