

## • **October 7, 2004**

**Present:** First Selectman Richard Sears, Selectmen Nicholas Solley and Harry Wyant.

Press: AkikoMatsuda

Public: Charles Sigsway, Irene Allan, Tom Sulewski (Adams and Sons Painting).

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Sears called the meeting to order at 4:32p.m.

**Motion:** To include subsequent business not appearing on the posted agenda for today's meeting. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Minutes: Motion:** To approved the minutes of the September 23, 2004 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Harry Wyant, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

### **Visitors:**

- **Charles Sigsway** of 39 Calhoun Street came to today's meeting to discuss what he feels is a very dangerous traffic situation at the intersection of Route 109 and Calhoun Street. Mr. Sigsway lives on the corner and finds it extremely difficult and potentially dangerous to take a left turn off 109 onto Calhoun and then a quick left into his driveway. Cars coming down Calhoun (often too fast) are the major concern. He also feels taking a right onto Calhoun can be dangerous with cars coming down Calhoun over the "rise" too fast. Mr. Sigsway has spoken to the Police Department, the State DOT and now the Selectmen. He proposes a STOP sign be placed at the intersection on Calhoun Street coming south. The Police and the Selectmen expressed concern that this would cause an additional danger in that cars coming down Calhoun would not see the stopped car(s) until they came over the rise and there could possibly be more accidents caused by "rear endings"(not a long enough sight line). Mr. Sigsway also commented on the speeding traffic going north on Calhoun Street, coming from the village. The whole intersection was studied several years ago with the best recommended solution being to take out the hill - at a very prohibitive cost. It was at that time the blinking "dangerous intersection" sign was installed on Calhoun Street. All are in agreement it is a dangerous spot and the Selectmen agreed to look back into the previous study, give it thought and get back to Mr. Sigsway.

- **Irene Allan**, Chairman of the Board of Education, presented the Selectmen with the Educational Specifications for Booth and Burnham Schools noting that Washington Primary's should be completed soon. These are draft editions and once finalized would be translated into architectural designs. The Facilities and Building committee will be working on these. Irene invited the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to tour the schools (when the students are there would be best) to see what the current situation/problems are. Dick Sears expressed his gratitude to Jay Hubelbank for speaking at the Town Meeting last week on the "Public Education" segment of the Town's Planning Process.

### **Communications:**

- **Don Etherington** has sent a letter regarding the fire storage tank (cistern) and hydrant that has been discussed previously. Mr. Etherington suggested that the tank be installed on the Nick Platt Field in New Preston and would serve the housing complex, the Congregational Church and the village of New Preston. (More under Old Business).

- **Richard Dutton** has written a letter to the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance regarding assessment values, grand list and taxes - who may or may not be paying their fair share. The Selectmen had suggested several months ago that a "study" be conducted. When the results are completed they will

share them with Mr. Dutton and the public.

- **Victoria Cherniske, Judge of Probate** has written the Selectmen regarding the State's discussions of consolidating the probate courts. The Selectmen will invite "Tara" to attend the next Board of Selectmen's meeting on October 21st.

- **Ethan LaBella** has written Mr. Sears regarding the Town putting in a skatepark. Dick will respond.

**Appointments/Resignations: Motion:** To appoint Daniel Sherr as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission until 1-1-06. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- **Awarding of the Bid for the Pavilion Renovation and Construction of Bathroom Addition**  
**Project: Motion:** To award the bid for the Pavilion Bathroom Addition and Renovation to Rusco-Sedito Construction, LLC for \$147,000 **pending the conclusion of a successful fundraising drive by the Parks and Recreation Commission.** (Note: the amount is lower than the submitted total bid amount on August 12, 2004 due to "voluntary alternates" which Mr. Bradford Sedito included in the original bid and because of an offer of donated contractual services). By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

- **Opening of Bids for Painting of Pavilion Hall:** The following bids have been received:

Adam and Sons, Torrington, CT \$23,500

(includes painting the northerly section)

A Stroke of Color, Waterbury, CT \$17,000

+ northerly section 2,200 = \$19,200 Total

Vincent DeRosa, Lakeside, CT \$24,000

+ northerly section 4,000 = \$28,000 Total

The Selectmen will consult with the Buildings and Properties Commission and award the bid at the next Selectmen's Meeting on October 21st.

- **Cistern-Nick Platt Field:** The Planning Commission has not yet discussed - wanted an opinion from the Selectmen. There was discussion regarding the BOS determining the specific location for the cistern and looking into whether STEAP grant monies could be applied to the cost of the installation. **Motion:** The Selectmen approve the Nick Platt Field, New Preston, as a location for the 20,000 gallon cistern provided sufficient ground cover can be achieved below existing grade with the assumption that Washington Community Housing Trust will absorb all costs for installing the cistern. By Nick Solley, seconded by Harry Wyant and unanimously approved.

- **New Preston Fire Hydrant:** The Town has applied for Inland Wetlands approval to install the hydrant on East Shore Road.

- **Discontinuance of a portion of West Mountain Road:** The Planning Commission has sent the Selectmen's request for consideration back to the BOS and asking for a public hearing and/or notification

of neighbors. A public hearing will be held at the next Selectmen's meeting on October 21st and the adjoining land owners will be notified.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

- **Appointment of William C. Bader as Town Historian:** Dick Sears read a citation from the Selectmen.
- **SBC work on East Street/Horse Heaven Road:** The Selectmen have received a notification of installation of electrical boxes. The adjoining property owners have been notified and given copies of the plans.
- **Report of Highway Department work:** Nick Solley reported the Highway Department has been reclaiming and repaving approximately 1400 feet of Shearer Road. Work is nearing completion on Nettleton Hollow Road and should be paved by the middle of the month. Portions of Nichols Hill and Old Litchfield Road will also be re-paved.
- **Implementation of Lake Waramaug Agreement:** Dick Sears reported he will be forming committees to work on several defined tasks as a result of the Agreement (boat house, beach house, and beach). Anyone interested in helping on this should contact Dick.
- **Elderly Tax Relief:** A resident of the Town came to a Board of Finance to ask if there could be consideration of tax relief for the elderly in Town. A Task Force of seniors has been formed to look into what other towns are doing, etc.
- **Driveway paving - 74 River Road:** Rhoda Addison, has asked for the Town's permission to pave her driveway - a portion of which goes over the old railroad right-of-way. Dick Sears has asked the Greenways committee if they have any plans of continuing in that direction - no as not contiguous. He has also consulted with Town Attorney David Miles. Following discussion, it was determined that the BOS would grant Ms. Addison revocable license to pave the portion of her driveway that crosses Town property. The permission would be revoked only if paving became inconsistent with some future use by the Town of Washington of the old railroad bed.**Motion:** To grant revocable license to Rhoda Addison to pave that portion of her driveway that crosses Town property. By Nick Solley, seconded by Harry Wyant and unanimously approved.
- **Donation of Herman Margulies painting:** A Trustee of Mr. Margulies estate has notified the Town that they will be donating a Margulies painting of the 4th of July fireworks to the Town.**Motion:** The Board of Selectmen, on behalf of the Town of Washington, gratefully accepts the gift of the Herman Margulies painting. By Dick Sears, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

**Adjournment: Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m. as there was no further business to discuss. By Nick Solley, seconded by Harry Wyant and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Selectmen's Secretary