

August 26, 2004

Present: Selectmen: Nicholas Solley, Harry Wyant

Press: John Addyman, VOICES; Akiko Matsuda, Republican-American

Guests: Washington Art Ass'n.: Lucy Averill, John McCarthy, Pres., Peter Talbot; Frank Adams

Selectman Nick Solley called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. in the absence of First Selectman Dick Sears.

Minutes: Minutes of the August 12 and 13, 2004 meetings were tabled until the next meeting since Nick was not in attendance; therefore, there was not a quorum to consider their approval.

Visitors:

Washington Art Association: Representatives from the Washington Art Ass'n. requested the Board's support regarding the use of Town land to provide an expansion to their building in the Depot. As a member of the community for over fifty years and with a membership of 600+, the Art Association felt they have provided vital programs to the community and hopes to remain in the Depot. This would require approximately 50 ft. of town land situated north of the building. Nick voiced his concern over giving up parking area, the future use of the old firehouse building, which is situated next to the Art Association, and the sale of Town property that would require variances from Town Zoning and Wetlands regulations. The members noted they are aware of these concerns and would seek approvals prior to purchase of the property. The proposal would require referral to the Planning Commission, as well as a Town Meeting. The Board requested a more specific request in writing so that it might be considered at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Former Town Garage Site - Titus Road: Frank Adams suggested it would be helpful to know exactly what uses would be permitted at the former town garage property on Titus Road, especially regarding wetlands and health. The Board agreed while the land seems sizeable in area, it is very limited in use for many reasons, including setbacks from the river, floodplain elevation, a DEP restriction, etc. They also noted it would be difficult for the Land Use Commissions and Building and Health Departments to answer this question without specific details in front of them. Nick will pursue this further.

Appointments:

Inland Wetlands Citation Officer: Nick reported First Selectman Sears had appointed Jim Powers as a second Hearing Officer for hearings regarding Inland Wetlands Citations in the event of any possible conflict of interest.

Planning Commission Resignation: The Board accepted with regret the resignation of Robert Buck as an alternate member of the Planning Commission.

Old Business:

Bid: Pavilion Bathroom and Storage: The Board elected at this time not to act on this bid and to defer this matter to a later time.

Special Town Meeting: Reminder: A special Town Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to consider and act upon the proposed Lake Waramaug Agreement. Electors and owners of property assessed in excess of \$1,000 are eligible to vote on this matter.

New Business:

Revisions within Land Use Staff: Nick reported Janet Hill, the Town's Land Use Coordinator, has agreed to serve as Inland Wetlands Secretary in addition to her responsibilities as the secretary for the Planning and Zoning Commissions. Mike Ajello, current Inland Wetlands and part-time Zoning Enforcement Officer, has agreed to increase his hours in the Zoning Enforcement area to relieve Janet of this responsibility.

Special Town Meeting: Nicholas Solley made a motion that a Special Town Meeting be held on September 9th, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. to elect a member to the Shepaug Valley Regional School District #12 Board of Education. Harry Wyant seconded the motion. Motion unanimously passed. This election will be held to replace Dan Leab, who recently resigned from the Board due to conflicts in his schedule. The Selectmen would like to hear from anyone interested in this position. Nominees will be presented from the floor of the Town Meeting.

Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting: A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 1, 2004 at 8:00 a.m. in preparation for the municipal and community development process that will commence in the near future. The Selectmen will review their current capital projects with a view toward future projects.

Review of Town Personnel Responsibilities: At the request of the Board of Finance, the Selectmen will review existing personnel responsibilities, as well as future potential positions that they feel may be needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Gollow
Selectman's Assistant