

• **May 3, 2007**

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

Press: Ann Compton - VOICES

Public: Roderick M. Wyant III, Valerie Andersen

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

Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the April 19, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Communications:

- **Letter from Maria del Pilar Angulo:** Dick Sears read the letter from Ms. Angulo in which she requests permission to use town property for a coffee/tea/newspaper cart. Ms. Angulo has also inquired what is needed in terms of permits - these being a retail permit in a commercially zoned area, health and zoning permits. After discussion, the Selectmen agreed that the use of town property would not be appropriate, as it would set a precedent, and that Ms. Angulo should be encouraged to seek permission from a private property owner.
- **Email from Valerie Andersen:** Dick Sears read an email received from Valerie Andersen asking if it were possible to have the Town's Hartford attorney "weigh in on the school configuration debate." Roxbury and Bridgewater are stating that they may take legal action against the Regional School Board because of what they feel would be a breaking of the document that created the Region in 1967 if the primary schools were to be consolidated. Valerie stated she feels this is their way of stopping the referendum in June on consolidation and her concern is that the Town of Washington has many people who would take part in a referendum and would have more to lose if it did not take place. She feels the Board of Selectmen should "take this seriously" and have the document reviewed. Mark Lyon stated he feels that this issue should be between the school board and the towns who are resisting and if Washington were to take Valerie's suggestion, it may generate more animosity. Nick Solley asked what the school board's counsel's position was. Valerie explained that they saw no reason why the referendum should not take place. They do not feel the original document would be broken. She feels that if Washington's counsel were to give the same opinion, it could help the school board and give a strong position to the other two towns. The Selectmen thanked Valerie for her opinion but felt at this time they would not seek additional legal counsel.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Appointment of Roderick M. Wyant III to ZBA: Motion:** To appoint Roderick M. Wyant III, unaffiliated, as an alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals to fill a vacancy until 11/09. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon. Discussion took place as to whether the appointment would actually be until 11/09 or until the next election in 11/07. The motion to appoint Rod passed unanimously and the date to which the appointment goes will be clarified by the next Selectmen's meeting.
- **Appointment of Edgar Berner to the Beach Facilities Committee: Motion:** To appoint Edgar Berner to the Beach Facilities Committee. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion - Dick explained that as Chairman of the Lake Waramaug Authority, Edgar Berner was very interested in this

committee as was its chair, Ray Reich, in having him on the committee. Dick also mentioned a question posed by Joe Mustich regarding Mr. Berner's residency. Mr. Berner is a resident of Warren; however, Dick feels that his chairmanship of LWA, which represents the towns of Washington, Warren and Kent, makes him a wise choice for this committee, which is advisory only. Mark Lyon stated he questions whether a non-resident should serve on this committee as it is a Town of Washington project, and a Town of Washington facility. The boat launch, in his opinion, would be a different matter as that serves all three towns. Dick explained that since LWA's equipment would be stored at our beach and they may be contributing financially to the construction or reconstruction of a storage building, he felt it logical to have a representative on the committee. Nick Solley made the suggestion to have Edgar serve as an "ex-officio" member of the committee and amended the Motion to that end. It was not seconded. Dick repeated the original motion, Nick seconded it and it passed with their two votes.

• **Appointment of the 16 Titus Road Committee: Motion:** To appoint the following to the 16 Titus Road Committee: Dick Carey from Planning, Joe Fredlund from Parks and Recreation, Linda Frank from Conservation, Susan Werkhoven from Housing, Jim Brinton from Board of Finance and Republican Town Committee and Nick Solley from Board of Selectmen. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon. Discussion - Nick explained that the task of this committee would be to review the old town garage property and explore future uses. There may be a few additional appointments made. The motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

• **Invitation to Bid for Master Plan, Bryan Memorial Town Hall. Motion:** To extend an Invitation to Bid for a Master Plan for upgrade/replacement of mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection systems of Bryan Memorial Town Hall. Master Plan report will allow for phased work, suggest optional approaches and energy efficiencies, and include design and architectural recommendations and pricing estimates. A site visit is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 16, 2007. Proposals will be received until 4:00 p.m. on May 31, 2007. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

• **Setting the Agenda for the May 24th Annual Town Budget Meeting: Motion:** To set the Agenda for the May 24, 2007 Annual Town Budget Meeting as:

1. To consider and act upon the proposed General Fund Expenses for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.
2. To consider and act upon the proposed Nonrecurring Capital Expenses for the 2007-2008 fiscal year.
3. To discuss and consider amending the tax abatement granted to the First Congregational Church for the Ellsworth Apartments.
4. To elect representatives to the Shepaug Valley Region #12 Board of Education.

By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

• **Valerie Andersen:** see above under "Communications."

Adjournment:

• **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and

unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary