

## • April 21, 2005

**Present:** First Selectman Richard C. Sears, Selectmen Nicholas N. Solley and Harry H. Wyant.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Sears called the meeting to order at 4:31p.m.

**Approval of Minutes: Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 7, 2005 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Harry Wyant, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Visitors:** None.

### **Communications:**

- A letter has been received from Mutual of Omaha congratulating **Devon D'Agosta of New Preston** for being chosen as Connecticut's delegate to the Mutual of Omaha's Wild Kingdom Kids' Summit for his essay on the American Crocodile. He will be honored at a special presentation on April 22 at the State Capitol and rewarded with an all-expenses-paid trip to Los Angeles for the Wild Kingdom Kids' Summit on May 4-6. The Board of Selectmen asked that the minutes reflect their congratulations and the Town of Washington's pride for Devon's accomplishment!
- An email has been received from **Susan Payne** on behalf of the **Greenways Committee** notifying the Selectmen of the "beautification" of the small "green" on School Street by the river by the Committee. New plantings have been done that will require watering and maintenance and a request to the school to keep the busses off that area.
- A letter has been received from **Don Brigham** regarding the research he has done on moving **School Board Elections** from the May Town Meeting to November elections. Apparently it can be done but in checking with other Towns, etc, there does not appear to be a desire to make the change. Therefore, for now, School Board Elections will stay as is.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Planning Commission/Depot Study:** The Planning Commission has requested that the Town grant the contract for the Depot Study to the Wilbur Smith Company. **Motion:** To allow the Planning Commission to enter into a contract with the Wilbur Smith Company for a fee not to exceed \$35,000. By Nick Solley, seconded by Dick Sears and unanimously approved.
- **Birch Hill Run roads:** Dick Sears has written a draft of a letter to Mr. T. Peter Pappas, President of Birch Hill Run regarding the acceptance of Birch Hill Run Phase I roads as Town roads. Following inspection, the roads meet the criteria for road standards and the subdivision approvals issued in 1992. The Board of Selectmen will recommend that the formal process of accepting Birch Hill Run and Chestnut Lane by the Town, by referring to the Planning Commission, will begin after minor conditions are met.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility:** Discussion has taken place regarding the Town's Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education joining the consortium whose purpose is to provide strength, share ideas, etc on such subjects as school budgets and tax reform (keeping taxes and

school costs down without sacrificing services). The Town's Board of Finance has voted to do this. Dick expressed his being in favor of adding Washington's name and supporting the concept. **Motion:** To have the Town of Washington's name be a part of the Municipal Consortium for Fiscal Responsibility. By Dick Sears, seconded by Harry Wyant and unanimously approved.

- **Application for Small Cities Community Development Program** for housing renovations to Dodge Farm Apartments. **Motion:** To advertise for requests for proposals from qualified firms or individuals for professional and technical services to prepare a Small Cities Community Development Program Application for housing renovations to Dodge Farm Apartments. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

- The Planning Commission has notified the Board of Selectmen that they have received an application for **scenic road designation for Nettleton Hollow Road**. This will be considered at the Commission's May 3rd meeting. The Board is in support of this but would like to notify the Nettleton Hollow Association of the planned and scheduled work that will be done on the bridge over Sprain Brook and the reclaiming and repaving of approximately 1.3 miles of the road.

- The **Zoning Commission** will be holding an informational meeting on April 25th at 7:30 to discuss possible **regulation changes**.

- The **Board of Education meeting** scheduled for April 25th at 7:00p.m. will deal with the primary school renovation projects and the First Selectmen of Bridgewater, Roxbury and Washington will speak on the issue.

- Dick Sears has been working with Dan McGuinness and Tom McGowan regarding proposed **Zoning regulations** that would include the new **boat ramp** on Lake Waramaug.

**Adjournment: Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 4:59p.m. as there was no further business to discuss. By Nick Solley, seconded by Harry Wyant and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary