

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
February 15, 2024
HYBRID MEETING

Minutes are subject to the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Dean Sarjeant.
Public: Ralph Averill, Susan Smith.

Call to Order: First Selectman Jim Brinton called the meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

MOTION: To add subsequent business not already on the Agenda. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: Appointments to the Conservation Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the February 1, 2024 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Motion:** To appoint Ashleigh Fernandez as an alternate to the Conservation Commission until 1/1/25 and Shannon Waldron as an alternate to the Conservation Commission until 1/1/27. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: Conservation Commission Chairman, Susan Payne, has requested these appointments be made. The motion passed unanimously.

First Selectman's Report: Jim Brinton reported the following:

- **Budget Process for FY 2024-2025** is going very well. The Fire Department and Highway Department will be meeting tomorrow to discuss their budget requests. The Selectmen thanked all the departments for getting their information in on a timely basis. A special thank you to Finance Director, Linda Gomez, for her expertise and knowledge throughout the budget process. Jim reminded the public to attend the Budget Hearing on May 2, 2024 and the Annual Budget Meeting vote on May 16, 2024.
- **Board of Assessment Appeals** - applications to appeal assessments need to be in the Assessor's Office by Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 4:30p.m.

Selectmen's Office:

- **Jay Hubelbank** reported the Sustainability Committee is working with the Washington Environmental Council on Earth Day activities. The annual roadside cleanup will be promoted and information on recycling will be provided – including the new plastic bag recycling initiative. Different groups will be in attendance to provide information and water testing kits will be available for private wells and tributaries to determine the potential effects of road treatments. The Sustainability Committee will also be sending a newsletter around Earth Day explaining the various initiatives that have been done as well as new ones they hope to accomplish.

- **Dean Sarjeant** reported that the Housatonic Valley Health District has definitively cleared New Milford and Washington from past legal problems. The Lake Keepers program is moving forward and training will be scheduled.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Renewal of Beach House Lease: Motion:** To renew the Beach House Lease with tenant, Ralph Averill, for the period March 1, 2024 – to February 28, 2025. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: the Selectmen thanked Ralph Averill for a great job and for being a great ambassador for the Town. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:46p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant