

# September 1, 2011

*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

**Press:** Ann Compton – VOICES.

**Public:** John Meeker.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

## **Approval of Minutes:**

Motion:

To correct the posted Agenda to read “Minutes of the August 24, 2011 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

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

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the August 18, 2011 Regular Meeting and the August 24, 2011 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

**Appointments/Resignations:** None.

## **First Selectman’s Report:**

Mark Lyon reported the following:

As First Selectman, Mark commended all of the Town’s Emergency Services and employees for their efforts before, during and after Hurricane Irene. Emergency Management Coordinator, Rocky Tomlinson; Resident State Trooper, Steve Sordi; Fire Chief Mark Showalter; Ambulance Crew Chief Susan Wallace-Wyant, Highway Director, Kevin Smith and First Selectman Mark Lyon began meeting Thursday evening to make certain everything was in place. All department personnel – volunteer and employees, worked tirelessly and efforts paid off. The Town Hall was opened as a shelter. No one needed this service but it was in place.

Tompkins Hill Road and Spring Hill Road are closed. Many others are requiring a great deal of work but are passable.

CL&P sent a liaison that was present in the Town Hall for two days. Very helpful in prioritizing emergencies, road closures, etc. with CL&P. As of this meeting, there are still multiple outages in Town but we are hopeful they will be restored by the end of the day or by tomorrow.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Awarding of Bid for Backhoe/Loader:

Motion:

To postpone awarding of the bid for a Backhoe/Loader until the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting on September 15, 2011.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton.

Discussion:

Demos from two low bidders could not be delivered to the Highway Garage this week due to the hurricane but should be able to be within the next two weeks. Kevin Smith, Highway Director, has reviewed bids.

The motion passed unanimously approved.

Opening of Requests for Proposal for Engineering Services related to the replacement of Shinar Mountain Road Bridge over Walker Brook Road: The following were received:

**1) Lenard Engineering,  
Winsted, CT**

Preliminary Engineering Services	\$32,900.00
Bidding Services	\$4,800.00
Construction-Related Services	\$16,900.00 Time & Materials (Estimate)

**2) Land Data Engineers,  
Waterbury, CT**

Preliminary Engineering Services	\$3,600.00
Bidding-Contract Services	\$3,000.00
Construction-Engineering Services	\$13,500.00

**3) Milone & MacBroom,  
Cheshire, CT**

Preliminary Engineering Services	\$39,985.00
Bidding-Contract Services	\$2,800.00
Construction-engineering Services	\$6,500.00
Optional Task-subsurface Exploration	\$1,500.00
Reimbursable and Direct Expenses	\$6,000.00

**4) Arthur Howland & Associates,  
New Milford, CT**

Preliminary Engineering Services	\$5,400.00
Bidding-Contract Services	\$500.00
Construction-Engineering Services	\$200.00 per inspection

**5) WMC Consulting Engineers,  
Newington, CT**

Preliminary Engineering Services	\$8,500.00
Bidding-Contract Services	\$23,700.00
Construction-Engineering Services	\$8,500.00
Direct Costs (Borings/Reproductions)	\$4,000.00

Bids will be reviewed and awarded at the September 15, 2011 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Discussion of Hurricane Irene damage and related estimated repair costs:

Mark Lyon, following a review with Kevin Smith, has done a Preliminary Damage Assessment for FEMA. In addition to the obvious and above mentioned road damage, the Town may be able to include such things as the damage done to River Walk, and trees that were damaged that are in the Town's right-of-way but that did not come down. At present, the estimated cost for debris removal (overtime only) is approximately \$2,500; replacement and repair of road systems approximately \$471,800. Work needs to be done to the Town's water control systems – the dam at the fire pond behind Town Hall needs to be restored and streambed work needs to be done in Canoe Brook. The estimated total is \$725,000 – this figure may fluctuate depending on the amount of bridgework that will be required. At least three private homes were flooded as well as damage sustained to a private bridge that cannot support vehicular traffic to a home. FEMA information has been passed on to them as well but the extent of their eligibility is not yet known. Mark has also spoken with DEEP and although permitting will still be required for work in watercourses, they will try to keep the process running quickly. Some work, such as the removal of debris from the Town's streams, will be allowed following notification to the Town's Inland Wetlands Commission. The Board of Finance has also asked for a preliminary damage figure.

September 11th Proclamation:

Motion:

To pass the following Proclamation:

***PROCLAMATION***

*WHEREAS, the terrorist actions in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania of September 11, 2001, will never be forgotten by the citizens of the United States of America; and WHEREAS, the Town of Washington supports the honoring of all lives lost as a result of that tragedy, particularly the members of all emergency services; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Washington recognizes that a free and open society depends upon citizen involvement in caring for the common good; and WHEREAS, the highest form of citizenship is when individuals place the safety and well-being of others above themselves; and*

*WHEREAS, the Town of Washington deeply appreciates those who so unselfishly serve-the members of our Town Emergency Services; NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed, that we, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, Connecticut, does hereby declare that Washington will observe September 11, 2011 as Emergency Services Day.*

*AND FURTHERMORE, be it proclaimed, that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, Connecticut, invites all citizens to give thanks for and honor all members of our Town Emergency Services.*

*Signed, this First day of September, 2011 by:*

*Mark E Lyon, First Selectman*

*James L Brinton, Selectman*

*Nicholas N Solley, Selectman*

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

**Visitors:**

John Meeker inquired about the contract between the Town of Washington and Verizon re: telecommunications tower on the Town's Highway Department property. Mark Lyon explained that he has spoken with the Town's consultant for lease negotiations who reported not yet hearing back from Verizon. Mark urged him to make contact as soon as possible. John also inquired about damage from Hurricane Irene at the Washington Primary School. Mark reported that Region #12 had hired a company to come in to pump the flooded basement. A lower floor classroom was damaged due to flooding and that class has been temporarily moved the school's library for the school's scheduled opening.

**Adjournment:**

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Selectmen's Secretary

**Public Information Meeting and Special Meeting**

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**Present:** First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectman Nicholas N. Solley.

**Public:** Barbara and Charles Robinson, Anne McFarland, Lori Carusillo.

**PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING RE:**

Discontinuance of a portion of Clark Road:

**Call to Order:**

First Selectman Mark Lyon called the Public Information Meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

**Discussion:**

Mark explained to those present – all of whom are abutting property owners to the portion of Clark Road under discussion for discontinuance – that they would continue to have access to their properties over a right-of-way, only the Town of Washington will not be responsible for maintenance. Any abutting property owners can use the right-of-way to gain access or to provide utility access to their property. It will become the responsibility of those who use it and it can be developed to a level they choose. If multiple abutting property owners use the right-of-way they will come to an agreement amongst themselves.

Mark distributed a handout that had a map of the properties involved and excerpts from the CT State Statutes referring to the discontinuance of highways.

There was general discussion about property values, ability to subdivide, and liability issues. The Selectmen agreed to request Town Attorney David Miles to 1) clarify the liability questions; and 2) clarify the statutes that allows access to the right-of-way by property owners.

Following this evening's meeting, the Selectmen will refer the discontinuance of this portion of Clark Road to the Planning Commission. If they are in agreement, they will refer it back to the Selectmen for placement on the Town Meeting Agenda for a vote by the townspeople.

## **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:**

### **Call to Order:**

First Selectman Mark Lyon called the Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen to order at 7:45 p.m.

### **Motion:**

To recommend the discontinuance of a portion of Clark Road to the Planning Commission

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley.

### **Discussion:**

the Selectmen will contact one of the abutting property owners who have not yet contacted their office.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **Adjournment:**

### **Motion:**

To adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary