

SPECIAL FIRE COMMISSION MEETING

BOARD of SELECTMEN MEETING – MARCH 8, 2006

TOWN HALL/LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM – 7:30 P.M.

REVISED/APPROVED MINUTES

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting and are not intended to be a verbatim transcription.

In attendance: R. Marconi, A. Bodner, B. Manners, D. Masters, J. Plock

Special Fire Commission Meeting Agenda – 6:30 p.m.

1. Fire Police Gas Allotment Policy
2. Fire Police Duty Roster
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 1/4/06, 2/1/06
4. New Business
5. Executive Session to discuss Fire Chief Applications

Board of Selectmen Meeting Agenda – 7:30 p.m.

1. Petition from Acre Lane Residents
2. Commission for the Disabled Interview – Peter Casagrande
3. Pension Commission Interview – Bill Whelan
4. Discuss Expansion of Ridgefield Arts Council to 11 Members
5. Golf Course Concessionaire & Agreement
6. Budget Discussion if necessary
7. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 1/19/06, 1/26/06, 2/7/06, 2/8/06, 2/15/06
8. Selectman's Report

R. Marconi called the Board of Selectmen Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Petition from Acre Lane Residents –

Steve Mello, 79 Acre Lane, came forward as President of Acre Lane Inc., and Michael Bucciero, Secretary of Acre Lane Inc., representing the residents of Acre Lane to discuss their petition for public water line hookup. This is a 40 year-old neighborhood with 23 households, 14 of which are on a community well for their water supply and the remainder have their own wells. Mr. Mello passed out a map depicting the water main from the community well. In 2004 a law was passed requiring the testing of community wells for uranium. Recent testing indicated the Acre Lane community well was in violation of allowable levels of uranium. As a result, the residents of Acre Lane involved are petitioning for water line hookup to the Town of Ridgefield water supply. The residents have had a conversation with Aquarian and the State of Connecticut Department of Health relevant to water issues. The water main will have to run under the street. The Health Department will not permit a hook-up to existing water lines. The estimated cost is approximately ½ million dollars for about 2400 feet of total run. This would break down to at least \$25,000 per home owner. The committee has contacted all those on the street with private wells to see if they would also like to sign on. The odds are their individual wells would also not have allowable uranium levels.

R. Marconi will discuss this issue with bond counsel to see how the Town of Ridgefield can assist with this situation, perhaps a low interest grant from the State of Connecticut would be available. He will contact John Frey for his assistance on the State level. Steve Mello and Mike Bucciero will serve as liaisons between the Town of Ridgefield and Acre Lane Incorporated.

B. Manners indicated support for the residents of Acre Lane in moving toward a solution as quickly as possible. All the members of the Board of Selectmen concurred.

2. Commission for the Disabled Interview – Peter Casagrande

There are four vacancies on this commission. Peter Casagrande was welcomed back before the BOS and thanked for his willingness to serve on this commission. He is now working with the Food Pantry, previously worked on RADUC and is very familiar with the needs of the Disabled Veterans of America. One project of the Commission is to work on the best locations for the Disabled/Handicapped parking spots in town. Carole Konner, Town Agent for the Disabled, indicated how Mr. Casagrande will be able to add to the Commission with his interest in the needs of the disabled veterans.

B. Manners moved and J. Plock seconded a motion to appoint Peter Casagrande to fill one of the vacancies on the Commission for the Disabled. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Pension Commission Interview – Bill Whelan

The Board expressed thanks to Mr. Whelan for coming forward again to express his desire to serve on a committee/commission. He previously interviewed for a vacancy with the Parks & Recreation Commission. R. Marconi read the email received from Mr. Whelan. He has met with Dave Campbell of the Pension Commission and they reviewed the Town of Ridgefield's 2005 Pension Plan, meeting schedules and requirements for being a commission member. Mr. Whelan suggested the possibility of investments in commodities and overseas investments while remaining conservative in approach.

B. Manners moved and J. Plock seconded a motion to appoint Bill Whelan to fill the vacancy on the Pension Commission. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Discuss Expansion of Ridgefield Arts Council to 11 Members –

B. Manners moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to expand the Ridgefield Arts Council from 9 to 11 members, and to appoint Kathleen Carr, Bernard Fraxier, and Alison Greeley (previously interviewed applicants) to fill the vacancies on the Ridgefield Arts Council. Motion passed 5-0.

5. Golf Course Concessionaire & Agreement – The BOS previously voted in favor of the agreement. Town Counsel David Grogins presented the wording changes from the previously approved agreement. The key difference is an increase in the credit for start-up capital expenditures to \$48,000 from \$40,000, and how these capital expenditures can occur during the first four-year period of operation. Mr. Wool will be responsible for maintenance of the equipment purchased and has to carry insurance. The Board of Selectmen expressed the desire to carefully read the agreement and add consideration of the agreement to the agenda for the next night's agenda, March 9. Hopefully, Mr. Wool will also be able to attend on March 9th as well as Frank Sergiovanni and representatives of the Golf Committee. This issue will be first on the agenda. The work on the golf course septic is moving ahead.

6. Budget Discussion if Necessary – Mr. Marconi presented Memorandum #200602 for consideration as a follow-up to previous budget discussions. This memorandum requests the transfer of \$150,000 from our conveyance tax revenue account to be transferred to the pension fund. **J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to approve the Department of Finance Memorandum #200602 regarding an appropriation with a corresponding increase in the revenue estimate for pension funding with an increase in #10903-4421, Conveyance Taxes, in the amount of \$150,000 and a corresponding increase in #10853-58001, Pension, in the amount of \$150,000. Motion passed 5-0.**

7. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 1/19/06, 1/26/06, 2/7/06, 2/8/06, 2/15/06

J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to approve as amended the minutes of the January 19, 2006, Board of Selectmen Special Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to approve as written the minutes of The January 26, 2006 Board of Selectmen Special Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to approve as amended the minutes of the February 7, 2006 Board of Selectmen Budget Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

J. Plock moved and B. Manners seconded a motion to approve as amended the minutes of the February 8, 2006 Board of Selectmen Budget Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to approve as amended the minutes of the February 15, 2006, Board of Selectmen Meeting & Economic Development Commission Meeting. Motion passed 5-0.

8. Selectman's Report -

- Planning & Zoning has voted down the Eureka application
- A letter has been received from the Conservation Commission inviting the Board of Selectmen to their annual meeting on Thursday, April 6 at 6:45 p.m. for coffee, meeting to start at 7:15 p.m. in the Charter Oak 3 Room at the Rec Center. Dr. Michael Klemens, a Ridgefield resident and the senior conservationist with the Wildlife Conservation Society as well as a staff member at the Natural History Museum, is the speaker. He will address issues relevant to the future of the environment in Ridgefield.
- Public Hearing set for Wednesday, March 15 at 7:30 – may change the location to accommodate a possible large attendance.

J. Plock moved and D. Masters seconded a motion to adjourn the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 9:00 p.m. Motion passed 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Johnson