

• July 13, 2006

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

Press: Ann Compton-Voices, Sydney Schwartz-Waterbury Republican, Rebecca Ransom-Litchfield County Times, Nancy Hutson-Danbury News Times

Public: Ken Cornet, Joe Mustich, Janet Buonaiuto, Helen Gray, Joan Gauthey, Charlotte Johnson, Janet Wildman, Linda McGarr, Sheila Anson, Todd Peterson, Debra Avery, Jennifer Phillips, Laughlin Phillips, Jane Boyer and other members of the community.

Motion: To include subsequent business not already on the agenda. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon. Dick explained this had to do with extending an invitation to Bid for a tanker for the Fire Department. Unanimously approved.

Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the June 29, 2006 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

Visitors: Dick Sears welcome the numerous attendees at today's meeting and invited their comments. They were at this meeting to continue the discussion of the Town of Washington holding a special Town Meeting to introduce a resolution of impeachment against George W. Bush and Richard B. Cheney. Those present made comments for and against the holding of the Special Town Meeting. Others spoke of wanting to allow people the right to express their opinion but felt a Special Town Meeting was not the proper venue. Dick Sears explained that the petition that was submitted requesting the Special Town Meeting was legal and that the Board of Selectmen can decide on its own if the request was proper, legal or non frivolous. Mark Lyon and Nick Solley were asked why they did not feel the request was proper. Mark explained his feeling that the Town's legislative body should deal with Town business. He felt he did not infringe on anyone's freedom of speech by voting the way he did, or their freedom to gather. The Board of Selectmen did offer the Town Hall giving citizens the chance to gather and express their intent but he feels a resolution dealing with impeachment is not a Town meeting issue. He is comfortable with his vote and feels that unless the Board is re-petitioned, the vote was taken at the June 15, 2006 Board of Selectmen's meeting, the request denied and that should be honored. Nick Solley offered an explanation of his vote, acknowledging his vote may have been partially emotional, but felt that a town meeting on such a divisive debate would not be beneficial to the Town or "proper". Nick suggested getting a legal opinion on the matter. Dick asked the petitioners several times what their intent was and if there was another way to accomplish that. He offered a model based on the Town of Salisbury holding a "Special Board of Selectmen's Meeting" at which the issue was presented, a petition was available for signing and that was then sent on to the proper legislators. Petitioners expressed their feeling that only those in favor of the impeachment petition would attend but if there were to be a Special Town Meeting people from both sides would be more likely to attend. Dick brought the discussion to a conclusion assuring those present that the Board of Selectmen would continue giving the matter their utmost thought and the discussion would continue.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Honorary First Selectman for a Day - Erik Quist:** Dick Sears read a proclamation declaring July 12, 2006 at Erik Quist Day in the Town of Washington. Eight year old Erik held a press conference at the Town Hall yesterday suggesting all Town employees be given a raise and a party . Erik earned this honor by winning the Washington Ambulance Association poster contest "Help us to Find You" which dealt with the importance of people properly numbering their houses in accordance with the Town ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Extend an Invitation to Bid for Roof Replacement at the New Preston Firehouse: Motion:** To extend an Invitation to Bid for the replacement of the roof at the New Preston Firehouse, 185 New Milford Tpk, New Preston, CT. Bids will be received until 4:00p.m. on August 10, 2006 at the Selectman's Office, 2 Bryan Plaza, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794. Specifications may be obtained at 860-868-2259. Building should be inspected prior to the submission of bid. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.
- **Extend an Invitation to Bid for a Mobile Water Fire Apparatus: Motion:** To extend an Invitation to Bid, on behalf of the Washington Volunteer Fire Department, for one (1) Mobile Water Fire Apparatus. Bids will be received until 4:00p.m. on August 10, 2006 at the Selectman's Office, 2 Bryan Plaza, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794. Specifications may be obtained at 860-868-2259. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.
- **Police Ticket money to Town:** Dick reported that at the last session of the State legislature, a law was passed that would allow the towns in the State to retain a \$10 surcharge from certain types of motor vehicle moving violation tickets issued within that town. More details will be forthcoming.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectman at 5:49p.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss a potential municipal property transaction. By Dick Sears, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

Executive Session ended at 6:32p.m. and the Selectmen re-entered the Regular Meeting.

Adjournment: Motion: To adjourn the Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:33p.m. as there was no further business to discuss. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Sears and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Secretary