

July 22, 2010

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

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectman Nicholas N. Solley.

Press: Ann Compton – VOICES, Jack Coraggio – Litchfield County Times.

Public: Dick Carey, Jane Boyer, Jack Boyer, Gary Fitzherbert, Keith Templeton, Joan Lodsins, Linda McGarr, Rocky Tomlinson, John Meeker.

Call to Order:

First Selectman Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

* Motion: To approve the minutes of the July 8, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and minutes of the July 14, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

Communications:

None.

Appointments/Resignations:

* Mark Lyon has sent a letter to the Republican and Democratic Town Committees regarding the following vacancies: Conservation Commission alternate, newly created Housing Commission alternates, and Zoning Board of Appeals alternate.

First Selectman's Report:

Mark Lyon reported the following:

* US Department of Commerce/Census Bureau sent a letter thanking the Town for providing the space in Bryan Memorial Town Hall for testing and training of US census workers.

* Town Beach was closed to swimmers on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 due to an unidentifiable cloudiness in the water. The Health Department investigated and determined an algae bloom, or harmless bacteria may have caused it. There was no health hazard and most likely caused by the low water level and lack of water movement. The beach was reopened the following day.

* Department of Transportation held a meeting to discuss the repaving of Route 109 from Route 209 in Morris to Route 47 in Washington Depot. Milling will begin on September 7, 2010 and paving is scheduled to begin the week of September 13, 2010.

* CL&P Sub-station next to the Town Beach has been decommissioned. Mark has spoken with CL&P regarding the Town using the area for possible overflow parking at the beach and has been informed that they will retain the right-of-way until environmental testing is complete. May be discussed again at a future date.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Recording of Board of Selectmen's Meetings:

Mark announced that, as agreed at the last meeting, today's meeting is being recorded. The Selectmen will review the recording, the subject and make a decision on future recordings at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS;

* Job Opening for Assessor's Assistant:

This part time position has been advertised in the paper and on the Town's website. Applications are being received in the Selectmen's Office and will be reviewed at a later date by the Assessor, members of the Board of Selectmen and Kathy Gollow.

Visitors:

* Gary Fitzherbert stated he felt the leadership of the Town – in particular the Boards of Selectmen and Finance, have done a "great job" in managing the budget in difficult economic times.

* Dick Carey asked about "the future of Mary Anne Greene" if the Selectmen agree to continue to record their meetings. Mark Lyon explained that she will continue to take the minutes and that the written minutes will be considered the official record.

Adjournment:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. By Nick Solley, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Secretary

SPECIAL MEETING

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Present:

First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectman Nicholas N. Solley, Conservation Commission Chairman Susan Payne, Conservation Commission Cell Tower Committee member Phil Markert, Emergency Management Coordinator Robert Tomlinson.

Representing Verizon Wireless: Attorney Kenneth Baldwin, Robinson & Cole; Sandy Carter, Verizon Wireless; Mike Libertine, VHB Inc; Doug Drost, Centek; Tom Nolan, Verizon Wireless; Rachel Mayo, Robinson & Cole.

Call to Order:

First Selectman Lyon called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m. thanking those present for coming to provide additional information requested at the July 14, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Presentation:

Attorney Kenneth Baldwin, representing Verizon Wireless distributed:

Preliminary Plan, which included:

- * Title sheet with site directions, site information and project summary.
- * Site plan.
- * Compound plan and elevation.
- * Tower elevation, monopine option, and typical antenna mounting configuration.

Washington Depot Drive Test showing signal strength in relation to the proposed site on a 110-foot antenna tower.

Topographical Maps showing existing:

- * Verizon Wireless Cellular Coverage in Washington, CT and surrounding area.
- * Coverage with proposed Washington Depot facility at 110 feet.
- * PCS coverage.
- * PCS coverage with proposed Washington Depot facility at 110 feet.
- * LTE 700 MHz coverage with proposed Washington Depot facility at 110 feet.

Charts showing Cumulative Power Density and Total Percentage of Maximum Permissible Exposure at 110, 583, and 757 feet to “target” using “absolute worst case maximum values”. These were used to compare to charts distributed at the last meeting by Mr. Walter Cooper, RF engineer.

Mike Libertine, of VHB, Inc. distributed and explained Photographic Documentation and Simulations showing views of monopine and monopole towers from Route 47 at the Depot Firehouse, All-Star Transportation, Route 109 South of Route 47, Baldwin Hill Road, Route 109 Highway Department property, for both 110 foot and 130 foot towers; Hidden Valley Pinnacle Trail at .37 and .61 miles from the site. Preliminary view shed analysis at for proposed 110 foot and 130 foot towers.

Susan Payne asked if the same simulations could be done from the Calhoun Street and Ives Road areas as there have been concerns voiced from residents in those areas.

Discussion took place about the height of the tower and other company’s ability to co-locate – thinking being the 130-foot tower would possibly be more appealing. The consensus of opinion of the Verizon representatives was other companies would come, as there is no coverage in the Depot from any carrier at the present time. Attorney Baldwin assured those present that the other companies have been contacted and if they feel 130 feet would work better, the information is already available. Rocky Tomlinson reiterated the necessity of emergency services/LCD being incorporated into the plans and also suggested all information for all companies be gotten before going to a Town Meeting.

Zoning regulations re: communication towers and required setbacks were discussed. Phil Markert showed plans that he developed with the site for the tower and compound moved back on the property – the number of houses in the setback area would be decreased if this site were acceptable. Several attendees of today’s meeting agreed to go on a site visit following the meeting to look at Phil’s suggested site.

Attorney Baldwin agreed to come back to the Town with antenna information and coverage information for AT&T and T-Mobile.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen’s Secretary