

BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING –July 13, 2016

MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 4:00PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Mark Hemenway.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2016 meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the following tax refunds:

\$131.98	Financial Ser Veh Trust	refund
\$144.58	Vault Trust	refund

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the bids had been received to replace the two culverts on Park Road, which were the subject of the 2014 STEAP grant award from the State of Connecticut. The low bidder was Schultz Corporation of Terryville, who had previously been the contractor for replacement of the culverts on East West Hill Road, Day Road, and Ratlum Road. Their bid for the culvert above Day Road was \$243, 535, and their bid for the northern culvert was \$395, 337. These bids were higher than had been expected, so Don Stein and Rich need to evaluate the funds available for the Town’s road plan, this project, and the 2015 STEAP grant for the paving of Park Road. Once the quote from Galasso for the paving project is available, they will schedule the work to be performed for this fiscal year and to be deferred into the next fiscal year. That plan will be presented to the Selectmen for their review at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the estimated budget figures for the end of FY ‘15/’16. Based on the latest estimates for all budget line items, including the FY 16 bills received and paid in July, the General Government budget should provide a small surplus back to the General Fund. The data presented showed a deficit primarily due to the high legal bills (details provided to the Selectmen), but that is before any Town Aid Road funds are used to offset Highway Department expenditures for Road Improvements. The primary source of the expenditures for legal services is for the tax appeal case from Mallory Brook plaza, but it appears that there will be a settlement which will be in excess of the legal costs. It also appears that the year’s revenues will provide a substantial surplus, which will be positive to the town’s fund balance. Since there are still a few small bills outstanding, the final fiscal year expenditures and revenues will be presented at the next meeting with all of the appropriate adjustments having been made.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the Route 179 repaving was essentially done and that the final number of tires that were damaged by the grinding of the road was in the range of 100-150. CONNDOT has agreed to process claims to pay for these punctured tires, but that was largely brought about with the help of State Senator Witkos who worked with the Commissioner’s office on this issue.

DISCUSSION: Don Stein informed the Selectmen that he would be meeting with Liz Lacy (National Park Service/Farmington River Coordinating Committee) and the Region 4 management from the CT Department of Transportation to review options for making East River Road, a state highway, safer. This discussion will include stabilizing the riverbanks which are steep and prevent possible hazards to the Wild & Scenic Farmington River, and also to determine if there are acceptable ways to change the traffic pattern on this narrow, winding road through the Peoples State Forest. Liz Lacy also thought there was funding available through the NPS and FEMA. Don Stein will report back to the Board once that meeting takes place.

MOTION: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40PM on a motion by Ray Pech, seconded by Mark Hemenway.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman

Upcoming Meeting Schedule: July 26 regular meeting – canceled, August 2 (9:00 AM) – special meeting, August 9 regular meeting – canceled, August 23 regular meeting – canceled, August 30 (9:00 AM) – special meeting