

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING OF MAY 5, 2010
MINUTES

Present: Paul Formica, Jack Hogan, John Birmingham.

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney O'Connell

Mr. Formica called the informational session to order at 6:58 p.m. and noted that the other members were not here as yet. He said we would proceed since there would be no motions during this meeting, only a time for people to voice opinions and concerns.

Attorney O'Connell said that this has been an ongoing effort and we had previously called it a draft ordinance. He said per Charter, an ordinance must be published in the paper and if we had to name all the roads involved in this, it would be extremely costly. He said that by State Statute, the Traffic Authority of the town is permitted to control this matter and in East Lyme, the Traffic Authority is the Board of Selectmen. He said because of this, the document will be referred to as a regulation. He noted that the major changes from the last draft were as follows:

- seatbelts are for rear facing passengers
- the initial fee is \$25.00 for registering.
- Section 4.2 delineates the roads involved and Section 6 is new and states that the Police will issue certificates and enforce and they will prepare a map of the roads and make copies of same for the public. He added that Section 7 is new but is straight from the State Statute.

George Glendenning of 15 North Road inquired why only electric golf carts are mentioned (his is gas). He was concerned about proof of ownership since he had purchased his a number of years ago and received a receipt and was not sure he would be able to produce anything else.

Ms. Hardy entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Arthur Saunders of 12 Center Street asked why headlights were required since the hours of use was during the day. He said most people use hand signals and asked if turn signals would be necessary. He suggested that the draft read "operator" must have valid license in Section 3.1. He said he was in favor of rear seat restraints and suggested that the fee be earmarked for a specific use. He noted that the senior communities were excluded from this and only the beach areas were noted.

Attorney O'Connell responded that the senior communities have private roads.

Skip Maillet said that use of headlights, tail lights, turn signals and reflectors was a bit redundant. He asked if there was any insurance requirement.

Mr. Nickerson entered the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Attorney O'Connell responded that the draft does include an insurance requirement.

Mr. Wilson entered the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

Ron Johnson of 11 Town Road inquired if gas carts would be allowed.

Barbara Johnston of 35 Seacrest Avenue questioned the need for headlights and said there are no handicapped parking spaces in the beach areas and she hoped that the carts could be parked on the grass.

Art Saunders and Skip Maillet offered to assist with the draft.

Mr. Drabik said the carts should be taxed and inquired about utility vehicles.

Mr. Hogan said that headlights and tail lights were safety items. He said duplications could be removed and the parking of the carts was at the discretion of each beach association. He said that the carts could not be used on state roads and his intent was that the operator must have a license.

Mr. Birmingham inquired what comes on a standard cart.

He was informed that restraints, headlights, tail lights, horn, reflectors and turn signals would all have to be added if required.

Mr. Drabik cautioned the Selectmen to be very specific in their regulation in order to keep the town out of trouble.

MOTION (1)

Mr. Nickerson moved to adjourn the public information session at 7:37 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Wilson. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary