

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
December 22, 2008**

Present: Scott Lingenfelter, Timothy Reynolds, John Smith, **Absent:** Brian Fitzgerald and Vicki Spellman. First Selectman Lingenfelter called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Suffield Police Station, 911 Mountain Road on Monday, December 22, 2008. Also present: Patrick McMahon, Gerry Turbet and Jack Muska.

STEAP Grant Application:

The only item on the Agenda was the application for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program Grant. Mr. Lingenfelter turned the meeting over to Economic Development Director Patrick McMahon. Only certain projects are STEAP eligible. STEAP can be used for economic development efforts, recreation projects, solid waste disposal, social service projects, elderly care facilities, domestic violence, housing projects, historic preservation efforts and other kinds of development such as transportation, environmental protections and public safety. The project has to be capital in nature, but cannot be used for operational costs, cannot fund school projects, library projects, or communication systems or machinery such as police cruisers, and fire equipment, etc.

Mr. McMahon and Mr. Lingenfelter looked through some of the projects which were proposed through ACCE, and saw three opportunities which could rank high with the State. The first is the Landfill Expansion. The Solid Waste Disposal area was closed almost 18 years ago before it actually reached capacity. The Bulky Waste Disposal area will also reach capacity 2013. After that, this area will be closed also. The Town retained the services of Anchor Engineering who looked at the possibility of expansion and attempting to work with DEP to reopen the Solid Waste cells which was previously closed. Attaining additional capacity will keep the landfill open for another 40 years. The Town is still waiting for the letter of approval from DEP.

The total would be \$235,000 and \$180,000 for construction and \$55,000 in design costs.

The second recommended project is the Farmington Valley Bikeway (Greenway) which runs from Farmington through Avon, Simsbury, East Granby and into Suffield. There still is unpaved section north of Phelps Road. Suffield is one of the last links in the entire trail. Eventually the trail will go from New Haven up to North Hampton, Mass. Southwick is currently starting their portion now. There are two brooks which will need new bridge structures to cross them. The total project cost is \$796,000 with the bulk of it coming from Federal Funds (80% match). This is a project of regional significance.

The third recommendation is an Emergency Generators for the Police Station and the new Senior Center at Calvary.

Selectman Smith made a motion to authorize the submission of a Small Town Economic

Assistance Program Grant Application for the following projects:

- (1) \$235,000 for the Landfill Expansion Project;
- (2) \$75,000 for the Farmington Valley Bikeway
- (3) \$90,000 for Emergency generators at the Police Station and new Senior Center

The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Selectmen, Selectman Smith made a motion to adjourn. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Koren, Recording Secretary