

December 5, 2013

Present: First Selectman Mark E. Lyon, Selectmen Richard O. Carey and Jay Hubelbank

Press: Loumarie Rodriguez.

Public: Nick Solley, Clifford Woodruff, Chris Charles, Dimitri Rimsky, Tony Bedini, Peter Talbot.

Call to Order:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the November 21, 2013 meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

By Dick Carey, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications:

* Cheryl Showah email to DOT re: Bee Brook Road:

Ms. Showah sent an email to the State Traffic Administration and copied the Selectmen regarding what she considers to be an excessive speed limit on Bee Brook Road, and requesting signage for a tractor crossing and horse crossing. Mark Lyon explained that following receipt of the email, he contacted the DOT and was informed that a similar request was made and study done in June of 2010 which determined "the existing speed limit is considered reasonable and appropriate" and presently there appeared no need to change the speed limit. Mark also spoke with the Department of Transportation regarding the signage and they are willing to meet and discuss.

Appointments/Resignations:

* Resignation of Ken Cornet from the Charter Cable Advisory Council:

Mr. Cornet has emailed his resignation from this position effective January 1, 2014. The Selectmen expressed gratitude for his service in this position and Mark Lyon has notified the Democratic and Republican Town Committees of this vacancy as well as other Board and Commission vacancies.

First Selectman's Report:

Mark Lyon reported on the following:

* Connecticut Siting Council:

The Council held its public hearings on December 3rd which included a site visit, an evidentiary hearing at which questions were asked of the applicant that need to be further addressed – this part of the hearing will be continued until January 9, 2014, and a public hearing at which the public could ask questions. Six residents of the Town spoke with no opposition. If approved by the CSC, it is estimated that the cell tower will be built on Town property behind the highway department and in operation by the third quarter of 2014.

* New Town Garage:

Eight sets of plans have been purchased for the Design & Building of the new garage. Requests for Proposals are due by 4:30 p.m., January 8, 2014.

* State-wide Fiber optic network:

Connecticut Conference of Municipalities has arranged for companies to come to evaluate the feasibility of towns to install this network at no charge. The actual installation may be cost prohibitive. More details to follow.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Designated parking space for Depot apartment:

Peter Talbot explained to the Selectmen that he had taken their suggestion to speak with Ericson re: the parking space for the proposed apartment in their building, and they have agreed to designate a space in the parking lot for the National Iron Bank. He, therefore, withdrew his request to have the Town designate a spot. He will now take the plans for the apartment to Zoning.

* Update on Plaza Project:

Mark Lyon explained that he is completing the necessary paperwork for the State. Once that is filed, and Requests for Qualifications are published and received, the Plaza Committee will review, choose a firm they feel is qualified for the project and then negotiate a price. The State grant will provide 80% of the funding, the Town 20%. There was discussion as to how much of the Depot this project and funding will cover. Mark explained that, although the entire Depot area has been looked at, this particular grant will cover the Plaza only. There was discussion by several present that the planned work should also be concerned with the Depot as a whole and future phases.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Visitors:

* Clifford Woodruff asked if the Meeker Swamp property off Route 202 could be used for a dog running area. Mark Lyon explained dogs are allowed on the property, but must be leashed. Mr. Woodruff then addressed several concerns he has with the Land Use Department. However, prior to filing of these minutes, he requested they be struck from the record.

Adjournment:

Motion:

To adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Secretary

