

# December 11, 2008

*Minutes are subject to approval by the Board of Selectmen.*

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

**Public:** Tony Bedini, Manny Clark.

**Press:** Jack Coraggio – Litchfield County Times.

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

## **Minutes:**

\* Motion: To approve the minutes of the November 25, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the December 5, 2008 Special Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Nick Solley, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

**Communications:** None.

## **Appointments/Resignations:**

\* Charles Boucher – Buildings & Properties:

Motion: To appoint Charles Boucher to the (D) to the Buildings and Properties Committee until 7/1/09. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion: Mr. Boucher has attended several meetings of the Committee, has a background in building construction and maintenance and is interested in serving. The motion passed unanimously.

\* Mark Picton – Inland Wetlands:

Mr. Picton has submitted a letter of resignation, effective December 10, 2008. Motion: To accept the resignation of Mark Picton from the Inland Wetlands Commission with gratitude for his years of service. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jim Brinton and unanimously approved.

\* Stephen Wadelton – Inland Wetlands:

Motion: To appoint Stephen Wadelton (U) as a regular member (moving up from an alternate) of the Inland Wetlands Commission until 6/30/10. By Mark Lyon, seconded by Nick Solley. Discussion: Mr. Wadelton has attended meetings diligently as an alternate and is interested in serving as a full member. The motion passed unanimously.

**First Selectman's Report:** Mark reported on the following:

\* : Barnes Road: Mr. Calatrava owns on both sides of the dirt section of Barnes Road and would like the Town to discontinue that section. Following consultation with the Town's attorney, the Town's emergency services and several neighbors on Ferry Bridge Road, the Board of Selectmen will not take any action to discontinue it.

\* Old River Road: This road had been discontinued at the May '08 Town Meeting. Mark met with the landowner's surveyor regarding updating the Town's land records. This will be done.

\* First National Bank of Litchfield Check Scanner: There was a meeting with the FNBL re: offering a check scanning service. The bank would supply the machine, there would be a \$300 set up fee, a monthly fee of \$50 and a per check fee of 11 cents. Town departments could scan checks for deposit into any account with FNBL (as opposed to manually writing deposit slips). Deposits would be immediate; there would be electronic records of transactions, etc. Further discussion and analysis of costs will occur.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

\* East River Energy Contract for 2009-2010: The Town needs to decide now for the next contract period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010 at a cost of \$2.63/gallon for diesel, \$2.08 for gas and \$2.45 for heating oil. Discussion – The Town is currently in a contract with East River –as a member of a consortium. It is difficult to predict costs in the future, however the Town is most likely able to get better prices as a member of a larger group than going out on its own. Motion: To enter into a contract with East River Energy for the period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2010. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

\* Paramedic Contract 2009-2010: The First Selectmen of Bridgewater, Kent, New Milford, Roxbury, Sherman, Warren and Washington will be meeting next week with the Paramedic Oversight Committee to receive more information on next year's contract.

\* Transfer Station Lease: The current lease between the Town of Washington and the Ranieri's expires 12/31/08 and they have asked for an increase. As this increase in funds are not in the current approved budget, the Board of Selectmen will offer to continue \$1000 for the next six months, request that the new contract coincide with our fiscal year and offer an increase of \$1250 for two years and \$1400 for the following two years.

\* Discussion of School Board representation: The Town of Roxbury voted at their December Town Meeting to ask Region #12 to change the size of the Board of Education from 12 members to 8 members – 4 Washington, 2 Roxbury and 2 Bridgewater. Washington would like to start discussion with our Board of Ed members to get their opinion. If Roxbury is the only Town that wants to do this, it will not be pursued.

**Visitors:**

\* Manny Clark came to discuss the Wykeham Rise LLC proposed project. Much has been said about traffic, speeding, safety, etc. If the Town or a Commission approves a project knowing that there is potential for condition being created that is dangerous or hazardous, would the Town be held responsible if an accident occurred? The Selectmen discussed the studies that have been done that indicate what a road can handle. If the design limits were not exceeded, the Town would not be responsible.

**Adjournment:**

\* Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Nick Solley and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Anne Greene  
Selectmen's Secretary