

September 4, 2008

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen James L. Brinton and Nicholas N. Solley.

*Press: Ann Compton-VOICES, Jack Coraggio-Litchfield County Times.

*Public: Salvatore & Frances DeSimone, Tony Bedini, Chris Charles.

Call to Order:

First Selectman Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Minutes:

* Motion: To approve the Minutes of the August 21, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

* Motion: To approve the Minutes of the August 28, 2008 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

Communications:

* ASAP: The Board of Selectmen has received a letter from JoAnne Torti, Executive Director of the After School Arts Program thanking the Town of Washington for its contribution to the program. "Without help from the Region 12 towns, ASAP would not be able to provide artistic and cultural opportunities to the community...."

Appointments/Resignations:

* Commission and Board Vacancies: Mark Lyon gave tribute to John Allen whose passing leaves vacancies on three boards/commissions – Buildings & Properties, Board of Assessment Appeals and Board of Finance. His dedication to and for the Town of Washington will be greatly missed.

Mark has written to both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees asking for suggestions for these vacancies as well as for an alternate vacancy on the Inland Wetlands Commission and the Historic District Commission.

First Selectman's Report:

* Optasite Towers, LLC has notified the Board of Selectmen of their proposal for an AT&T cell tower on Rabbit Hill Road, Warren. As it would be within 250 feet of the Washington town line we have received this notification. Mark Lyon will be meeting with a representative from Optasite on September 11. Mark has also turned over the information he has received to the Conservation Commission's Cell Tower Subcommittee.

* Household Hazardous Waste Day has been scheduled for Saturday, September 27, 2008 from 9:00a.m. to 3:30p.m. at the New Milford Railroad Station. Information is available at the Town Hall regarding what can be brought for disposal.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Land Use Consultant Applications: The Selectmen have received four proposals for this position. One company's projected fee was too high for the Town to consider without going out to bid. The other three are from: Martin Conor from Goshen, Alan J. Chapin from Marble Dale and Christopher Wood from Woodbury. Each of the Selectmen have reviewed the submitted proposals and following a short discussion it was determined that the three candidates should come in to speak with the Selectmen personally. This will be scheduled for the week of September 8th. Tony Bedini asked if members of the Land Use Commissions could review the materials and outcomes of the "interviews" prior to hiring.

Chris Charles suggested having a list of pertinent questions that could be asked of all three candidates.

NEW BUSINESS:

* 9-11 Proclamation: The Washington Volunteer Fire Department will again host a Memorial Service on September 11th at the Depot Firehouse.

* Motion: The Board of Selectmen will issue a Proclamation stating: that the Town will be honoring all lives lost as a result of the tragedy of September 11, 2001; it appreciates those who so unselfishly serve as the volunteer members of our Town Emergency Services; proclaims September 11, 2008 as Emergency Services Day; and invites all citizens to give thanks for and honor all volunteer members of our Town Emergency Services. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved. The Proclamation was signed and will be hung at the Washington Depot Firehouse.

Visitors:

* Washington Police Officer Scott Flaton was not able to attend today's meeting but will be at the next regularly scheduled meeting on the 18th. He is currently fulfilling his required hours in the company of Officer Kessler and Resident Trooper Sordi and all reports are "he's doing fine!"

* Mr. and Mrs. DeSimone of Sunset Lane attended today's meeting to discuss the danger of the intersection of Sunset and Upper Church Hill Road. Mr. DeSimone provided the Selectmen with a history of prior visits to the Selectmen as well as photographs. He stated his willingness to meet at the site with the appropriate person(s). Mark Lyon offered to speak with Kevin Smith about this issue and will contact Mr. DeSimone.

Adjournment:

* Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:10p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Nick Solley, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Secretary