

March 13, 2014

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

Public: Leslie Anderson, Liddy Adams, Rocky Tomlinson, Nick Solley.

Call to Order:

First Selectman Mark Lyon called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. MOTION:

To add subsequent business not already on the Agenda.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank.

Discussion:

Liddy Adams, Housing Commission Chairman, has asked to attend today's meeting to speak about the Down Payment Assistance Agreement, and an approval needs to be made to designate Litchfield County Dispatch as the recipient of the Town's telecommunications service credit from the State.

The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the February 27, 2014 meeting of the Board of Selectmen with the following changes requested by Selectman Jay Hubelbank:

1) to move his remarks noted under "Visitors" to "Old Business" and

2) to change his comments re: CHK to: "Jay was concerned that the Selectmen never approved the contract for CHK to develop the specifications and construction documents for the stage area."

The motion made under those comments remains the same.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications:

Thank you from the New Preston Congregational Church for the Highway Department's taking down a dead tree by the Church. Mark Lyon has passed this along to the Highway Department.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

First Selectman's Report:

Mark Lyon reported the following:

* Open Burning Official:

The State has notified Gunnar Neilson, Open Burning Official, and the First Selectman, that Gunnar successfully completed and passed the Open-Burning Course and has been re-certified until January 31, 2017. The Selectmen commended and thanked Gunnar on his many hours spent for

and in this position.

* Health Department/Pizza Parlor:

In 1983, the Town approved the use of Town property for the installation of a septic system of the Pizza Parlor on River Road. Suzanne Von Holt, of the Health Department, has notified Mark Lyon that the restaurant wishes to expand and may need to come back to the Town for an extension and approval of this easement.

* Lion Club Field of Flags:

Motion:

To approve the request made by the Washington Lions Club to again place the Field of Flags on the front lawn of the Town Hall for the Memorial Day celebration.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

* Cell Tower Approval:

Notice has been received from the Connecticut Siting Council that Homeland Towers and AT&T's application for a cell tower on Town property on Blackville Road has been approved. The approval noted the Siting Council's support of a single generator but did not require it of Homeland Towers. Homeland Towers will now file their construction plans with the Siting Council and apply for the necessary building permits. They have also asked the Highway Department to begin clearing the area.

* Region #12 Referendum:

Mark has learned that the Region #12 Referendum dealing with the consolidation of the Region's elementary schools and the improvements/renovations to the middle-high school will be scheduled for April 22nd or 29, 2014. The date will be confirmed this evening. The Selectmen are urging all eligible voters to turn-out - this is not a "done deal". Possible Town informational meetings will be held as well as publicity generated.

* Plaza Project:

The Plaza Committee met Tuesday evening to begin reviewing the Requests for Qualifications received for improvements to Bryan Plaza. The criteria for rating these companies was reviewed. Once companies are chosen to be interviewed, more specific ideas will be discussed. Selectman Jay Hubelbank has offered to participate on this committee. As Mark Lyon is also a member of the Committee, future meetings of this Committee will be noticed as a Special Selectmen's Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Liddy Adams, Housing Commission Chairman, presented the Selectmen with a "Draft" Servicing Agreement between the Town of Washington and the Housing Development Fund, Inc. which offers the Down Payment Assistance Funding program. If approved by the Board of Selectmen, the Agreement and designation of \$50,000 to be set aside for this program, would need to be approved at the May 2014 Town Meeting. The Housing Commission has offered to hold an informational meeting for the townspeople's understanding. These funds would come from the

funds that have already been approved by the Town for the Housing Commission - presently there is a balance of \$310,000. The assistance would be given to first time homebuyers purchasing within the Town of Washington and is considered a "loan" - to be paid back at the time of the sale of the house or when it is re-financed. The Housing Commission's suggestion is to approve loans in the amount of \$5,000. There are strict guidelines and the program is administered by the Housing Development Fund.

* Resolution of Endorsement for Nutmeg Grant-Regional Performance Incentive Program:

Motion:

To adopt a resolution endorsing the Regional Performance Incentive Program proposal for the Nutmeg Network Access Grant.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey.

Discussion:

Mark and Emergency Management Coordinator, Rocky Tomlinson, explained that this endorsement does not commit the Town but makes available the ability to expand the emergency network which is presently in place in the Resident Trooper's office and at the Depot Firehouse. The motion passed unanimously.

* Memorandum of Agreement - Homeland Security Grant:

Mark explained that this Resolution needs to be approved on an annual basis.

Motion:

To authorize the First Selectman to enter into all necessary documents with the CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and to perform necessary acts to carry out the terms of these documents on behalf of the Town of Washington.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

* Designation of Regional Telecommunications credit:

Mark explained that every municipality is eligible for a regional telecommunications service credit from the State for Coordinated Medical Emergency Direction (CMED) services. For the past several years, the Town of Washington has designated Litchfield County Dispatch, which provides CMED services, as its recipient of this credit.

Motion:

To designate Litchfield County Dispatch as the recipient of the 2014-2015 telecommunications credit which will amount to \$1060.02.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Dick Carey and unanimously approved.

* Renewal of Beach House Lease:

Renewing of the Beach House Lease has the recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Motion:

To renew the Beach House Lease for April 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015 with Christopher and Leah Papsin.

By Mark Lyon, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

* Liddy Adams inquired about the Town's website - noticing there are some areas that have not been up-dated. Mark explained that the webmaster is currently working on the Town's new website

and in this transition period, there may be some areas that have not been updated. Jay Hubelbank suggested a note on the current site that indicates the new site is "under construction".

* Rocky Tomlinson also requested that the various departments, boards, commissions be met with to have input for their individual pages.