

## • **January 26, 2006**

**Present:** First Selectman Richard C. Sears, Selectmen Nicholas N. Solley, Mark E. Lyon

Visitors: Valerie Andersen, Chris Charles

Press: Ann Compton, VOICES

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Sears called the meeting to order at 4:42p.m.

**Motion:** To include subsequent business not already on the agenda. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

### **MINUTES:**

• **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the January 12, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Nick Solley, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

### **COMMUNICATIONS:**

• **Letter from Open Space Equity/Kelly Boling:** Mr. Boling wrote on behalf of Myfield LLC regarding the water supply for the proposed Myfield project. To establish a water connection, it may be necessary to run a water supply line adjacent (but not beneath) the Mygatt Road travel way. They are basically asking of the Board of Selectmen would have any concerns about this - (letter was received after the discussion at the last Selectmen's meeting). Dick Sears mentioned he would speak with Roger Cannavaro, Road Foreman, regarding the proposed road work and if this would have any bearing on it. DPUC would request the easement.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

• **Extending invitation to bid for Plumb Hill Road drainage project. Motion:** To extend the due date for the Plumb Hill Road drainage project to 2/23/06. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

• **Code of Ethics:** Dick Sears continued reading the draft Code of Ethics for the Selectmen's review and comment. Today's areas of discussion included codes for former employees or public officials, ineligibility for compensation for a year - 2 years in some cases; and "definitions".

• **Verizon update:** Dick Sears explained that he had been notified that the Verizon representative would not attend today's selectmen's meeting because they have "several other viable sites" and would like to study them further before coming back to the Town regarding the New Preston Firehouse site. Valerie Andersen asked if Verizon was withdrawing their interest or just looking at other sites in Town. Dick explained the other sites are in Town and has been told by Verizon they need to have a site somewhere between New Milford and Marbledale.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

• **Discontinuance of Nova Scotia Hill Road:** Dick Sears has referred this to the Road Discontinuance Committee which has reported back they feel the road should be discontinued with passive recreational use. David Miles, Town Attorney, has also been given this to review. There is a question of easements and notification of adjacent property owners. There was some discussion as to discontinuance vs.

abandonment. It was decided to review this again - and also Frisbie Road - in two weeks. There will be a review of the discontinuance process and ordinance dealing with this.

- **Town Hall Study Committee:** Dick Sears would like to set up a task force to plan for the best use of staff space, office use, storage and other space issues. There was discussion as to whether there should be a consultant hired and should Town Hall employees be involved as they are aware of the day to day issues. It was decided to involve the Building and Properties Committee - the first step will be to call John Allen.

- **Washington Volunteer Fire Department Officers:** Dick Sears explained Board of Selectmen are designated as the Town's "Fire Commissioners" (in Fire Department bylaws) and as such need to approve the Fire Department's elected officers. **Motion:** To approve the newly elected slate of officers of the Washington Volunteer Fire Department. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

**OTHER:**

- **Thank you:** Valerie Andersen wanted to have the record show her expression of thanks to the First Selectman for his "hard work" on the Region #12 Steering Committee dealing with the Primary School issue of renovation vs. consolidation.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: Motion:** To adjourn the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen to enter into Executive Session to discuss a real estate matter at 5:45p.m. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Adjournment: Motion:** To reenter the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen and to adjourn it at 6:15p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene  
Selectmen's Secretary