

## • **September 20, 2007**

**Present:** First Selectman Richard C. Sears, Selectmen Nicholas N. Solley.

Press: Ann Compton-VOICES

Public: Ken Cornet, Joe Mustich, Janet Buonaiuto, Dick Carey, Todd Peterson, Dina Fulton, Chris Charles.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Sears called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m. with apologies for an unavoidable delay. On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Dick extended condolences to Selectmen Mark Lyon on the death of his father-in-law.

### **Minutes:**

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the September 6, 2007 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen by Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

### **Appointments/Resignations:**

- The Selectmen accepted with regret the **resignations of Katherine Coe** (effective immediately) **from Inland Wetlands Commission, Reese Owens** (effective immediately) **from Building and Properties Committee and Peter Arturi** (effective 12/31/07) **from Historic District Commission.** Dick reminded the public that we have several vacancies on Town Commissions and are looking for volunteers. The Democratic and Republican Town Committees have been notified as well.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Used Oil Furnace:** No report - Mark Lyon researching this.
- **Awarding of Bids:**

**1. Boat Ramp and Parking:** Dick Sears explained that the Town had \$245,000 in its budget for this project. As all bids came in above this amount, the Lake Waramaug Association has pledged funds up to \$60,000 to cover any shortfall in order that the project can continue and the Lake Waramaug Agreement be adhered to. Dick read the letter from the Association, which is attached to these minutes. That being said, **Motion:** To award the bid for the Boat Ramp and Parking to **Hawley Construction** of Danbury, CT for \$296,376.10. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion: Dick explained that the project's engineer had reviewed all bids received and after meeting with Hawley and the Board of Selectmen, recommended and approved of Hawley being awarded the bid. Both Dick and Nick expressed the positive working relationship with them on the Town Garage project - on time and on budget. There will be a 120-day build period from the date the contract is signed. The motion passed unanimously.

Ken Cornet asked why the lowest bidder was not awarded the job and it was explained that that bid did not include the floating dock and an additional amount of monies would need to be spent which would actually bring the total cost above Hawley's bid. Janet Buonaiuto asked about guarantees and maintenance and it was explained the Town would be responsible for maintenance just as it is for all its properties. Todd Peterson asked if the pledge from LWA should be in a more formal or legal contract. The Selectmen felt the letter stated the Town "may rely on this letter as evidence of the Association's

agreement to make such payment" and that was satisfactory to them. Dick Carey said he had personally spoken with Mr. Frank about this issue and he too was satisfied that the commitment would be honored.

**2. Fire Cistern, New Preston: Motion:** To award the bid for the Fire Cistern in New Preston to **Target Enterprises** of Thomaston, CT for \$23,598.57. By Nick Solley, seconded by Dick Sears. Discussion: Nick explained that other bidders did not include installation and the Town would have to hire a crane that would be very costly. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Concrete Floor, Town Garage: Motion:** To award the bid for the installation of a concrete floor at the Town Garage to **MGM Concrete Construction** of Newington, CT for \$23,100.00. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

- **Opening of Bids for:**

**1. Request for Proposal for Engineering Services, Walker Brook Road:** No bids were received. Engineers will be contacted.

**2. Generator:** The following bids were received:

**Wright Electric Company**, Washington, CT \$18,500.00

**McCarthy Electric Company**, New Preston, CT \$31,748.69

**Eagle Electric Company**, Washington, CT \$16,900.00

Bids will be reviewed and awarded at the Selectmen's meeting on October 4, 2007.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Authorization to sign "Nondiscrimination Certification:** Dick

Explained that when State Funds are received, in this case for Mygatt Road, a resolution needs to be passed giving him as First Selectman the authority to sign the agreement. This is standard procedure. **Motion:** To approve the following Resolution: Resolved, that Richard C. Sears, First Selectman, be and hereby is, authorized to sign the nondiscrimination certification for the agreement entitled "STEAP Grant Agreement Between the State of Connecticut and the Town of Washington for the Design and Construction of the Mygatt Road Improvements" utilizing State funds under the Small Town Economic Assistance Program. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

- **Renewable Energy Task Force:** Dick explained that because of the

Town's acceptance of the SMART Power initiative, he would like to establish a Task Force. Two individuals of the Washington Environmental Council have expressed interest and he is currently seeking other interested parties. Ken Cornet suggested that the Task Force be expanded to explore additional ways of saving funds and energy for the Town and residents. Currently, Dick explained, the Town is part of an oil and energy consortium.

- **29 Revere Road property:** Dick Explained this is a sub-divided lot

on which the owners have not paid taxes nor built a house. The Town now has possession. The Board of Finance has requested the Board of Selectmen look into the history of the property, determine possible

uses for the Town and/or should it be sold.

- **October 1, 2007 Town Meeting Agenda: Motion:** The voters and

electors of the Town of Washington are hereby warned that the Annual Town Meeting will be held on Monday, October 1, 2007 at 7:30 p.m. at Bryan Memorial Town Hall, Washington Depot, CT to consider and act upon the following: 1) To set the dates for annual town budget hearing and meeting in May 2008; and 2) To amend the Town's Transfer Station ordinance. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Visitors:**

- **Ryan Thompson** was unable to attend today's meeting due to a death in his family.

- **Janet Buonaiuto** returned to the conversation to the Boat Ramp and

Expressed her support of Todd Peterson's idea to have the "pledge" from LWA put into more of a legal document. Both Dick and Nick spoke of their being comfortable with the letter and felt LWA had proven their offer could be trusted. The breakdown of funding was explained as follows: \$100,000 from the State, \$100,000 from the Town of Washington, \$25,000 from Warren, \$5,000 from Kent and an initial payment of \$25,000 from the LWA has been received. Demolition of the boathouse cost \$10,000. Janet then asked about the demolition and where the materials were taken. She is concerned about the fact that it was not tested for lead and her concern, therefore, is for the safety of beachgoers. Dick explained that all generally accepted demolition practices were followed. The State has acknowledged that the Town did not have to test for lead. He thanked Janet for her concerns and for following up on making sure all the necessary paperwork was filed.

- **Dick Carey** asked about the generator contract and the plans that had

been approved at the August 24th Planning Commission meeting. It was explained that the generator will be placed on the existing slab, propane tank is already in the ground and filled. This latest bid is to purchase and have the generator delivered. It will then need to be installed and connected to the transfer switch by a contractor.

**Adjournment: Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:29 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Nick Solley, seconded by Dick Sears and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary