

October 28, 2010

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.

Visitors: Chris Collum, Chris Charles, John Meeker.

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the September 14, 2010 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the September 18, 2010 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

by Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton. Nick Solley abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

Communications:

Letter from Barbara Henry, First Selectman of Roxbury, on behalf of the Board of Selectmen of Roxbury:

Within the last couple of months there have been three structure fires in the Town of Roxbury. The Town of Washington Volunteer Fire Department has assisted at all three and Washington Ambulance personnel assisted at one. Roxbury expressed their gratitude to Washington for their willingness to respond with mutual aid.

Appointments/Resignations:

None.

First Selectman's Report:

Mark Lyon reported the following:

Lease signing:

First Selectmen from Bridgewater, Roxbury and Washington met together to sign the primary school leases from each Town with Shepaug Regional School District #12. A great deal of time has been put in by the Board of Ed's Lease Committee and the Selectmen to come up with the final draft that was approved by all three towns. Mark expressed his appreciation to all concerned on behalf of the Town.

Texaco Station:

The owner of the former Vinnie's Texaco is currently excavating and removing contaminated soil.

Potash Hill Road:

A contractor has inquired about a discontinued section of this road and the ability of an abutting landowner to use. When this section of road was discontinued, the Town maintained the right to allow passive recreation. The right of way would stay in effect but it would become a private driveway in so much as the property owner would maintain it. Mark will speak with the Town Attorney and ask if a formal agreement needs to be drawn up.

Zoning Approval for Material Storage units at Highway Department:

Mark will speak with Kevin Smith, Highway Director, regarding beginning the preparation work for the units now that Zoning approval has been received.

International Salt Agreement:

Litchfield Hills Council of Governments and Northwest Council of Governments have entered into an agreement with International Salt to provide ice-b-gone to member towns at a cost of \$6.50 per ton less than last year. The vendor was willing to work with these regional organizations to provide significant savings.

OLD BUSINESS:

Opening of Bids for Highway Department pickup truck:

The following bid was received:

Litchfield Ford, Litchfield, CT:

For a 2011 truck meeting specifications and an 8-10 week delivery - \$22,340.00, less trade in of \$2,340 = net bid of \$20,000.00.

Additional options were suggested and the package will be reviewed with Kevin Smith, Highway Director. A decision will be reached by the Selectmen's meeting on November 10th.

Chris Charles re: Old Business:

prior to opening of Proposals for mapping of Shepaug River Floodplain, Chris Charles asked to make the following points:

- 1) Re: discontinued roads: if a parcel of land on a discontinued road is developed, any agreement should specify that the Town Land Use Commissions, Highway Department, etc. must be allowed access to monitor property for any possible violations.
- 2) Request that the September 16, 2010 minutes of the Board of Selectmen be corrected to show that a discussion took place between Chris Charles and First Selectman Lyon. When asked if the Selectmen had discussed the FOI issue and the offer of the public hearing prior to the meeting on September 16th, Mark replied "No" and then commented "The Selectmen do not exist in a vacuum." Chris again voiced his opinion that if the meetings were recorded, there would not be a need for him to make this addition/correction to the minutes.
- 3) Request last summer that Mary Anne Greene send a copy of the RFP for the Shepaug River mapping project to him when ready.

This request apparently "fell through the cracks". His purpose in making this request was that prior to it's being sent out, there were, in his opinion, various organizations, commissions, people, who may have had valuable input; i.e. Glen Chalder, Northwest CT Conservation District, Planning Commission, Wilbur Smith (Depot Study), Land Use Attorney Mike Ziska, George Blake, Margie Purnell, Betsy Corrigan, DEP, etc. All Commissions should have had a chance to review. Chris felt there might be missed opportunities, perhaps better pricing, more integration with various mapping systems, etc. Chris further asked if the opening of the Proposals could be postponed until some of his suggested contacts were made. Mark explained that Sarah Gager and Dick Carey of the Planning Commission had reviewed the proposal from Lenard Engineering, he had spoken with FEMA, and he and/or the selectmen had touched base with all pertinent parties. Mark also stated that the bid process had been followed. The impetus for this project began several years ago, the validity of the FEMA floodplain maps has been in question and the Selectmen felt it time to begin the process of contour mapping and determine if the final product

agrees or not with the FEMA maps.

Motion:

To continue with the opening of the Requests for Proposals for mapping of the Shepaug River Floodplain.

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

Opening of RFP for Shepaug River Floodplain mapping:

The following Proposals were received:

1) Anchor Engineering, Glastonbury, CT	\$37,784.80
2) T. Michael Alex, Surveyor, Washington, CT	\$19,000.00
3) Berkshire Engineering & Surveying, Bantam, CT	\$22,400.00
4) Dicara Land Surveying Services, Winsted, CT	\$25,840.00
5) Samuel Bertaccini, Jr., Bantam, CT	\$13,653.00
6) BL Companies, Meriden, CT	\$18,800.00
7) CCA, Litchfield & Brookfield, CT	\$16,470.00 **

Jim Brinton asked Chris Charles what might be helpful to address his concerns. Chris again reiterated that Northwest Conservation District and others might be able to give insight into the proposals. Sarah Gager of the Planning Commission will review Friday morning; Lenard Engineering will also review as soon as possible and provide recommendations. Discussion and possibly awarding will take place at the November 10, 2010 Selectmen's meeting. An extension will be extended if necessary.

Purchase of a used generator for the Town Highway Department:

Mark explained he had spoken to Tower Generator Services re: the offer of Wright Electric to sell the Town a used generator. A load test was performed and this generator would provide 100% of the power necessary. Tower Generator would provide a recommendation as to the installation, type of switch equipment, maintenance, etc. John Meeker voiced concern about purchasing a used generator vs. a new one. Discussion continued re: diesel vs. propane, price of new, plus installation, packages available with a new model, etc. Mark offered to get more information by the next Selectmen's meeting on November 10th. Jim Brinton suggested Wright Electric be contacted, thanked for their offer and patience and let them know if they have another opportunity for a purchaser, take it.

NEW BUSINESS:

Waiving of Use of Building Fees for Housatonic Valley Association fundraising auction:

HVA requests financial support from Towns in the Housatonic River Watershed (including those along tributaries like the Shepaug) where HVA is active in preserving the health of the rivers. In the past few years, Washington has waived the fee for using the Town Hall for the annual auction in lieu of a financial contribution.

Motion:

To waive the Use of Building Fee for the HVA when using the Town Hall for their annual auction.

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

Visitors:

John Meeker “seconded” Chris Charles request to have the meetings recorded and asked that the Board of Selectmen reconsider.

Adjournment:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

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

**** Re-Opening of Meeting:**

Another Request for Proposal was discovered that had not been read previously. Therefore the Meeting was re-opened and **Called to order** by Mark Lyon at 6:28 p.m. and the Proposal from CCA was read (*see above under Old Business*).

Adjournment:

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen’s Secretary