

October 1, 2009

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: Chris Charles, Kevin Smith-Highway Director.

Call to Order:

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

Motion:

To add subsequent business not already on the agenda.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton.

Discussion:

Mark Lyon explained that he had received a request from Robert "Rocky" Tomlinson regarding a communication on the subject of Cell towers.

The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes:

*** Motion:**

To approve the minutes of the September 17, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the September 24, 2009 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

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

Communications:

*** Michael Meagher letter re: Findlay Road:**

Mark explained that he had spoken with Mr. Meagher prior to receiving this letter. Mr. Meagher expressed concern over the report of paving the upper section of Findlay Road and his request that it be considered as a Scenic Road. Mark explained that due to the numerous washouts, the cost of maintaining, water run-offs, icing, etc. it was felt that in the interest of proper maintenance and public safety, the paving was scheduled. Despite this conversation, Mr. Meagher sent a letter expressing his concerns. Findlay Road's upper section was paved the day the letter was received.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

First Selectman's Report:

*** Tinker Hill Road:**

preliminary work has been done to improve the drainage and paving will take place next week from the base of the road at the Lake to # 55.

* Mark attended the After the Storm Presentation sponsored by the Connecticut Tree Warden's

Association, which used the tornadoes in Wethersfield as an example to be learned from.

* DOT Meeting re: AARA grants:

Mark will be attending next week – through the NW Council of Governments Washington may be eligible for a \$275,000 grant that could be used for work on the Romford Road Bridge (Route 202 end). Work could substantially extend the life of the bridge. To replace it could possibly cost \$1 million.

* Washington designation as a Heart Safe Community has been granted through the efforts of the Washington Emergency Medical Services. A presentation will be held at the Depot firehouse on Saturday October 17 at 11:00 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Report on 108 New Milford Turnpike:

Mark Lyon, Ron Winkler, Principal of Washington Partners, and Russ Dirienzo who performed the environmental study met to review the report. Concord Construction of Kent, CT has been hired to do the remediation as Mr. Winkler has agreed to proceed with the clean-up allowing the Town of Washington to purchase as agreed.

* Report on Beach House Project – change orders and related costs:

Mark prepared a list of “change orders” that have been done on the Beach House project. Nick Solley will be meeting with the architect on Friday, 10/2 to discuss grades, etc. He has been speaking with the Health Department regarding the well, footing drains, distance from the structure, etc. Brad Sedito will be following up with them. Chris Charles complimented the Selectmen on the upgrades to the insulation and again stressed his opinion on meeting the highest standards possible on future projects, if not this one.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Invitation to Bid Plumb Hill Road Drainage Improvements:

Highway Director, Kevin Smith, explained he was working on preparing the bid documents, the various segments of the project, etc. he began to do a cost analysis and spoke with Mark Lyon about doing the project “in house” as opposed to going out to bid. This would involve contracting with an excavator, renting some equipment and using our highway personnel. Advantages would include purchasing material ourselves and starting the project sooner – not having to wait for the bid process to be completed. This would result in a significant savings to the Town (perhaps \$40-45,000 +/-). Both Kevin and Mark have spoken with Lenard Engineering who did the engineering study for Plumb Hill Road - they also thought it feasible to do in house. The Selectmen had several questions for Kevin and discussed the advantages of his suggestion.

Motion:

To do the Plumb Hill Road Drainage Improvement Project “in house” and not extend an Invitation to Bid as listed on the agenda for today’s meeting.

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

* Invitation to Bid River Walk Pavilion Fireplace:

Motion:

To extend an Invitation to Bid for the construction of a fireplace and hearth to be attached to the River Walk Pavilion at the Washington Primary School grounds. Bids will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. on October 15, 2009 in the Selectmen’s Office, Bryan Memorial Town Hall, 2 Bryan Plaza, P.O. Box 383, Washington Depot, CT 06794. Bids will be opened publicly and read aloud at the Selectmen’s Meeting

on October 15, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. For specifications, please call the Selectmen's Office at 860-868-2259.
By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley.

Discussion:

the Parks and Rec Commission has discussed this project for quite some time, have received comments of support, feel it would enhance the Pavilion rentals, etc. Funding is being worked on and the bid will be awarded only if funding is all in place.

The motion passed unanimously.

***Telecommunication Assessment Coverage:**

Emergency Management Coordinator, Robert "Rocky" Tomlinson has drafted a letter to the Connecticut Siting Council requesting a telecommunication assessment coverage plan within the Town of Washington. Emergency Personnel in Town have expressed the importance of coverage and Rocky has attended meetings of the Conservation Commission and has expressed his opinion that the Cell Tower Committee should have members on it that would look at issues other than environmental. The letter to the Siting Council would be over the signature of the First Selectman.

Motion:

To send the letter to the CT Siting Council requesting the telecommunication assessment coverage plan within the Town.

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

Visitors:

*** Chris Charles:**

Chris expressed his favor in the Town purchasing the Moore property at 108 New Milford Tpk, using Open Space Funds, but again stated his opinion that using the property strictly for open space is not what he would want. He would like to see the option that other uses could be looked into in the future, such as housing, etc. Chris also brought up the issue of the storm water drainage application that was made several years ago to the Inland Wetlands Commission for Romford Road and a Rumsey Hall School project. Chris maintains there are issues with this application that he has expressed concern over and will again write a letter outlining these issues.

Adjournment:

*** Motion:**

To adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Anne Greene

Selectmen's Secretary