

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
June 4, 2009

Ms. Menard called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. on June 4, 2009 at the East Windsor Town Hall, 11 Rye Street, Broad Brook.

ATTENDANCE

Denise Menard, First Selectman
Gilbert Hayes, Deputy First Selectman
Dale Nelson, Selectman
Mark Simmons, Selectman

Ms. Menard read the Special Meeting notice out loud. Ms. Menard addressed a concern brought to her attention that she is acting outside the charter. The entirety of Section 4-7 of the Charter was read aloud (copies were also available.) Also referenced and read partially was Connecticut General Statutes 9-222 (copies were also available.) Ms. Menard indicated that this process has been reviewed against State statutes, the charter, as well as the town clerk and confirmation with the Secretary of State to confirm this is the correct process. Board is “absolutely following the law.”

A. To interview new applicants for the Board of Selectmen vacancy.

JOHN BURNHAM

Why decided to come to table to apply for position and what think can bring to the board. Involved in decision making process – lifelong resident 54 years. Self employed since 1976; therefore unique sense of money as business man- which would be beneficial. Like to see more businessmen on boards and commissions so they can bring same twist, how money made and dispersed.

Strengths bring to board? Trust integrity confidence. Orderly process important – start in selection process of selectmen – his opinion is, which his what he does, gives his opinion. Believes Richard Pippin should be the first choice, nominated by republican town committee, which is standard practice; secondly Jim Richards and then Bob Lyke. Anyone else untimely should be considered lastly . He will not to throw stones but to get process in concise communicated manner – those are his strengths.

54 years of experience in e.w. vision for future long term? He explained that he was sitting in parking lot after wetlands babbling with local e.w. people recently and he hopes in 100 years from now people will be babbling behind town hall in parking lot – hope stays similar and grows in orderly fashion. Need strong leadership to make tough decisions – think board doing fine job and feels he can contribute – incredible difficult economic times. This year budget, amount of cuts made, uncomfortable but look like picnic compared to what coming down the pike. Wait until those painful numbers reach in double digit numbers. People need to step up then.

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Why throw name in hat at this point? He is here with permission of his wife. Knows he is committed and jumps into projects full bore. She does not want to be a town hall widow. If have to chose between wife and town hall – she wins. Children are graduated, successfully from E.W.; so speaks for town education – terrific product from schools. Has taken a long time to come here. Paperwork was in this afternoon – as time goes on, new person to political process, as time goes on see ore and more and to make a difference need to step up and do something. Each day feel stronger and stronger and making forward motion. Feels uncomfortable coming here on top of republican nominating issue.

Not here to support any individual whatsoever – a lot of people irritated with him about things he says – happens at wetlands commission. Things that have to be said, know they are right to be said – does not make a difference of parties. Many people are fearful of speaking for retribution and that is unfortunate – he is not that way. Political process has to be incorporated into every day life. There are groups trying to get people more involved and many have no clue and that is unfortunate.

Mr. Hayes is liaison on wetlands committee – and he knows Mr. Burnham says what has to be said and does not look over shoulder a lot of give and take – political and getting a long – some things come up and word together, no party lines – how feel about working with democrats and republicans? Absolutely no problem with it. Difficult situation for board – if sitting in Hayes seat and look around – already said go with republican nominating committee. **Need young people – agree, many young sitting in on process. What to do to attract them?**

Easy to get people to come here by suggesting that they come and watch one meeting – the more people educated about what is going on – knowledge will empower them – that's the theory – personal invitations – only thing worked on boy scouts, scout hall. Told a story about boy scouts how he would call Monday night before Tuesday meeting for Troupe committee meetings – and got good attendance with that

Three words or less trust, integrity, confidence.

Mr. Burnham ended by saying we are all guided by (parents looking down) entrusting others to run the ship and go farther into the future, obligated to them and obligated to the kids.

- B. Appointment of a Selectman to fill the position formerly held by Edward Farrell with a term to expire 11/17/2009

**MOTION: To nominate the republican town committee endorsed candidate, Richard Pippin, to fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen until 11/17/2009
Made by Mr. Simmons, Seconded by Mr. Hayes**

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DISCUSSION:

Simmons – Mr. Pippin has been a Republican town committee member many years, long time resident, spoke expressing desire for position, submitted application timely, interview conducted and expressed desire again. Known for long time – endorsed candidate and has Simmons’ full support.

Hayes – five candidates here and one candidate would support and feel that good person to work with on board, not only to November, but beyond and his choice may or may not be Mr. Pippin. New wave coming here – young people – saw during recent referendum – people are speculating. There are people needed to attract to political system and saw a start of that last Saturday. To attract is good – been trying to do for a long time and named some currently young people. – now there is Brian. Do not want to alienate Brian to the Republican party – do not want it thought the Democrats are putting something over on the republicans with this process. The board has the right to choose and some may recall this happened before and he was involved and Ed Farrell wrote article in the paper and he wrote one back – and they got together and talked about how fun it was to go back and forth. Need young people here, but don’t need a battle. Sure that the Republican party knows that should know they have a good person with Brian and he should not be alienated nor embarrassed and could use him in November. Today he does not want to fight and while it will be unpopular, he will be going with the republican town committee choice.

Simmons – thanked Mr. Hayes for that and it continues to show no D’s or R’s on the Board and youth is a good thing, but experience counts too – long time business man, never went bankrupt as stated the Board needs more business people and experience that is valuable too – budget process is big one. Mr. Pippins experience in public safety handle life and death situation and board has to ask for cuts – this is a serious situation – board has to pay same taxes and same services – serious job, not taken lightly. All are qualified – Bob Lyke has served two terms, great resume, Jim Richards is constantly involved with town activities, and Brian Cullinane is well qualified and a nice guy. Mr Hayes words were appropriate and it hoped that no one will be discouraged or alienated as a result of this process.

Hayes had this to say to young people – instant gratification is good now, but for long run at what cost? He wants no fights now.

SIMMONS CALLED THE QUESTION

In favor: Simmons, Hayes

Opposed: Nelson

(Ms. Menard noted the Chairman does not need to vote – and generally does not)

MOTION CARRIED.

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The Board members shook hands with and welcomed Mr. Pippin.

MOTION: TO ADJOURN AT 6:40 P.M.
Made by Ms. Nelson, seconded by Mr. Simmons
ALL MEMBERS IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia D. Croxford
Recording Secretary