

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
June 24, 2021

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, Carole Matteo, Michelle Gorra, Susan Smith, Chris Charles, Richard Schlossberg.

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: Acceptance of a Proclamation. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Jay Hubelbank, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Appointment of Judy Gorra to the Housing Commission:** Tabled until Judy could attend a meeting of the Housing Commission.
- **Appointment of Jennifer Averill to the Planning Commission:** **Motion:** To appoint Jennifer Averill (D) as an alternate to the Planning Commission until 12/31/22. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Discussion: This appointment has been supported by both the Republican and Democratic Town Committees, as well as the Chairman of the Planning Commission. Jennifer has also submitted her letter of interest. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- **American Rescue Plan Funds:** The first check from the American Rescue Plan has been received in the amount of \$507,259.29. Jim will be attending a webinar Friday afternoon explaining reporting requirements, guidelines for spending, etc.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of Transfer Station Fees:** Jim has met with the staff of the Transfer Station to review the current charges with the intention of bringing them in line with the costs to the Town. Presently the Town is losing money due to the cost having various items removed. **Motion:** To approve the change in Transfer Station fees effective July 1, 2021. These new charges will be posted on the Town's website. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: Carole Matteo expressed the importance of educating the public on the costs to the Town as well as what can be recycled. The motion passed unanimously.
- **Discussion of American Rescue Plan Funds:** As the first check has been received by the Town, Jim Brinton asked the Selectmen to continue working on possible uses of the funds which will be vetted with the Town Attorney and Board of Finance.
- **Discussion of Truck Bids:** Jim Brinton explained to the Selectmen that he and Highway Director, Kevin Smith, have reviewed the bids several times and at present are not ready to award the bid. The lowest bidders may not necessarily be in the best interest of the Town.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Technology update:** Jay Hubelbank explained that he, John Gueniat and Ed Advance have had discussions regarding implementing safeguards which would include more back-up for information, upgrading of anti-virus software, staff training and requiring double authentication. These upgrades will take place in the up-coming weeks.

- **Proclamation honoring William “Bucky” Ball: Motion:** To approve the following Proclamation:

WHEREAS, William “Bucky” Ball was a beloved resident of the Town of Washington; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to his country serving as a United States Marine in Vietnam, his commitment to the American Legion Gage Zumpf Post #87; and

WHEREAS, his commitment to the principles of community, his generosity to the Town of Washington, friends, and his beloved family; and

WHEREAS, William “Bucky” Ball died June 11, 2021, leaving a legacy and the Town of Washington a better place for having known him;

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed, that we, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Washington, Connecticut, do hereby declare that Washington will observe June 24, 2021 as

William “Bucky” Ball DAY.

Signed this 24th day of June, 2021 by:

James L. Brinton, First Selectman

Jay Hubelbank, Selectman

Dean Sarjeant, Selectman

By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

Visitors:

- **Richard Schlossberg** urged the Selectmen to consider this country’s “trade deficits” with various countries when considering bids. He also brought to the attention of the Selectmen and visitors a new invasive plant that is taking hold in our area: “Tree of Heaven” or Ailanthus.
- **Chris Charles** asked about the status of hiring a new Enforcement Officer for Land Use. Jim explained that the hope is to start interviewing within the next week or two. Chris urged that people skills be considered as much as credentials.
- **Carole Matteo** suggested advertising on trade websites and in publications with widespread distribution for the EO position.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:08p.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