

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN – October 27, 2015**

### **MINUTES:**

Meeting called to order at 7:03PM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Mark Hemenway. Also present was Mike Muszynski of CCM.

**DELEGATIONS:** No delegations were present.

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Don Stein, and passed (Mark Hemenway abstained) to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 Meeting.

No Tax Refunds were presented by the Tax Collector.

**DISCUSSION:** Mike Muszynski of CCM presented the Selectmen with an overview of new programs and services now being provided by the CT Conference of Municipalities. He is assigned as the liaison to the Northwest Corner towns and the Northwest Hills Council of Governments. This is a new program at CCM and is intended to provide a direct link between the towns and the CCM organization, to facilitate the towns' access to CCM services or individuals. Each of the liaisons also act as lobbyists and have areas for which they are responsible. Mike covers public safety, public health, transportation and Emergency Management, all of which are important to the Town. He is participating in the MORE Commission subcommittee which is looking at regional policing options and helped facilitate a meeting with the State Police Commissioner on this subject. An additional part of his responsibility is to make the Towns aware of bills that could impact them. He is also willing to come to the Selectmen's meetings periodically, as needed.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen of the meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup> that was requested by Scott Jellison (CEO of the MDC) and Bart Halloran (MDC Chief Counsel). This meeting dealt with a variety of subjects, including the potential path improvement through the Greenwoods property, the trees at Stanclift Cove, and the proposed improvements by CONNDOT to the intersection of Rtes. 318 and 219. Regarding the first item, the MDC executives, Don Stein and Dan Jerram (New Hartford First Selectman) agreed that once there was a proposed path and a plan for its improvement that they would present it to the MDC. There were concerns expressed about preserving hunting in the area, the habitat in the western end of the path, liability, and other typical issues for a project of this type. However, the MDC reserved judgment until there was more information. Relative to Stanclift Cove, Scott Jellison stated that the MDC was no longer going to participate in the maintenance of the Cove, as that really is the Towns' responsibility. He did agree to revisit this issue once there is a more detailed report on the state of the trees at the cove. He also said that the improvements to the intersection by the dam would require a high level of scrutiny by various government agencies and MDC commissions, but that he would leave traffic decisions to the DOT, and would focus on the water supply protection and other issues specific to their property.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein provided the Selectmen with a copy of the letter from the Town Attorney, Andrew Glassman, regarding the continuing Freedom of Information requests from KT Worth. The Town is doing what it can to satisfy these requests, but as yet has been unable to provide closure. Therefore, the Town Attorney will be the point of contact for this issue.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the Town was still working with Bill Sanders and the other residents on Hearthstone and Eddy Road regarding the right-of-way that goes from Eddy Road along the rear property lines of those residents. Once there is a final resolution, Mr. Sanders intends to merge his two lots on either side of the right-of-way and there will be a Town Meeting to formalize the Town giving up this right-of-way.

Because this issue has not yet been formally resolved, the Town Meeting call was tabled.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein informed the Selectmen that the UCONN Intern, Natalia Zagula, has been developing information for a town resident survey to be used for public meetings to discuss pertinent topics. The Town website will be updated and the residents will also be informed of this activity through a mailer and email. The next steps are to finalize the survey and to set up the community meetings, including selecting moderators.

**DISCUSSION:** Don Stein also informed the Selectmen that he was working on options to save costs and/or increase police coverage primarily by investigating potential ways to share Resident State Troopers and add a constable once the sharing is set up. There are numerous steps required to accomplish this, and he will continue to report to the Board as this initiative proceeds.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein  
First Selectman