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PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION Monday, November 3, 2014 Town Hall Meeting Room B

Two Rod Highway



The Board of Selectmen held a public information session to allow the public to comment on the Two Rod Highway issue.

Mr. Brennan called the hearing to order at 7:30 pm and gave a brief summary on the Two Road Highway. Mr. Brennan indicated that letters were sent out to property owners and residents on the both the Wilton and Weston side. Mr. Brennan stated that the goal of this evening's session is to obtain comments from the attendees and discuss the best options for the community. No decisions will be made this evening as this matter is a very complex land issue.

Mr. Brennan introduced Town Attorney Ken Bernhard to provide background regarding the litigation and decision of the Court declaring Two Rod Highway to be a public road. Mr. Bernhard reviewed the options available to the Town regarding the Two Rod Highway. He stated there are two options to consider, (1) to leave the "road" as is and do nothing or (2) for the Board of Selectmen to elect to abandon the road. Mr. Bernhard then gave a more detailed summary of the two options available. Mr. Bernhard indicated that leaving the status quo may open the Town to lawsuits in the future.

Mr. Brennan then opened the floor to public comment. Attorney Robert Fuller, attorney for developer Christopher Montanaro who owns land on Two Rod Highway stated that town would open itself to in inverse condemnation lawsuit if it abandoned the road, as property owners would lose the right to subdivide or build upon property with frontage on Old Two Rod Highway. David Brandt representing Aspetuck Land Trust stated his organization hopes the land abutting Old Two Rod Highway might be turned into a piece of preserved property. Weston resident Ray Rauth, chairman of that town's Bicycle-Pedestrian Committee stated that the land could be used to go from Georgetown to Honey Hill to the Norwalk River Valley Trail. David Clune representing Ambler Trust, which owns property abutting Old Two Rod Highway stated the trust believes the abandonment of the road would depreciate the value of its assets. He believes the

abandonment of the road would harm the assets of the Ambler Trust whose job it is to preserve its assets so as to have more money to give away. Additional Comments were made by other citizens representing both Wilton and Weston.

There being no further business, the session was closed at 8:17 pm.

Jacqueline Rochester

Recording Secretary