

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
December 10, 2020

Meeting held via Video Conferencing

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

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectmen Jay Hubelbank and Dean Sarjeant.
Public: Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Chris Charles.
Press: Linda Zukauskas.

Call to Order: First Selectman James Brinton called the meeting to order at 5:31p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the November 24, 2020 meeting of the Board of Selectmen as amended to read under WiFi in the Depot: Jay Hubelbank explained that Julia Nable from SanderMax, has developed a QR code that allows the user to connect to ExploreWashingtonCT.org. A QR code or Quick Response code, is a type of barcode that can be scanned by a smartphone with a built in camera. Once scanned, the software on your phone will connect you to ExploreWashingtonCT.org. This would be a great tool for visitors to use to find out what's going on in town and will work wherever you have Wi-Fi or cell service. Jay is going to work with Michelle Gorra to have cards printed with the QR code with an explanation on how to use it and have the cards distributed to interested businesses throughout the town. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

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

- **Winter Storm Mutual Aid:** Washington has joined with Bridgewater, Roxbury and Warren to assist one another should any of their highway departments suffer a COVID-19 outbreak especially during a winter storm.
- **Yale Testing:** Jim will be meeting, via Zoom, with Altorelli Health regarding their becoming the referring physician allowing the Town to contract with Yale New Haven to provide COVID-19 testing to Emergency Service volunteers and essential workers of the Town. The tests would be delivered and picked up by courier service and results available within 48 hours. Jim will also be meeting with the Board of Finance to request coverage of the cost.
- **Food Waste Initiative:** Some area towns have been discussing implementing an initiative that would allow residents to take their food waste to specified locations – most likely transfer stations. Jim spoke with the town of Litchfield that recently started the program. Presently, no

one is taking advantage of the program and there is concern that wherever the location is, it would draw rodents and other scavengers. This may be discussed further at a later date.

- **Transfer Station:** Former First Selectman of Kent, Bruce Adams, has moved to Washington and has offered his assistance with proposed upgrades to the Town's Transfer Station. Jim accepted and thanked Bruce for this offer.
- **COVID-19 Update:** There are currently 17 active cases in Town. As this number is close to our highest last April, Jim strongly reminded all in Washington to strictly adhere to protocols and advisories.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Drive thru Holiday in the Depot:** Due to COVID-19, Holiday in the Depot will be drive-thru only. While driving through the Depot, passengers can enjoy lights, decorations, music, entertainment and a visit from Santa. There will also be a Tour of Lights featuring homes in various locations around Town, the Washington Primary School and Ted Alex Field, the Green, Shepaug School and the shops of New Preston. The Selectmen offered a special work of thanks to Jeff Hammond - Parks and Rec Coordinator, Michelle Gorra – Economic and Community Development Coordinator and the Washington Business Association.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Visitors:

- **Chris Charles** welcomed Bruce Adams back to Town.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

- **Motion:** To adjourn to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter and a real estate matter. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

The Selectmen reentered the regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:15p.m. with no action taken.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:15p.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