

October 2, 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: Wendy Federer, Tony Bedini.

Call to Order: First Selectman Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION: To include subsequent business not already on the agenda. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion: Mark explained this would be concerning the Opening of Bids for roadwork. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

* Motion: To approve the minutes of the September 18, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

Communications:

* Washington Food Market Thank You:

The Board of Selectmen has received a thank you letter from the Verrastro Family regarding the placement of the bench in memory of Gene on the Town Hall lawn. Funds were raised by Washington Food Market employees, the Village Improvement Society and the Town's Highway Department installed the bench.

Appointments/Resignations:

* Appointment of Scott J. Tilden:

Motion: To appoint Scott J. Tilden, Unaffiliated, as an alternate to the Historic District Commission until 1/1/09. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion: Mark has spoken with both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees and a resume has been received from Mr. Tilden. The motion passed unanimously.

* Appointment of Richard O. Carey:

Motion: To appoint Richard O. Carey, Republican, to the Board of Assessment Appeals until 11/11. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton. Discussion: Mark has spoken with both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees and a resume has been received from Mr. Carey. The motion passed unanimously.

First Selectman's Report:

* WPS Lease:

Mark reported that Tony Bedini and Jack Field have been volunteering their time and are getting cost estimates for drainage issues that are necessary for inclusion in the lease between the Town of Washington and Region #12 for the Washington Primary School. They will give these figures to the Lease Committee.

* Web Site Postings:

Mark reported that the State of Connecticut has passed legislation that requires towns with official web sites to post meeting notices, minutes, etc. in the same time frame required for posting with the Town Clerk. This can be a burden for towns like Washington who have volunteers as their web masters. Should they be away for a day, or a period of time, postings may not be able to be done in the required time frame. The Town could then be considered in violation. Steve Wadelton, Washington's web master, feels he will be able to keep up at the present time. NW Council of Governments has also expressed their concern over this legislation and has reported that several towns in this part of the State have taken down their websites. Other towns have had another entity, i.e. a library, take over the task and then it is not considered an "official" town website. Councils of Governments, Connecticut Organization of Small Towns, and Connecticut Conference of Municipalities have all registered protests with the State.

OLD BUSINESS:

*** Awarding of Bid for two dump trucks:**

Mark explained that none of the bids received were under the approved budgeted amount. The Board of Selectmen is proposing a request to the Board of Finance for an ex-budget appropriation for the short fall. The Town will be selling a truck and the funds realized from this sale should be enough to "pay back" the amount being requested. Motion: To award the Bid for two dump trucks and two sanders to Danbury Dodge, Danbury, CT for a total of \$128,352 contingent upon the Board of Finance's approval of an ex-budget appropriation of \$13,375. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

*** Awarding of Bid for a police vehicle:**

Motion: To award the Bid for a police vehicle to Shaker Automotive Group, Family Ford, Inc, Waterbury, CT for a total of \$23,246.39 (this figure represents a trade-in of \$750 for our old police vehicle). By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

*** Frisbie Road Discontinuance/Agreement:**

Mark explained that at the October 2007 Town Meeting a portion of Frisbie Road was formally discontinued. A written agreement has been drawn up that confirms the verbal agreement between the Town of Washington and the Gruson's regarding the use of the current turn-around by the Town and acknowledges that this will remain the case until such time as the Grusons, or any subsequent owner, builds to town standards (at their cost) a turn-around at the termination of Frisbie Road for the use of Town equipment. The Town attorney has reviewed this. Motion: To accept the agreement between the Town of Washington and Lindsey Gruson and Jane Whitney Gruson and to invite them to sign such agreement to be made part of the land records. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

*** Opening of Bids for reclaiming and repaving of Curtis Road and overlay of South Street:**

The following bids were received:

- 1) Waters Construction, New Milford, CT \$248,688.
- 2) S&S Paving, Southbury, CT \$272,860

The bids will be reviewed by the Selectmen and Highway Director.

Motion: To schedule a special Board of Selectmen's Meeting on October 9, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. to award this bid. By Nick Solley, seconded by Mark Lyon and unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Wykeham Road improvements in regard to Wykeham Rise LLC application for 101 Wykeham Road resort/inn/spa: Mark explained that part of Wykeyam Rise LLC's proposal/application to the Zoning Commission involves improvements to the site line of a section of Wykeham Road. As these improvements would be made in the Town's right-of-way, the Board of Selectmen needs to review the proposed improvements and ultimately give approval for them. These improvements would involve the removal of some trees, and regrading of property opposite the proposed inn. The Selectmen, and those present at today's meeting, reviewed the profiles provided by Paul Szymanski of Arthur Howland. It was agreed to ask Paul 1) for a "profile" showing the road's elevation (in addition to the embankment); and 2) a computerized picture, if possible, showing a visual of what the regraded area would look like. Paul will also be invited to the next meeting to answer any questions. The Selectmen would request a performance bond, should approval be granted. Tony Bedini suggested that the applicant also contact the Inland Wetlands Commission prior to doing any of this work.

Adjournment:

* Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:28 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