

## WEST WINDSOR SELECTBOARD

Draft Minutes

November 1, 2011

Present: Glenn Seward, Tom Kenyon, Bruce Boedtke, Neil Brown, Mike Spackman

- 1) Call to Order – Selectboard Chair Glenn Seward called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM.
- 2) Discuss Hazard Mitigation Grant Program – Neil Brown said he attended a presentation by Ray Doherty about the hazard mitigation program last week. Neil said the town would have to be the applicant. Neil explained the options with regard to the fire station and the Smith house. Neil reviewed the eligibility requirements and deadlines. Glenn said the regional planning commission told him that if West Windsor wants to apply, they will prepare the application for us, but they questioned the likelihood of success given that the fire station was not substantially damaged. Tom said the insurance company has estimated the damage at \$200,000 and has already sent \$75,000. Neil said a cost-benefit analysis is required as part of the application. Bruce said the taxpayers would still have to pay the cost of building a new facility. Glenn noted that the town doesn't own the building. Neil said that's a good thing because the town can't get funding to purchase and demolish a building that it already owns. Glenn said the town would have to hear from the fire department that they're willing to sell. Neil said he suspects that the fire department will not want to sell. Tom said he would like Mr. Doherty to visit and advise the town on how to proceed. Tom said if the fire department membership is not interested in moving then we won't pursue this. Glenn said the first step is to find out from the membership what they want to do. If they want to move, Glenn said, then we should get Ray Doherty and John Broker-Campbell to do a site visit and give us their opinion on our chances of getting funding. Neil suggested talking with Scott Smith to see if he is interested in this program. Mike asked what the grant covers. Neil said it would cover 75% of the cost of purchasing the property, tearing down the building, and removing any hazards such as the septic system. Mike said if the taxpayers are going to have to pay more than a million dollars for a new building, it isn't feasible in this economy. Mike said the repairs to the fire station are less than \$30,000. Neil said the cost of a new building could be covered by a flood mitigation or pre-disaster grant but the competition for those grants is nationwide. Bruce said someone should contact Scott Smith to make him aware of this program. Tom said the Governor indicated that there is money available to relocate public buildings. Tom said he thinks the town should discuss this with Ray Doherty regardless of what the fire department membership thinks. Bruce said he thinks we should wait to hear from the membership and from Scott. Glenn agreed with Bruce and noted that the membership is meeting tomorrow. Neil said this program also has money for new bridges and culverts.
- 3) Other Business –
- 4) Adjourn –

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Harrison