

**TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
November 23, 2021**

HYBRID MEETING

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

Present: First Selectman James L. Brinton, Selectman Jay Hubelbank.

Public: Michelle Gorra, Joan Lodsins, Dan Sherr, Chris Charles, Susan Smith, Craig Wilber, Kevin Smith, Ethan LaBella.

Press: Linda Zukauskas.

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

Approval of Minutes:

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

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations:

- **Resignation of Phil Markert from the Economic Development Committee:** The Selectmen accepted the resignation of Phil Markert with sincere appreciation for his time in service to the Town.
- **Appointment of Trisha McMahon to the Economic Development Committee: Motion:** To appoint Trisha McMahon to the Economic Development Committee. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank. Ms. McMahon has attended meetings of the EDC, met with EDC Coordinator, Michelle Gorra and has submitted her biography. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- At the Special Town Meeting held on November 22, 2021, Jane Sarjeant was elected to fill the vacancy on the Board of Education. Thank you to Jane and to Erica Ryland for running for the position. There was a large turnout for the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Discussion of proposed Delay of Demolition Ordinance:** As there was no one present from the Historic District Commission, the Selectmen opted to postpone discussion of this proposed ordinance as they have questions and concerns they would like to have addressed.
- **Flashing Speed limit signs:** Jay Hubelbank inquired about the flashing signs in the Depot that are not working. Jim Brinton explained that the cold weather has had an effect on the ability to hold their charge. He will speak with the Police Department to perhaps increase patrols.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

Visitors:

- **Fire Chief Craig Wilber and Assistant Chiefs Kevin Smith and Ethan LaBella** attended this evenings meeting to discuss possible improvements/upgrades to the New Preston Fire House. Discussion followed regarding what the Fire Department saw as the future use of the NP Fire House, how the project would be funded, hiring of a project manager and/or architectural firms, etc. Jim Brinton assured the Chiefs the Town is extremely supportive of the Fire Department and will work closely with it moving forward.
- **Chris Charles** distributed a memo he had prepared for the Zoning Commission in March 2013 regarding possible Zoning regulations for an 8-30g or 13.15 Affordable Housing Appeals Application along with a memo prepared in July of 2020 addressing the same subject and his belief that, for many reasons listed in his memo, the Town would benefit from this regulatory change in providing more quality affordable housing. The Selectmen thanked Chris for his interest in the subject and in providing the information.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 6:00p.m as there was no further business for discussion. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved. Happy Thanksgiving!!

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant