

Town of Washington
Board of Finance
April 19, 2021

Present: Members: Michael Jackson, Craig Schoon, Matt Cain, Barbara Brown
Alternates: Elizabeth Fenton, Phyllis Allen
Selectmen: James Britton
Treasurer: Linda McGarr
Guest: Daniel Sherr, Tony Bedini, Rebecca Rebillard
Press: Linda Zukauskas, Voices, Lance Reynolds, Republican American

Chairman Michael Jackson called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

Minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of March 15, 2021 and minutes of April 12, 2021 by Michael Jackson, seconded by Phyllis Allen, and unanimously approved

Tax Collector Report: No Comment

Treasurer Report: No Comment

Selectman:

- The Selectman will be working on a revised budget. The Finance Board has had some great suggestions.
- Still working on getting more information on the assessment problem.
- 62% of Washington's population is vaccinated. There was an uptick in COVID cases but the last couple of weeks have been good.

Financial Reports: Michael asked a question on the planning worksheet for the budget in reference to the income of the Town Clerk. The majority of the Town Clerk income comes from Conveyance taxes that come from the sale of property. We are conservative on the budget because it is unknown how much conveyance tax we will receive. Those funds stay in the general fund.

Education: Tony Bedini, who is on the building committee reported that the project is 19 months behind schedule and will take another 3 months to solve the problems that have not been solved. There is a condensation problem in the animal barn and they have had three animals die from copper contamination in the water. The exhaust vent that was installed in the shop to use for aerosol paints is not working to keep the air quality where it needs to be. This is a \$135,000 fix and they are working on it. There is a long list of punch list problems. Per Tony there is a whole spreadsheet that shows what the state will pay for and what the region will have to pay. The state will not pay for mistakes.

Old Business: To approved the 2021-2022 Budget – This is table until the selectman met to make their budget changes due to the assessment problem.

New Business: A motion to appoint Charles Heaven & Co. for the 2020-2021 audit was made by Barbara Brown and seconded by Michael Jackson and unanimously approved.

Question asked by Linda McGarr on if the town census with the influx of people changed the tax base. Per Michael Jackson said he did not believe so. Per Jimmy there was a lot of real-estate sold but not much build. We still have about 3700 people. The revalue in 2023 will reflect the changes.

A motion to adjourn at 5:18 by Michael Jackson, seconded by Barbara Brown and unanimously approved.

Special Meeting to approve the 2021-2022 budget is on April 26, 2021 at 5:00

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Kennedy Gomez
Financial Administrator