

SPECIAL BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 19, 2005
6:30 P.M.
DURHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

Call to Order

Maryann Boord, First Selectwoman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Durham Public Library. Also present: Ernie A. Judson, Selectman; Renee J. Primus, Selectwoman.

The Board of Selectmen discussed the "Appeal Considerations" provided by Attorney Peter Boucher of Halloran & Sage (see attached). M. Boord believes that the Town made strong arguments throughout the proceeding. However, it was evident from early on that the Town of Durham was not getting undergrounding, although we never gave up the argument.

M. Boord stated, "We couldn't have had better attorneys (than Peter Boucher and Alan Curto of Halloran & Sage)." She continued that none of the towns are appealing that we know of at this time and the deadline for appeal is May 27, 2005. All the municipalities will work with the utilities during the Development and Management (D&M) Phase of the project to influence height and location of the poles.

It is the opinion of Attorney Boucher that if the Town's appeal were successful (which is a big if), the appeal would likely take more than a year and cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000. If successful, we would start over with no guarantees.

R. Primus recommended researching what other communities have done regarding a decrease in property values. M. Boord will ask the Assessor to be aware of the proposal when they conduct revaluation. E. Judson stated that his decision would be the same whether or not there was a Royal Oak By Pass.

MOTION BY ERNIE A. JUDSON NOT TO APPEAL THE CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL DECISION; SECONDED BY RENEE J. PRIMUS; 3 AYES.

MOTION BY RENEE J. PRIMUS; SECONDED BY ERNIE A. JUDSON, TO AUTHORIZED THE FIRST SELECTWOMAN TO SIGN THE CONTRACT FOR A PHASE I ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENT OF THE TOWN HALL.

There were 8 bids received ranging from \$1,100 to \$2,000 (see attached). M. Boord recommended the low bidder, Coneco Engineering, following review and input from Consultant Larry Wagner and Town Hall Building Committee Chairman John Corona. The grant for the Town Hall renovations requires this study.

MOTION PASSED WITH 3 AYES.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryann P. Boord
First Selectwoman