

TOWN OF WASHINGTON
Board of Selectmen
Minutes
March 17, 2022

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: Carole Matteo, Leslie Anderson, Joan Lodsins, Chris Charles, Ray Reich, Michelle Gorra, Diane Dupuis, George Berka.
Press: Linda Zukauskas.

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 Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: To fine tune the point system for EMS in the "Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Service Incentive Program". The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Motion:** To approve the minutes of the March 3, 2022 meeting of the Board of Selectmen. By Dean Sarjeant, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Communications: None.

Appointments/Resignations: None.

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

- **Calhoun Street Bridge:** Work is progressing nicely. The railings will be installed and the bridge paved once the paving companies open for the season.
- **Corned Beef Dinner:** The in-person dinner at the Senior Center was changed to take out only due to recent COVID cases in Town. A record 54 dinners were prepared by the Legion and picked up.
- **EMS Point System: Motion:** To approve the suggested changes to the point system in the EMS portion of the Volunteer Firefighter and EMT Service Incentive Program to bring it more in-line with today's operations. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Cyber Security:** Jay Hubelbank reported in order to meet federal guidelines to strengthen cyber security, all employees have installed authentication measures on their computers and will be required to take an on-line course.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Approval of Capital Improvement Plan: Motion:** To approve the Capital Improvement Plan to be presented at the Special Town Meeting on March 24, 2022. By Jim Brinton, seconded by Dean Sarjeant. Discussion: Jim explained that the plan goes out several years with

improvements that include such items as new fire apparatus, highway department trucks, building improvements, etc. Once the plan is approved at a Town Meeting, the Town can access various funds and grants available to it. The motion passed unanimously.

Visitors:

- **George Berka** phoned into this evening's meeting to propose a "spent nuclear fuel" facility in the Town of Washington. Mr. Berka stated the facility would be a private business, funds could be provided by the Department of Energy and could also be a source of revenue for the Town. He further explained that facilities such as this are considered safe and may be an answer to global warming. The Selectmen explained to Mr. Berka that much more information would be needed before discussing the subject any further.
- **Diane Dupuis** inquired about the Detour signs that have been placed on Rabbit Hill Road being taken down as the project has been postponed. Jim Brinton explained that he had contacted Dayton Construction, who installed the signs, and they have informed him they do not have the manpower to send someone to take them down. Diane feels the information on them is incorrect, are unsightly and were installed on private property. Jim further explained that they were placed in the Town's right-of-way, not private property, and they would be remaining until the project is completed.
- **Chris Charles** inquired about donations that are made to the Town and what the protocol is for making the names of donors known, especially for those who request their donation be anonymous. Jim Brinton offered to consult with the Town Attorney.

Reminder: Special Town Meeting, Thursday, March 24, 2022, 7:30p.m. – Bryan Memorial Town Hall. In person only.

Adjournment:

- **Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 5:56p.m. as there was no further business for discussion. By Dean Sarjeant, seconded by Jay Hubelbank and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Selectmen's Assistant